



**Lancashire
Constabulary**

police and communities together

Tuesday, 18th October 2022

Re: Temporary Event Notices submitted by The Bees Knees and Coal Yard for Sunday 13th November

I am the Gold Commander for the Burnley v Blackburn Rovers football fixture on Sunday 13th November 2022, kick-off 12.30pm. This has been categorised as a high-risk football fixture as it is a local derby game and there are many demands on police for this fixture.

I am aware that Temporary Event Notice applications have been submitted by the Designated Premises Supervisors at The Bees Knees and Coal Yard pubs in Burnley Town Centre to allow them to open earlier the day of this fixture.

For the first time in a number of years, Blackburn Rovers supporters will be able to make their own way to this fixture rather than be bussed in via a 'bubble' operation. Although we will strongly advise that there will be no away supporter pubs around the town pre- and post-match, there is still a risk that supporters will look to attend and drink which may present an additional policing challenge.

I would also add that the date of this fixture is significant in the national calendar with this also being Remembrance Sunday. There is a Remembrance Service in Burnley Town Centre at 11:00hrs which will also require police support and I am aware that there have been negotiations with the Council, Burnley Football Club, Sky, the English Football League and the Royal British Legion to move this fixture from 12:00hrs to 12:30hrs to prevent disruption of this service and allow some to attend both the football and the service. As you will be aware the premises concerned are in close walking distance of this location off Parker Lane Burnley.

I am aware that there are some licensed premises who can open with the hours they are granted which I feel provides sufficient places for those who wish to attend a licensed premise pre-match. With those licensed premises already open or able to open in the town centre pre-match I will be ensuring that this forms part of the planning of the policing operation and deployments whilst I balance my resources.

Burnley's football stadium Turf Moor will open its gates at 11:00am. The fixture is a sell out for Burnley and when tickets go on sale will also see a Blackburn Rovers sell out which takes the stadium to capacity. The policing operation will work with the football club to assist those from the town centre and car parks with access to the ground. Those who attend licensed premises do challenge the operation, increase the risk and can present an operational challenge if we see the premises well attended pre-match and supporters presenting as a late walk ups to the stadium.

Finally, and crucially whilst I understand there will be some licensed premises open, I would not advocate or support any extended licences for this high-risk football fixture where alcohol consumption does have an impact on fan behaviour and the overall policing and stewarding operation.

I do appreciate that our operation will be supported by the measures that those who are opening have in place on their licence or will undertake voluntarily. However, again I would not advocate the allowing of pubs to open beyond the scope of their licence on this date balancing the high-risk football fixture and Remembrance Day.

As such, I agree with the decision to object to the applications made to extend opening hours at these venues on this day.

Yours sincerely