

Report of the Assistant Director Corporate Services to a Hearing before the Bradford Area Licensing Panel to be held on 19 August 2008.

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Subject:

Application for a Review of a Premises Licence for the Blue Pig Inn, Fagley Road, Fagley, Bradford.

Summary statement:

Application for review of a Premises Licence authorising the sale of alcohol and the provision of late night refreshment.

Suzan Hemingway
Assistant Director Corporate Services
(City Solicitor)

Report Contact: Melanie McGurk
Senior Licensing Officer
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E-mail: melanie.mcgurk@bradford.gov.uk

Portfolio:

Corporate

Improvement Committee Area:

Corporate Improvement Committee
Safer and Stronger Communities



Suzan Hemingway, Assistant Director Corporate Services (City Solicitor)



1. **Summary**

1.1 **Premises Licence Holder**

John Barrie Cordingley.

1.2 **Designated Premises Supervisor**

Christopher Mark Wilmore

A copy of the Licence is included at Appendix 1.

1.3 **The Premises**

Blue Pig Inn, Fagley Road, Fagley, Bradford, BD2 3QN

1.4 **The Current Licence**

The premises have a Premises Licence allowing the sale by retail of alcohol for consumption on and off the premises and the provision of late night refreshment from 23.00.

Hours of licensable activities:

Monday to Saturday:	10.00 to Midnight
Sunday/Good Friday/Christmas Day:	Noon to 23.30
New Years Eve:	10.00 hours until start of permitted hours the following day

1.4 **Steps agreed in the Operating Schedule by the Licensee to address the Licensing Objectives**

a) Prevention of crime and disorder

None.

b) Public Safety

None.

c) Prevention of public nuisance

None.

d) Protection of children from harm

None.

e) General – all four licensing objectives

None.

1.5 **Embedded Conditions**

The Premises Licence is subject to embedded conditions following the conversion of the Justices 'On' Licence, issued under the Licensing Act 1964 to a Premises Licence under the Licensing Act 2003, in accordance with the transitional provisions.

The embedded conditions are detailed in Appendix 1.

1.6 **Conditions Attached after Hearing**

Not applicable.

2. **Applications Received asking for a Review of the Licence**

2.1 **Responsible Authorities**

West Yorkshire Police have submitted an application for review due to growing concerns over the number of incidents of disorder, complaints by local residents of noise and alleged breaches of the Operating Schedule, permitted hours and licensable activities.

A copy of the application for review is attached at Appendix 2.

Included with the application are supporting documents from Police Officers who have attended reported incidents at the premises.

A copy of the supporting documents are attached at Appendix 3.

3. **Legal Appraisal**

3.1 The Licensing Act 2003 requires the Council to carry out its various licensing functions so as to promote the following four licensing objectives:

- a) the prevention of crime and disorder
- b) public safety
- c) the prevention of public nuisance
- d) the protection of children from harm

3.2 The Council must also have regard to the Guidance issued by the Department of Culture Media and Sport under Section 182 of the Licensing Act 2003. Regard must also be taken of the Council's statement of Licensing Policy for the District. Paragraph 5.99 to 5.111 of the Guidance specifically details how applications for review of licences should be determined.

An extract of the Guidance is attached to this report at Appendix 4.

3.3 Where it is decided it is necessary to depart from the statutory guidance or the Licensing Policy on the merits of a particular case; then special reasons justifying this must be given that can be sustained.

3.4 Only “relevant representations” by or expressly on behalf of a defined “interested party” or “responsible authority” can be taken into account. In order to be “relevant” a representation must fairly relate to achieving a licensing objective. If it does not, it must be discounted.

3.5 Any licensing conditions that Members may propose attaching must also relate to achieving one of the licensing objectives; be tailored to the actual premises and style of licensable activity; must be reasonably achievable by the applicant and in his/her control.

4. Statement of Policy Issues

4.1 The following parts of the Licensing Policy are of particular importance; Part 6 (prevention of Public Nuisance).

4.2 The Annexes to the Policy sets out various types of model condition that could be considered.

5. Legal Options

5.1 Members may:

- (a) Refuse the application for review of the licence; or
- (b) Decide not to impose any further restrictions on the licence; or
- (c) Decide to impose additional restrictions or remove any licensable activities on the licence, where necessary in order to address the licensing objectives; or
- (d) Suspend the licence for a period not exceeding 3 months; or
- (e) Revoke the premises licence; or
- (f) Remove the named Designated Premises Supervisor from the Licence.

