

LICENSING ACT 2003 HEARING - THURSDAY 19th NOVEMBER 2020 @ 0930HRS
APPLICATION FOR THE REVIEW OF A PREMISES LICENCE

1. Premises:

Anrish News
102 Oxford Road
Reading
RG1 7LL

2. Applicants Requesting Review:

Thames Valley Police

3. Grounds for Review

The application is for the review of premises licence (LP2002124) in respect of the above-mentioned premises. The application has been submitted by Thames Valley Police, who are a named responsible authority under the Licensing Act 2003, in regards to the objectives of Prevention of Crime and Disorder, Prevention of Public Nuisance, Public Safety and Protection of Children from Harm.

This application for review has been submitted in order to address the failure of the premises licence holder to promote the licensing objectives via their insufficient measures to ensure due diligence and full, reasonably expected, compliance of their licence conditions. These poor processes have led to the regular supply of super strength alcohol (above 6.0% abv beers and ciders) to individuals whom are regularly and overtly involved in street drinking and its related anti-social behaviour in and around the vicinity and local community area related to this premises. Further to this, a number of violent incidents have occurred both inside and outside the premises in the last 3 years, including an assault on a member of staff. Thames Valley Police submit that it is the ease and availability of cheap, high strength beer and cider that links these incidents together.

4. Date of receipt of application: 26th September 2020

A copy of the review application and appendices received are attached as **Appendix RS-1**

5. Date of closure of period for representations: 24th October 2020

6. Representations received:

During the 28 day consultation period, representations were received in regards to this review application from:

Reading Borough Council - Licensing - Attached as **Appendix RS-2**
Chair of Oxford Road Safer Neighbourhood Forum - **Appendix RS-3**

7. Background

The premises is a convenience store with an off-licence located on Oxford Road, just west of Reading town centre. The Licensing Act 2003 premises licence was first granted on 29/11/2005. The licence was transferred to the current owner on 26/07/2017.

The Premises Licence Holder is: **Best Food and Wine Reading Ltd**

The Designated Premises Supervisor is: **Mr Balbir Singh Ghaba**

The premises currently has the benefit of a premises licence. A copy of the current licence is attached at **Appendix RS-4**

8. Licensing Objectives and Reading Borough Council's Licensing Policy Statement

In determining this application the Licensing Authority has a duty to carry out its functions with a view to promoting the four licensing objectives, which are as follows:-

- the prevention of crime and disorder;
- public safety
- the prevention of public nuisance
- the protection of children from harm

In determining this application, the Licensing Authority must also have regard to the representations received, the Licensing Authority's statement of licensing policy and any relevant section of the statutory guidance to licensing authorities.

9. Power of Licensing Authority on the determination of a Review

In determining the review application the sub-committee can take such steps as it considers appropriate for the promotion of the licensing objectives, which are:

1. Take no further action
2. To issue formal warnings to the premises supervisor and/or premises licence holder
3. Modify the conditions of the licence (including, but not limited to hours of operation of licensable activities)
4. Exclude a licensable activity from the scope of the licence
5. Remove the designated premises licence supervisor
6. Suspend the licence for a period not exceeding three months
7. Revoke the licence.

Where the sub-committee takes a step mentioned in 3 or 4 it may provide that the modification or exclusion is to have effect for a period not exceeding three months or permanently.

Amended Guidance issued under section 182 of the Licensing Act 2003 (April 2018)

11.19 Where the licensing authority considers that action under its statutory powers

is appropriate, it may take any of the following steps:

- 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;
- 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);
- remove the designated premises supervisor, for example, because they consider that the problems are the result of poor management;
- suspend the licence for a period not exceeding three months;
- revoke the licence.

11.20 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 that the representations identify. The remedial action taken should generally be directed at these causes and should always be no more than an appropriate and proportionate response to address the causes of concern that instigated the review.

11.22 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 that impact upon the licensing objectives.

11.23 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 an appropriate means of promoting the licensing objectives or preventing illegal working. 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 appropriate and proportionate to the promotion of the licensing objectives and for the prevention of illegal working in licensed premises. But where premises are found to be trading irresponsibly, the licensing authority should not hesitate, where appropriate to do so, to take tough action to tackle the problems at the premises and, where other measures are deemed insufficient, to revoke the licence.

