

REPORT TO LICENSING SUB-COMMITTEE

DATE	20th October 2023
PORTFOLIO	Community & Environment
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Licensing Act 2003 application for a Premises Licence
Cocktails & Creams, 25-29 Hammerton Street, Burnley

PURPOSE

1. To consider an application under section 17 of the Licensing Act 2003 (The Act) received from Company A for a Premises Licence for Cocktails & Creams, 25-29 Hammerton Street, Burnley.
2. A copy of the application is attached at Appendix A.

RECOMMENDATION

3. Members are recommended to make a determination under section 18 of the Act with a view to promoting the licensing objectives.
 - The prevention of crime and disorder
 - Public safety
 - Prevention of public nuisance
 - Protection of children from harm

The committee must take such of the following steps as it considers necessary for the promotion of the licensing objectives:

- To grant the licence, subject to the mandatory conditions and conditions consistent with the operating schedule;
- To alter, omit or add conditions to such an extent as is considered appropriate for the promotion of the licensing objectives;
- To exclude any of the licensable activities to which the application relates
- To amend the times for all or some of the licensable activities;
- To refuse to specify a person in the licence as the premises supervisor
- To refuse the application

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION

4. Members of the Licensing Committee are responsible for determining such applications.

SUMMARY OF KEY POINTS

5. An application for a premises licence under the Licensing Act 2003 was received by the Licensing Authority on 4th September 2023.

Full details of the application are listed in the application form and are summarised as follows:

- The sale by retail of alcohol on the premises from 10am to 12 midnight Monday to Wednesday and 10am to 3.30am Thursday to Sunday
- The provision of live music indoors from 10am to 11pm Monday to Wednesday and 10am to 2.30am Thursday to Sunday
- The provision of recorded music and dancing indoors from 10am to 12 midnight Monday to Wednesday and 10am to 3.30am Thursday to Sunday
- The provision of late-night refreshment from 11pm to 12 midnight Monday to Wednesday and 11pm to 3.30am Thursday to Sunday
- The premises opening hours to be from 10am to 12 midnight Monday to Wednesday and 10am to 3.30am Thursday to Sunday

Copies of the application were sent to all Responsible Authorities. Relevant representations were received within the prescribed period from 7 individuals and a copy of those representations are provided at Appendix B.

Relevant representations were also received within the prescribed period from the Environmental Health Officer, however, following mediation between the Environmental Health Officer and the applicant, conditions were agreed and those representations were withdrawn. A copy of those agreed conditions is provided at appendix C and they have now been incorporated into the operating schedule.

Also, during the prescribed period, conditions suggested by Lancashire Constabulary were agreed with the applicant and those conditions have been incorporated into the operating schedule. A copy of the agreed conditions is provided at Appendix D.

Members are reminded that representations are relevant where they relate to the likely effect of the grant of the application on one or more of the 4 licensing objectives which are:

- PREVENTION OF CRIME & DISORDER
- PUBLIC SAFETY
- PREVENTION OF PUBLIC NUISANCE
- PROTECTION OF CHILDREN FROM HARM

The applicant had, at section M of the application, detailed the steps they intend to take to promote the four licensing objectives. As outlined above, this section has since been amended following mediation with the Police & Environmental Health. A copy of the revised section M, which incorporates the amended agreed conditions, is provided at Appendix E.

This schedule is incorporated into the licence as conditions when a licence is granted. Sub-Committee can modify, i.e. alter, omit or add to these conditions following a hearing.

Notice of a hearing has been sent to the applicant and to each of the persons from whom the licensing authority has accepted a representation.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS AND BUDGET PROVISION

6. None

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

7. The following paragraphs from Burnley Borough Council's Statement of Licensing Policy 2022 – 2027 are relevant to this application:

1.6 The 2003 Act is part of a wider Government strategy to tackle crime, disorder and anti-social behaviour and reduce alcohol harm. It is recognised that the Act is not the primary mechanism for controlling nuisance by individuals once they are away from the premises, and beyond the control of the holder of a licence, club certificate or temporary event authorisation.