5.2 Should the licensee or any other party to the hearing feel aggrieved at any decision with regard to the licence or to any conditions or restrictions attached by Members they may appeal to the Magistrates Court within 21 days of being notified of the decision.

6. Financial and resource appraisal

6.1 There are no apparent finance or resource implications.

7. Other implications

7.1 Equal Rights

There are no apparent equal rights implications.

7.3 **Community safety implications**

There are no apparent community safety implications.

7.4 **Human Rights Act**

The following rights are applicable:

Article 1 First Protocol to the Convention – Right to peaceful enjoyment of possessions subject to the state’s right to control the use of property in accordance with the general interest.

The Council’s powers set out in the recommendations fall within the states right. A fair balance must be struck between public safety and the applicant’s rights.

Article 6 – A procedural right to a fair hearing. As refusal of the application is an option, adherence to the Panels’ usual procedure of affording a hearing to the applicant is very important. The applicant should also be able to examine the requirements of the fire authority. If the decision is to refuse then reasons should be given.

8. **Not for publication documents**

8.1 None

9. **The Role of the Panel**

9.1 Members are invited to consider the information and documents referred to in this report and, after hearing interested parties, determine the related application for review of the premises licence.

10. **Appendices**

1. Premises Licence.
2. Application for Review.
3. Supporting documents from West Yorkshire Police. (Circulated to Members of the Panel only.)
4. Extract from the Government Guidance.

11. **Background documents**

Licence, representations etc

City of Bradford Metropolitan District Council

www.bradford.gov.uk

Licensing Act 2003
Premises Licence

BD/PRA0139

Part 1 - Premises Details

POSTAL ADDRESS OF PREMISES, OR IF NONE, ORDNANCE SURVEY MAP REFERENCE OR DESCRIPTION

Blue Pig Inn

Fagley Road, Fagley, Bradford, West Yorkshire, BD2 3QN.

Telephone 0113 2562738

WHERE THE LICENCE IS TIME LIMITED THE DATES

Not applicable

LICENSABLE ACTIVITIES AUTHORISED BY THE LICENCE

- provision of late night refreshment
- the sale by retail of alcohol

THE TIMES THE LICENCE AUTHORISES THE CARRYING OUT OF LICENSABLE ACTIVITIES

Activity (and Area if applicable)	Description	Time From	Time To
L. Late night refreshment (Indoors)	Monday to Saturday	11:00pm	Midnight
	Sunday	11:00pm	11:30pm
	New Years Eve		
	23.00 hours until the start of permitted hours the following day.		
M. The sale by retail of alcohol for consumption ON and OFF the premises	Monday to Saturday	10:00am	Midnight
	Sunday	Noon	11:30pm
	Good Friday	Noon	11:30pm
	Christmas Day	Noon	11:30pm
	New Years Eve		
	10.00 hours until the start of permitted hours the following day.		

THE OPENING HOURS OF THE PREMISES

Description	Time From	Time To
Monday to Saturday	10:00am	12:30am
Sunday	Noon	Midnight
Good Friday	Noon	Midnight
Christmas Day	Noon	Midnight
New Years Eve		
10.00 hours until the start of permitted hours the following day.		

WHERE THE LICENCE AUTHORISES SUPPLIES OF ALCOHOL WHETHER THESE ARE ON AND / OR OFF SUPPLIES

- M. The sale by retail of alcohol for consumption ON and OFF the premises

Part 2

NAME (REGISTERED) ADDRESS, TELEPHONE NUMBER AND EMAIL (WHERE RELEVANT) OF HOLDER OF PREMISES LICENCE

John Barrie Cordingley

14 Hallfield Road, Bradford, West Yorkshire, BD1 3RQ.
Telephone 01274 736646

Original Issue Date: 19/09/2005

(Annual Fee Date under Statutory Instrument 2005 No. 79 - Licensing Act 2003 (Fees) Regulations 2005)

Licensing Act 2003

Premises Licence

BD/PRA0139

REGISTERED NUMBER OF HOLDER, FOR EXAMPLE COMPANY NUMBER, CHARITY NUMBER (WHERE APPLICABLE)

NAME, ADDRESS AND TELEPHONE NUMBER OF DESIGNATED PREMISES SUPERVISOR WHERE THE PREMISES LICENCE AUTHORIZES THE SUPPLY OF ALCOHOL

Christopher Mark WILMORE

Blue Pig Inn, Fagley Road, Lower Fagley, Bradford, BD2 3QN.
Telephone 0113 256 2738