Reading Borough Council Statement of Licensing Policy (2018)

1.6 The predominantly urban nature of Reading as a town means that an appropriate balance needs to be struck between the needs of local business and the needs of local residents. This licensing policy seeks to encourage all stakeholders to engage in the licensing process so that the needs of all can be taken into account and issues

dealt with in a spirit of partnership and cooperation.

Crime and Disorder Act 1998

3.2 This Act requires local authorities and other bodies to consider crime and disorder reduction. Section 17 of the Act states that it shall be the duty of each authority, to exercise its various functions with due regard to the likely effect of the exercise of those functions on, and the need to do all that is reasonably can to prevent crime and disorder in its area (including anti-social and other behaviour adversely affecting the local environment). This links specifically with the licensing objective of prevention of crime and disorder and the licensing authority will take into account all reasonable measures that actively promote this licensing objective.

Review of a premises licence or club premises certificate

5.13 Any premises that has a premises licence or club premises certificate may have that licence reviewed by any of the named Responsible authorities - including the Licensing Authority in its role as a Responsible Authority. Thames Valley Police may also submit a Summary Review if there is a premises associated with serious crime and disorder. When the Licensing Authority instigates a review it will ensure that there is a clear separation of functions between the officer acting as the licensing authority and the officer acting as a responsible authority.

Licensing Conditions

General Approach

6.1 Conditions shall be appropriate and proportionate for the promotion of the licensing objectives and shall be unambiguous and clear in their stated aims. Conditions will also be tailored to the type, location and characteristics of the particular premises and the relevant licensable activities. Any condition imposed by the Authority shall also aim to avoid duplication of other legislation unless there is a requirement to impose such a condition in order to promote the licensing objectives (for example, a capacity limit for public safety reasons). This shall apply to all relevant applications (grant/variation of a premises licence or club premises certificate)

6.5 Any conditions imposed upon a premises licence or club premises certificate will be tailored to that type of premises and the style of operation. Consideration will also be given to the locality of the premises; issues in the locality; the issues set out in the Guidance and any policy, initiative or other matter the licensing authority wishes to take into account in order to promote the four licensing objectives.

Enforcement

General Principles

9.1 It is the responsibility under the Act for all responsible authorities; licence holders and prospective licence holders to actively promote the four licensing objectives. The Council along with partner agencies, has a wider responsibility to

protect the public as a whole and prevent crime, harm or nuisance from taking place.

9.2 The Authority will carry out its licensing functions with a view to actively promoting the licensing objectives and maintaining public safety. This applies to the dual role the licensing authority has both as the administrator of the process and as a responsible authority.

Enforcement Approach

9.15 Licensed premises that have a history of non-compliance over a period of months and years and/or incidents of serious crime taking place at that premises, will likely find that the Authority will initiate a review with a view to asking for the licence to be considered for revocation.

9.16 When considering what enforcement action to take, the Authority will always consider what is the most appropriate and proportionate step to promote the licensing objectives. The Authority is not required to wait for offences to occur before deciding it needs to take appropriate action. Case law - notably *East Lindsey District Council v Abu Hanif* - states that the promotion of the licensing objectives requires a prospective consideration of what is warranted in the public interest having regard to the twin considerations of prevention and deterrence. Similarly, the Secretary of State's Guidance to the Licensing Act makes clear that there is no requirement for the Authority to wait for the outcome of any criminal proceedings before it initiates any enforcement action. This is the approach that the Authority will take when considering what, if any, action should be taken when condition breaches and other criminal activity is found at licensed premises.

10. Summary

Thames Valley Police have applied for this review to address the failures of the premises licence holder to promote the 4 licensing objectives due to their insufficient measures to ensure due diligence and full, reasonably expected, compliance of their licence conditions. Reading Borough Council's Licensing Team have made a representation in support of Thames Valley Police and concur that the failures of the premises licence holder must be addressed. Thames Valley Police and Reading Borough Council Licensing put forward that the appropriate and proportionate measure to take is to attach suggested conditions contained in their representations and for a period of suspension to allow the premises licence holder time to ensure that they are able to comply with any new conditions. Furthermore, there has been a representation in support of Thames Valley Police's review application from the Chair of Oxford Road Safer Neighbourhood Forum.