3.1.5 Operating schedules are an opportunity for the applicant to explain how the licensing objectives will be upheld at the premises. The operating schedule should be completed with careful consideration to the activities requested. The Licensing Authority recognises that licensed premises vary considerably in terms of what activities they provide, their size and location and therefore, there is no single set of measures that will be appropriate measures for inclusion on the operating schedule. Applicants should consider the particular sensitivities of people living or working in the vicinity. The application is less likely to be subject to representations where good advice has been sought and appropriate measures are incorporated into the operating schedule.

3.2.2 Representations can be received from a Responsible Authority or from any other person. Those received from Responsible Authorities will be afforded particular weight.

3.4.3 Conditions attached to the licence/certificate will avoid `gold plating`, ie restating, existing legal requirements imposed via other acts of parliament or statutory instruments.

5.1.2 The Licensing authority wants to encourage responsible businesses to operate in the Borough. The Council is keen to encourage and support a more diverse mix of venues, events and visitor attractions which will be balanced against the potential for disturbance to town centre residents and businesses.

5.6.3 The Licensing Authority considers that later hours will typically be more sensitive and higher risk in causing noise from regulated entertainment, anti-social behaviour from patrons in the vicinity of the premises, and crime and disorder from inebriated patrons. This will include late night food vendors. It therefore follows that additional measures may be required, including noise mitigation controls and an increasing number of SIA registered door supervisors may need to be employed the later the premises remains open, and these requirements may be considered as licence conditions

5.8.1 It is expected that premises licensed to sell alcohol for consumption on the premises, especially those trading beyond midnight, implement appropriate welfare measures. This may include the employment of designated welfare staff and trained first aiders, as well as steps to identify vulnerable person(s) and respond to accidents, injuries and other immediate harms such as unconsciousness, alcohol poisoning, drug intoxication, and any reported `Spiking` incidents. Safety measures could include encouraging customers to ensure their drinks are not left unattended, and the use of publicity material to ensure customers remain vigilant. Overt CCTV is also a major deterrent for potential offenders.

5.8.2 Where spiking incidents occur inside premises or affect customers who either leave or are ejected, the necessary duty of care is exercised by the Premises Licence Holder / DPS and their staff, and that includes the immediate calling of appropriate medical aid and the notification of the police

5.8.3 A zero-tolerance policy should be implemented regarding the use of illegal drugs and new psychoactive substances (NPS), (previously referred to as 'legal highs'), and nitrous oxide (NO) on the premises. Where there is a risk of illegal drug use on the premises, the authority expects a documented policy that sets out how drugs will be prevented from being brought into the premises, what action the venue will take should anyone be caught with drugs on the premises, and how the drugs will be disposed of.

Licensees should remain alert to emerging issues. The authority considers that nightclubs, in particular, should address these risks, but it may also be appropriate for other licensed premises to do so. Relevant considerations could include: –

- The searching of customers and their bags etc on entry, this being a condition of entry
- A refusal/ejection policy for anyone found in possession of drugs, NPS, NO or similar intoxicants
- The use of toilet attendants / floor walkers and regular documented toilet checks –
- Searches of the premises – Training of staff in drug awareness to identify and prevent the supply and use of illegal drugs and new psychoactive substances
- Physical measures to deter drug use on the premises.
- Clear posters displayed and the overt use of CCTV, particularly in vulnerable areas.

The following extracts from the Home Office Revised Guidance issued under Section 182 of the Licensing Act 2003, issued in August 2023 are also relevant:

2.20 The 2003 Act enables licensing authorities and responsible authorities, through representations, to consider what constitutes public nuisance and what is appropriate to prevent it in terms of conditions attached to specific premises licences and club premises certificates. It is therefore important that in considering the promotion of this licensing objective, licensing authorities and responsible authorities focus on the effect of the licensable activities at the specific premises on persons living and working (including those carrying on business) in the area around the premises which may be disproportionate and

unreasonable. The issues will mainly concern noise nuisance, light pollution, noxious smells and litter.