PERSONAL LICENCE NUMBER AND ISSUING AUTHORITY OF PERSONAL LICENCE HELD BY DESIGNATED PREMISES SUPERVISOR WHERE THE PREMISES LICENCE AUTHORIZES FOR THE SUPPLY OF ALCOHOL

Licence No. BD/PER1313

Issued by Bradford

ANNEXES

Annex 1 - Mandatory Conditions

1. No supply of alcohol may be made under the premises licence;-
 - (a) at a time when there is no designated premises supervisor in respect of the premises licence, or
 - (b) at a time when the designated premises supervisor does not hold a personal licence or his personal licence is suspended.
2. Every supply of alcohol under the premises licence must be made or authorised by a person who holds a personal licence.

Embedded Conditions

3. Alcohol shall not be sold or supplied on the premises beyond 23.00 hours Monday to Saturday and 22.30 hours Sunday, except to persons taking table meals at the premises for the consumption by such a person as ancillary to his meal.
4. None of the restrictions on permitted hours prohibit:
 - a. During the first twenty minutes after the permitted hours, the taking of the alcohol from the premises unless the alcohol is supplied or taken in an open vessel;
 - b. Consumption of the alcohol on the premises or the taking of the sale or supply of alcohol to any person residing in the licensed premises;
 - c. The ordering of alcohol to be consumed off the premises, or the despatch by the vendor of the alcohol so ordered;
 - d. The sale of alcohol to a trader or club for the purposes of the trade or club;
 - e. The sale or supply of alcohol to any canteen or mess, being a canteen in which the supply or sale of alcohol is carried out under the authority of the Secretary of State or an authorised mess of members of Her Majesty's Naval, Military or Air Forces;
 - f. The taking of alcohol from the premises by a person residing there; or
 - g. The supply of alcohol for consumption on the premises to any private friends of a person residing there who are bona fide entertained by him at his own expense, or the consumption of alcohol by persons so supplied; or
 - h. The supply of alcohol for consumption on the premises to persons employed there for the purposes of the business carried on by the holder of the licence, or the consumption of liquor so supplied, if the liquor is supplied at the expense of their employer or of the person carrying on or in charge of the business on the premises.

Licensing Act 2003

Premises Licence

BD/PRA0139

ANNEXES continued

Annex 2 - Conditions Consistent with Operating Schedule

All four Licensing Objectives:

None

The Prevention of Crime & Disorder:

None

Public Safety:

None

The Prevention of Public Nuisance:

None

The Protection of Children from Harm:

None

Annex 3 - Conditions attached after a hearing by the Licensing Authority

Not Applicable.

F:\DEV\TEMPLATE\LIC.STD\LICENCE CONDITIONS\BLUE PIG INN - BD/PRA0139

Licensing Act 2003

Premises Licence Summary

BD/PRA0139

Premises Details

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Telephone 0113 2562738

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	New Years Eve		
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THE OPENING HOURS OF THE PREMISES

Description	Time From	Time To
Monday to Saturday	10:00am	12:30am
Sunday	Noon	Midnight
Good Friday	Noon	Midnight
Christmas Day	Noon	Midnight
New Years Eve		
10.00 hours until the start of permitted hours the following day.		

WHERE THE LICENCE AUTHORISES SUPPLIES OF ALCOHOL WHETHER THESE ARE ON AND / OR OFF SUPPLIES

- M. The sale by retail of alcohol for consumption ON and OFF the premises

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John Barrie Cordingley

14 Hallfield Road, Bradford, West Yorkshire, BD1 3RQ.

REGISTERED NUMBER OF HOLDER, FOR EXAMPLE COMPANY NUMBER, CHARITY NUMBER (WHERE APPLICABLE)

Original Issue Date: 19/09/2005

(Annual Fee Date under Statutory Instrument 2005 No. 79 - Licensing Act 2003 (Fees) Regulations 2005)

