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# Lancashire Constabulary

police and communities together

7<sup>th</sup> of October 2019

Licensing Unit  
Burnley Borough Council

**Police Objection to the application for the DPS variation at The Turf Hotel, 49 Yorkshire Street, Burnley**

Please accept this as the police representation to the application received for a DPS variation for THE TURF HOTEL, 49 YORKSHIRE STREET, BURNLEY to BOBBY CARTER.

The police are formally objecting to the application as we have concerns that the crime prevention licensing objective will be undermined if the DPS variation is granted.

The grounds for concern are:

The previous DPS Josh Sutton has confirmed that he left the premises about 12 weeks ago and was told that he would be contacted when a new DPS was identified but to date has not had any contact.

Since that time the premises have been run by Bobby Carter and Police records have shown a significant rise in incidents, namely 18 which accounts for 44% of incidents for the last 12 months.

All the incidents bar 1 relate to violence and public order offences directly linked to the premises and 1 male was tasered by the officers attending. During the latter incident the male had assaulted an innocent male customer, attempted to take cash from a male attending to a gambling machine, and started another fight with another male which continued outside in the street. The male was allowed to re-enter the premises and was allowed access to the private area whether with the consent of Carter or through fear of the male, who has previously caused issues in the premises. Carter would not provide a statement to the Police concerning the events and did not call the Police himself and was unaware who had contacted us. This mirrors a previous incident when a male was arrested for Affray after throwing furniture around the premises. The case was not progressed as Carter would not provide a statement which gives customers the message that they can commit offences without fear of any consequences.

Whilst CCTV has been provided, this was also released by Carter to the suspect who has distributed over Social media, attracting in excess of 250 negative comments towards the Police, aside to potentially jeopardising the investigation. Carter appears to have limited knowledge around this aspect and following a licensing check had little knowledge of his responsibilities. Previous calls to the premises have highlighted that Carter has appeared to be under the influence of substances, no one could operate

the CCTV system, broken glass was found both inside and outside the premises and no door staff were present. The Pub was closed on the advice of the attending officers as it was deemed to be unsafe.

The Turf Hotel is not part of the Town Centre Pub scheme due to a previous breach of confidential information and as such the premises have become a magnet for people banned from other premises.

There have recently been reports of 15 years drinking inside the premises and people getting so drunk that they have reported being assaulted, only for other CCTV to prove that they have fallen over through their drunkenness but not being able to recall the events.

Bobby Carter is only 20 years old and has only held his personal licence since the 31<sup>st</sup> of July 2019 and I believe that he lacks the experience and knowledge to run The Turf Hotel which has a reputation as a troublesome premises.

From Police records, the Turf has the highest number of incidents,(43) over the last 12 months compared to similar premises in the town centre, the next being 24 incidents. and 10 times the incidents of neighbouring premises.

These concerns and incidents reinforce my belief that Carter is unfit to be granted the DPS as I feel this undermines the promotion of certain licensing objectives – namely the prevention of crime and disorder.

It would also undermine the other licensing objectives, namely public safety, the prevention of public nuisance and the protection of children from harm.

Further, I reserve the right to bring further evidence to any hearing should any arise between now and then.

Regards

Pc 2623 Michael Jones  
Licensing Officer– East Division