2.21 Public nuisance is given a statutory meaning in many pieces of legislation. It is however not narrowly defined in the 2003 Act and retains its broad common law meaning. It may include in appropriate circumstances the reduction of the living and working amenity and environment of other persons living and working in the area of the licensed premises.

2.22 Conditions relating to noise nuisance will usually concern steps appropriate to control the levels of noise emanating from premises. This might be achieved by a simple measure such as ensuring that doors and windows are kept closed after a particular time, or persons are not permitted in garden areas of the premises after a certain time. More sophisticated measures like the installation of acoustic curtains or rubber speaker mounts to mitigate sound escape from the premises may be appropriate. However, conditions in relation to live or recorded music may not be enforceable in circumstances where the entertainment activity itself is not licensable. Any conditions appropriate to promote the prevention of public nuisance should be tailored to the type, nature and characteristics of the specific premises and its licensable activities. Licensing authorities should avoid inappropriate or disproportionate measures that could deter events that are valuable to the community, such as live music. Noise limiters, for example, are expensive to purchase and install and are likely to be a considerable burden for smaller venues.

2.23 As with all conditions, those relating to noise nuisance may not be appropriate in certain circumstances where provisions in other legislation adequately protect those living in the area of the premises. But as stated earlier in this Guidance, the approach of licensing authorities and responsible authorities should be one of prevention and when their powers are engaged, licensing authorities should be aware of the fact that other legislation may not adequately cover concerns raised in relevant representations and additional conditions may be appropriate.

2.24 Where applications have given rise to representations, any appropriate conditions should normally focus on the most sensitive periods. For example, the most sensitive period for people being disturbed by unreasonably loud music is at night and into the early morning when residents in adjacent properties may be attempting to go to sleep or are sleeping. This is why there is still a need for a licence for performances of live music between 11 pm and 8 am. In certain circumstances, conditions relating to noise emanating from the premises may also be appropriate to address any disturbance anticipated as customers enter and leave.

2.26 Beyond the immediate area surrounding the premises, these are matters for the personal responsibility of individuals under the law. An individual who engages in anti-social behaviour is accountable in their own right. However, it would be perfectly reasonable for a licensing authority to impose a condition, following relevant representations, that requires the licence holder or club to place signs at the exits from the building encouraging patrons to be quiet until they leave the area, or that, if they wish to smoke, to do so at designated places on the premises instead of outside, and to respect the rights of people living nearby to a peaceful night.

9.12 Each responsible authority will be an expert in their respective field, and in some cases it is likely that a particular responsible authority will be the licensing authority's main source of advice in relation to a particular licensing objective. For example, the police have a key role in managing the night-time economy and should have good working relationships with those operating in their local area. The police should usually therefore be

the licensing authority's main source of advice on matters relating to the promotion of the crime and disorder licensing objective. However, any responsible authority under the 2003 Act may make representations with regard to any of the licensing objectives if they have evidence to support such representations. Licensing authorities must therefore consider all relevant representations from responsible authorities carefully, even where the reason for a particular responsible authority's interest or expertise in the promotion of a particular objective may not be immediately apparent. However, it remains incumbent on all responsible authorities to ensure that their representations can withstand the scrutiny to which they would be subject at a hearing

9.42 Licensing authorities are best placed to determine what actions are appropriate for the promotion of the licensing objectives in their areas. All licensing determinations should be considered on a case-by-case basis. They should take into account any representations or objections that have been received from responsible authorities or other persons, and representations made by the applicant or premises user as the case may be.

9.43 The authority's determination should be evidence-based, justified as being appropriate for the promotion of the licensing objectives and proportionate to what it is intended to achieve.

DETAILS OF CONSULTATION

The statutory consultation has taken place.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

9. Burnley Borough Council Statement of Licensing Policy.
Licensing Act 2003.
Home Office Revised Guidance issued under Section 182 of the Licensing Act 2003,
issued in 2023.

FURTHER INFORMATION

PLEASE CONTACT:

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ALSO:

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