Licensing Act 2003

Premises Licence Summary

BD/PRA0139

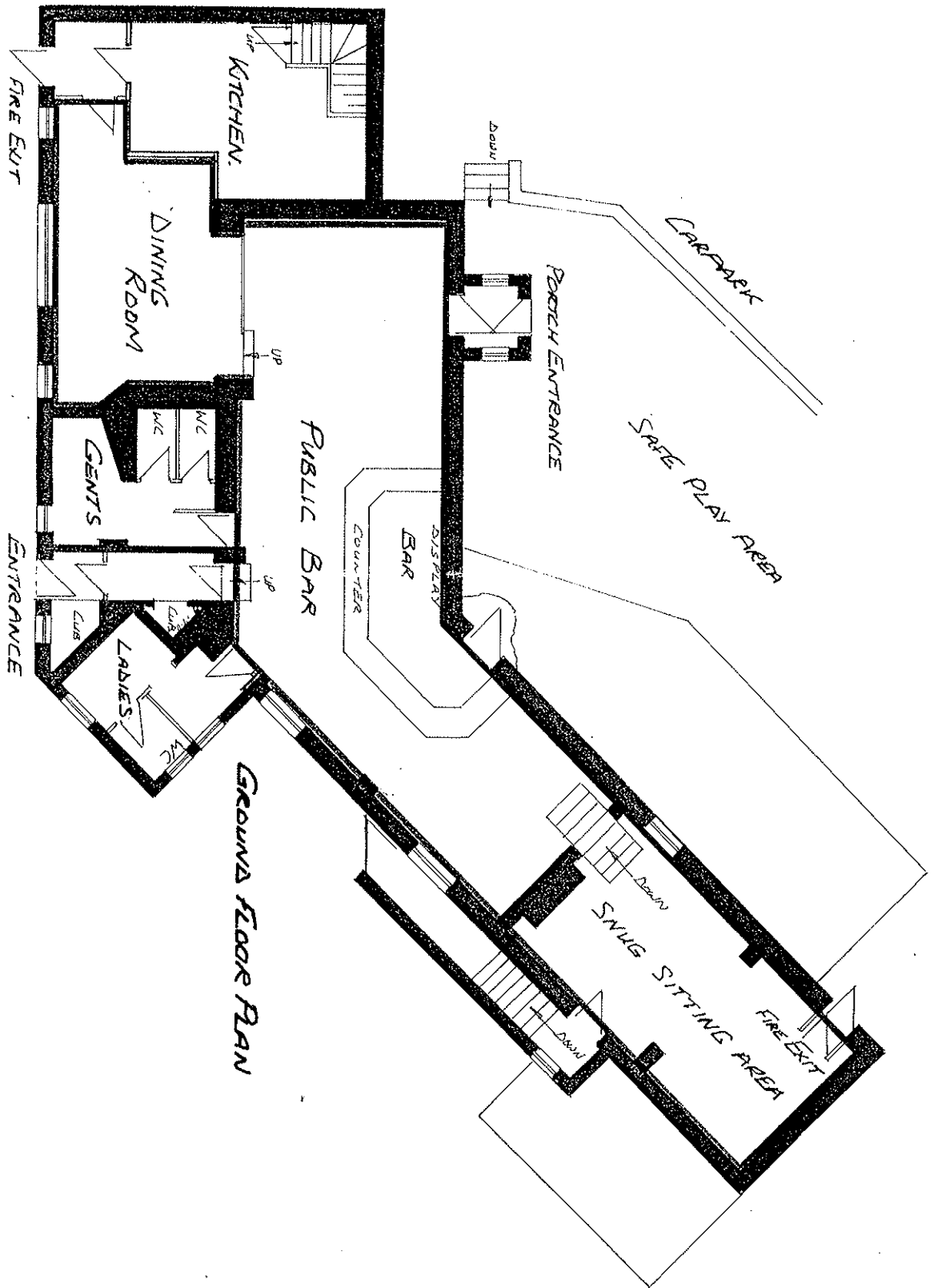
NAME OF DESIGNATED PREMISES SUPERVISOR WHERE THE PREMISES LICENCE AUTHORISES THE SUPPLY OF ALCOHOL

Christopher Mark WILMORE

STATE WHETHER ACCESS TO THE PREMISES BY CHILDREN IS RESTRICTED OR PROHIBITED

No restrictions.

SHEET 1 OF 1 LICENCING PLAN THE BLUE PIG PUBLIC HOUSE.



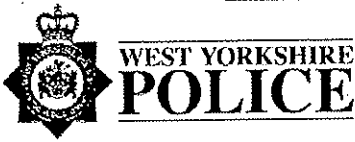
SHEET 1 OF 1.

THE BLUE PIG PUBLIC HOUSE
FAGLEY, BRADFORD.

FOR
MR. JOHN
LORDINGLEY

DRAWN
N.G. WAGHORNE
JULY 2005.

TEL/FAX 01274 402091



APPLICATION FOR THE REVIEW OF A PREMISES LICENCE OR CLUB PREMISES CERTIFICATE UNDER THE LICENSING ACT 2003

Please read the following instructions first

Before completing this form, please read the guidance notes at the end of the form. If you are completing this form by hand, please write legibly in block capitals. In all cases ensure that your answers are inside the boxes and written in black ink. Use additional sheets if necessary.

You may wish to keep a copy of the completed form for your records.

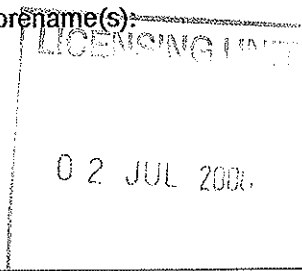
I, (insert name of applicant) West Yorkshire Police

- Apply for the review of a Premises Licence under Section 51
- Apply for the review of a Club Premises Certificate under Section 87 of the Licensing Act 2003 for the premises described in Part 1 below

Part 1 – Premises or Club Premises details	
Postal address of premises or, if none, Ordnance Survey map reference or description:	
Blue Pig Inn, Fagley Road	
Town/City: Bradford	Postcode: BD2 3QN

Name of premises licence holder or club holding club premises certificate (if known):	
Mr John Barrie Cordingley	
Number of premises licence or club premises certificate (if known):	BD/PRA 0139

Part 2 – Applicant details	
Please 'check' appropriate box(es)	
I am:	
1. An interested party (please complete A or B below)	
(a) a person living in the vicinity of the premises	<input type="checkbox"/>
(b) a body representing persons living in the vicinity of the premises	<input type="checkbox"/>
(c) a person involved in business in the vicinity of the premises	<input type="checkbox"/>
(d) a body representing persons involved in business in the vicinity of the premises	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. A responsible authority (please complete C below)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
3. A member of the club to which this application relates (please complete A below)	<input type="checkbox"/>

A – Details of individual applicant		
Surname:	Forename(s):	
I am 18 years old or over: <input type="checkbox"/>		
Current postal address if different from premises address:		Town/City:
Daytime contact telephone number:		Postcode:
E-mail address (optional):		

B – Details of other applicant

Surname: _____ Forename(s): _____
 Address: _____
 _____ Town/City: _____ Postcode: _____
 Daytime contact telephone number: _____
 E-mail address (optional): _____

C – Details of responsible authority applicant

Mr
 Surname: Tyson Forename(s): John
 Address: Trafalgar House, Nelson Street
 _____ Town/City: Bradford Postcode: BD5 0DX
 Daytime contact telephone number: 01274 376695
 E-mail address (optional): bradford.licensing@West Yorkshire Police

This application to review relates to the following licensing objective(s): (Please 'check' one or more boxes)

- (a) The prevention of crime and disorder
- (b) Public Safety
- (c) The prevention of public nuisance
- (d) The protection of children from harm

State the ground(s) for review (please read Guidance note 1):

These premises have the benefit of a Premises Licence which authorises the sale by retail of alcohol for consumption ON or OFF the premises between the hours of 10:00am and Midnight Monday to Saturday and noon to 11:30pm on Sundays, Good Friday and Christmas Day. The provision of Late Night Refreshment is also authorised by the licence until Midnight on weekdays and 11.30pm on Sundays.

There is no authorisation on the licence for any other Licensable Activity.

The grounds for this review are as follows:

The holder of the Premises Licence since conversion in November 2005 is Mr John Barrie Cordingley.

On 23rd April 2007 an application was made to vary the Premises Licence to appoint Mr Michael Lee Kilgallon as the Designated Premises Supervisor.

At 2.45am on Saturday 9th February 2008, Police Sergeant Burrige attended at the premises as a result of a complaint being made to the effect that the premises were still open and persons were outside shouting and causing a nuisance.

The Sergeant describes that the doors were open and the premises lit up. There were a number of people inside drinking alcohol and the music was being played loudly.

The Officer states that the licensee gave his name as Chris Wilmore, his date of birth, his address as the Blue Pig and his mobile telephone number which subsequently identified him as Christopher Mark Wilmore. Mr Wilmore stated that it was a private party and that no drinks had been paid for by anyone in attendance.

Please provide as much information as possible to support the application (please read Guidance note 2)

The Officer was unable to do any further licensing checks at this time and accordingly advised him about the noise and told him to bring the party to a close.

On the 15th February 2008, the police received an application to vary the licence to appoint Mr Wilmore as the DPS.

Since Mr Wilmore became the DPS at both premises the police have had growing concerns over the number of incidents of disorder, complaints by local residents of noise, and other problems associated with the premises and apparent breaches of the conditions attached to both licences which are born out by visits to the premises by police officers.

Statements evidencing the above are attached for reference.

It is the view of the police that both these premises are seriously impacting on the Licensing Objectives because of the manner in which they are being conducted with apparent blatant disregards for the legislation.

It is requested therefore that the Premises Licence be reviewed by the Licensing Authority with a view to:

Removing Mr Wilmore as the Designated Premises Supervisor at both premises, and

Revoking both the premises licences.

Have you made an application for review relating to this premises before? NO

If 'YES', please state the date of that application:

If you have made representations before relating to this premises, please state what they were and when you made them:

[Empty box for representations]

Please 'check' appropriate box(es)

- I have sent copies of this form and enclosures to the responsible authorities and the premises licence holder or club holding the club premises certificate, as appropriate
- I understand that if I do not comply with the above requirements, my application will be rejected

It is an offence, liable on conviction to a fine up to Level 5 on the standard scale, under Section 158 of the Licensing Act 2003, to make a false statement in, or in connection with this application

Part 3 – Signatures (please read Guidance note 3)

Signature of applicant or applicant's solicitor or other duly authorised agent (see guidance note 4). If signing on behalf of the applicant, please state in what capacity:

Signature: [Handwritten Signature] Date: 1st JULY 2008

Capacity: LICENSING OFFICER

Contact name (where not previously given) and postal address for correspondence associated with this application (please read Guidance note 5):

Mr

Surname: _____ Forename(s): _____

Address: _____

Town/City: _____ Postcode: _____

Telephone number (if any): _____

If you would prefer us to correspond with you using an e-mail address, please state your e-mail address (optional): _____

Notes for Guidance

1. The ground(s) for review must be based on one of the licensing objectives.
2. Please list any additional information or details for example dates of problems which are included in the grounds for review if available.
3. The application form must be signed.
4. An applicant's agent (for example solicitor) may sign the form on their behalf provided that they have actual authority to do so.
5. This is the address which we shall use to correspond with you about this application.

11. Reviews

THE REVIEW PROCESS

- 11.1 The proceedings set out in the 2003 Act for reviewing premises licences represent a key protection for the community where problems associated with the licensing objectives are occurring after the grant or variation of a premises licence.
- 11.2 At any stage, following the grant of a premises licence, a responsible authority, or an interested party, may ask the licensing authority to review the licence because of a matter arising at the premises in connection with any of the four licensing objectives.
- 11.3 In addition, a review of the licence will normally follow any action by the police to close down the premises for up to 24 hours on grounds of disorder or noise nuisance as a result of a notice of magistrates' court's determination sent to the licensing authority.
- 11.4 Licensing authorities may not initiate their own reviews of premises licences. Officers of the local authority who are specified as responsible authorities under the 2003 Act, such as environmental health officers, may however request reviews on any matter which relates to the promotion of one or more of the licensing objectives.
- 11.5 Representations made by a department of the local authority which is a responsible authority should be treated by the licensing authority in precisely the same way that they would treat representations made by any other body or individual.
- 11.6 In every case, the representation must relate to particular premises for which a premises licence is in existence and must be relevant to the promotion of the licensing objectives. After a licence or certificate has been granted or varied, a complaint relating to a general (crime and disorder) situation in a town centre should generally not be regarded as a relevant representation unless it can be positively tied or linked by a causal connection to particular premises, which would allow for a proper review of the licence or certificate. For instance, a geographic cluster of complaints, including along transport routes related to an individual public house and its closing time could give grounds for a review of an existing licence as well as direct incidents of crime and disorder around a particular public house.
- 11.7 Representations must be in writing and may be amplified at the subsequent hearing or may stand in their own right. Additional representations which do not amount to an amplification of the original representation may not be made at the hearing.
- 11.8 It is important to recognise that the promotion of the licensing objectives relies heavily on a partnership between licence holders, authorised persons, interested parties and responsible authorities in pursuit of common aims. It is therefore equally important that reviews are not used to drive a wedge between these groups in a way that would undermine the benefits of co-operation. It is good practice for authorised persons and responsible authorities to give licence holders early warning of their concerns about problems identified at the premises concerned and of the need for improvement. A failure to respond to such warnings is expected to lead to a decision to request a review.
- 11.9 Where the request originates with an interested party – e.g. a local resident, residents' association, local business or trade association – the licensing authority must first consider whether the complaint made is relevant, vexatious, frivolous or repetitious.

11.10 Further information for interested parties about the review process is available in "Guidance for interested parties: applying for a review" which can be found on the DCMS website.

REPETITIOUS REPRESENTATIONS

11.11 Relevance, vexation and frivolousness were dealt with in paragraphs 9.8 – 9.13 above. A repetitious representation is one that is identical or substantially similar to:

- a ground for review specified in an earlier application for review made in relation to the same premises licence which has already been determined; or
- representations considered by the licensing authority when the premises licence was first granted; or
- representations which would have been made when the application for the premises licence was first made and which were excluded then by reason of the prior issue of a provisional statement;

and, in addition to the above grounds, a reasonable interval has not elapsed since that earlier review or the grant of the licence.

11.12 Licensing authorities are expected to be aware of the need to prevent attempts to review licences merely as a second bite of the cherry following the failure of representations to persuade the licensing authority on earlier occasions. It is for licensing authorities themselves to judge what should be regarded as a reasonable interval in these circumstances. However, the Secretary of State recommends that more than one review originating from an interested party should not be permitted within a period of twelve months on similar grounds save in compelling circumstances or where it arises following a closure order.

11.13 The exclusion of a complaint on the grounds that it is repetitious does not apply to responsible authorities which may make more than one request for a review of a premises within a 12 month period.

11.14 When a licensing authority receives a request for a review from a responsible authority or an interested party or in accordance with the closure procedures described in Part 8 of the 2003 Act, it must arrange a hearing. The arrangements for the hearing must follow the provisions set out by the Secretary of State in regulations. The details may be viewed on the DCMS website. The Secretary of State considers it particularly important that the premises licence holder is fully aware of the representations made in respect of the premises, any evidence supporting the representations and that they or their legal representatives have therefore been able to prepare a response.

POWERS OF A LICENSING AUTHORITY ON THE DETERMINATION OF A REVIEW

11.15 The 2003 Act provides a range of powers for the licensing authority on determining a review that it may exercise where it considers them necessary for the promotion of the licensing objectives.

11.16 The licensing authority may decide that no action is necessary if it finds that the review does not require it to take any steps necessary to promote the licensing objectives. In addition, there is nothing to prevent a licensing authority issuing an informal warning to the licence holder and/or to recommend improvement within a particular period of time. It is expected that licensing authorities will regard such warnings as an important mechanism for ensuring that the licensing

objectives are effectively promoted and that warnings should be issued in writing to the holder of the licence. However, where responsible authorities like the police or environmental health officers have already issued warnings requiring improvement – either orally or in writing – that have failed as part of their own stepped approach to concerns, licensing authorities should not merely repeat that approach.

11.17 Where the licensing authority considers that action under its statutory powers are necessary, it may take any of the following steps:

- to modify the conditions of the premises licence (which includes adding new conditions or any alteration or omission of an existing condition), for example, by reducing the hours of opening or by requiring door supervisors at particular times;
- to exclude a licensable activity from the scope of the licence, for example, to exclude the performance of live music or playing of recorded music (where it is not within the incidental live and recorded music exemption);
- to remove the designated premises supervisor, for example, because they consider that the problems are the result of poor management;
- to suspend the licence for a period not exceeding three months;
- to revoke the licence.

11.18 In deciding which of these powers to invoke, it is expected that licensing authorities should so far as possible seek to establish the cause or causes of the concerns which the representations identify. The remedial action taken should generally be directed at these causes and should always be no more than a necessary and proportionate response.

11.19 For example, licensing authorities should be alive to the possibility that the removal and replacement of the designated premises supervisor may be sufficient to remedy a problem where the cause of the identified problem directly relates to poor management decisions made by that individual.

11.20 Equally, it may emerge that poor management is a direct reflection of poor company practice or policy and the mere removal of the designated premises supervisor may be an inadequate response to the problems presented. Indeed, where subsequent review hearings are generated by representations, it should be rare merely to remove a succession of designated premises supervisors as this would be a clear indication of deeper problems which impact upon the licensing objectives.

11.21 Licensing authorities should also note that modifications of conditions and exclusions of licensable activities may be imposed either permanently or for a temporary period of up to three months. Temporary changes or suspension of the licence for up to three months could impact on the business holding the licence financially and would only be expected to be pursued as a necessary means of promoting the licensing objectives. So, for instance, a licence could be suspended for a weekend as a means of deterring the holder from allowing the problems that gave rise to the review to happen again. However, it will always be important that any detrimental financial impact that may result from a licensing authority's decision is necessary and proportionate to the promotion of the licensing objectives.

REVIEWS ARISING IN CONNECTION WITH CRIME

- 11.22 A number of reviews may arise in connection with crime that is not directly connected with licensable activities. For example, reviews may arise because of drugs problems at the premises or money laundering by criminal gangs or the sale of contraband or stolen goods there or the sale of firearms. Licensing authorities do not have the power to judge the criminality or otherwise of any issue. This is a matter for the courts of law. The role of the licensing authority when determining such a review is not therefore to establish the guilt or innocence of any individual but to ensure that the crime prevention objective is promoted. Reviews are part of the regulatory process introduced by the 2003 Act and they are not part of criminal law and procedure. Some reviews will arise after the conviction in the criminal courts of certain individuals but not all. In any case, it is for the licensing authority to determine whether the problems associated with the alleged crimes are taking place on the premises and affecting the promotion of the licensing objectives. Where a review follows a conviction, it would also not be for the licensing authority to attempt to go behind any finding of the courts, which should be treated as a matter of undisputed evidence before them.
- 11.23 Where the licensing authority is conducting a review on the ground that the premises have been used for criminal purposes, its role is solely to determine what steps should be taken in connection with the premises licence, for the promotion of the crime prevention objective. It is important to recognise that certain criminal activity or associated problems may be taking place or have taken place despite the best efforts of the licensee and the staff working at the premises and despite full compliance with the conditions attached to the licence. In such circumstances, the licensing authority is still empowered to take any necessary steps to remedy the problems. The licensing authority's duty is to take steps with a view to the promotion of the licensing objectives in the interests of the wider community and not those of the individual holder of the premises licence.
- 11.24 As explained above, it is not the role of a licensing authority to determine the guilt or innocence of individuals charged with licensing or other offences committed on licensed premises. There is therefore no reason why representations giving rise to a review of a premises licence need be delayed pending the outcome of any criminal proceedings. As stated above, at the conclusion of a review, it will be for the licensing authority to determine on the basis of the application for the review and any relevant representations made, what action needs to be taken for the promotion of the licensing objectives in respect of the licence in question, regardless of any subsequent judgment in the courts about the behaviour of individuals.
- 11.25 There is certain criminal activity that may arise in connection with licensed premises, which the Secretary of State considers should be treated particularly seriously. These are the use of the licensed premises:
- for the sale and distribution of Class A drugs and the laundering of the proceeds of drugs crime;
 - for the sale and distribution of illegal firearms;
 - for the evasion of copyright in respect of pirated or unlicensed films and music, which does considerable damage to the industries affected;

- for the purchase and consumption of alcohol by minors which impacts on the health, educational attainment, employment prospects and propensity for crime of young people;
- for prostitution or the sale of unlawful pornography;
- by organised groups of paedophiles to groom children;
- as the base for the organisation of criminal activity, particularly by gangs;
- for the organisation of racist activity or the promotion of racist attacks;
- for unlawful gaming and gambling; and
- for the sale of smuggled tobacco and alcohol.

11.26 It is envisaged that licensing authorities, the police and other law enforcement agencies, which are responsible authorities, will use the review procedures effectively to deter such activities and crime. Where reviews arise and the licensing authority determines that the crime prevention objective is being undermined through the premises being used to further crimes, it is expected that revocation of the licence – even in the first instance – should be seriously considered. We would also encourage liaison with the local Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership.

11.27 It should be noted that it is unlawful to discriminate or to refuse service on grounds of race or by displaying racially discriminatory signs on the premises. Representations made about such activity from responsible authorities or interested parties would be relevant to the promotion of the crime prevention objective and justifiably give rise to a review.

REVIEW OF A PREMISES LICENCE FOLLOWING CLOSURE ORDER

11.28 Licensing authorities are subject to certain timescales, set out in the legislation, for the review of a premises licence following a closure order. The relevant time periods run concurrently and are as follows:

- when the licensing authority receives notice that a magistrates' court has made a closure order it has 28 days to determine the licence review: The determination must be made before the expiry of the 28th day after the day on which the notice is received;
- the hearing must be held within 10 working days, the first of which is the day after the day the notice from the magistrates' court is received;
- notice of the hearing must be given no later than 5 working days before the first hearing day. There must be five clear working days between the giving of the notice and the start of the hearing.