11. Relevant Case law for consideration

The British Beer and Pub Association, The Association of Licensed Multiple Retailers, The British Institute of Innkeeping v Canterbury City Council [2005]

R (on application of Hope and Glory Public House Ltd) v City of Westminster Magistrates' Court and Others (2011) EWCA Civ 312

East Lindsey District Council v Abu Hanif (t/a Zara's Restaurant) 2016

R (on application of Daniel Thwaites plc) v Wirral Magistrates' Court and Others
(2008) EWHC 838 (Admin)

12. Appendices

Appendix RS-1: Review Application & Appendices

Appendix RS-2: Representation from Reading Borough Council - Licensing

**Appendix RS-3: Representation from Chair of Oxford Road Safer Neighbourhood
Forum**

Appendix RS-4: Current Premises Licence for Anrish News

Appendix RS-5: Additional Information from Thames Valley Police

**Appendix RS-6: Additional Information from Chair of Oxford Road Safer
Neighbourhood Forum**

Reading Borough Council

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 Simon Wheeler, on behalf of the Chief Constable of Thames Valley Police

(Insert name of applicant)

apply for the review of a premises licence under section 51 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	
Anrish News 102 Oxford Road	
Post town Reading	Post code (if known) RG1 7LL

Name of premises licence holder or club holding club premises certificate (if known)
Best food and Wine Reading Ltd

Number of premises licence or club premises certificate (if known)
LP2002124

Part 2 - Applicant details

I am

Please tick ✓ yes

1) an individual, body or business which is not a responsible authority (please read guidance note 1, and complete (A) or (B) below)

☐

2) a responsible authority (please complete (C) below)

☒

3) a member of the club to which this application relates (please complete (A) below)

☐

(A) DETAILS OF INDIVIDUAL APPLICANT (fill in as applicable)

Please tick ✓ yes

Mr ☐

Mrs ☐

Miss ☐

Ms ☐

Other title
(for example, Rev)

Surname

First names

I am 18 years old or over

Please tick ✓ yes

☐

**Current postal
address if
different from
premises
address**

Post town

Post Code

Daytime contact telephone number

**E-mail address
(optional)**

(B) DETAILS OF OTHER APPLICANT

Name and address

Telephone number (if any)

E-mail address (optional)

(C) DETAILS OF RESPONSIBLE AUTHORITY APPLICANT

Name and address Thames Valley Police C/O Reading Licensing Dept Reading Police Station Castle Street Reading RG1 7TH
Telephone number (if any) 101
E-mail address (optional) Licensing@thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk

This application to review relates to the following licensing objective(s)

- 1) the prevention of crime and disorder
- 2) public safety
- 3) the prevention of public nuisance
- 4) the protection of children from harm

Please tick one or more boxes ✓

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Please state the ground(s) for review (please read guidance note 2)

Thames Valley Police (TVP) as a responsible authority under the Licensing Act 2003 and under the objectives of prevention of crime and disorder, public safety, prevention of public nuisance and the protection of children from harm make an application for the review of Premises Licence No. **LP2002124**, Anrish News, 102 Oxford Road, Reading, Berkshire, RG1 7LL

Thames Valley Police (TVP) submit this application for review in order to address the failure of the premises licence holder to promote the licensing objectives via their insufficient measures to ensure due diligence and full reasonably expected compliance of their licence conditions.

TVP suspect strongly that the premises licence holders failure to sufficiently promote the licensing objectives and risk assess the sale of high strength cans of beer and cider above 6.0% abv is likely to be exacerbating the levels of street drinking and alcohol related disorder within the area.

Reading has a public space protection order (PSPO) in place which identifies street drinking via the consumption of alcohol on the street i.e. not within managed and licensed areas as of direct negative impact to the community.

Therefore sales of super strength cheap beers and ciders in the area of the Oxford road are believed by Thames Valley Police to be fuelling incidents of alcohol related crime and disorder in the area of this premises, and it is of extreme concern and a priority for the oxford road residents and community to resolve this issue.

As stated within the case law within East Lindsey District Council v Abu Hanif , “the promotion of the licensing objectives requires a prospective consideration of what is warranted in the public interest having regard to the twin considerations of prevention and deterrence”.

In this scenario TVP submit that the review of this premises licence in order to ensure suitable conditions are both included within the operating schedule and actioned by the premises licence holder are both a necessary and proportionate step to promote the licensing objectives.

Please provide as much information as possible to support the application (please read guidance note 3)

Anrish News benefits from a premises licence that allows the off sale of alcohol by retail between 0600 hours until 2300 hours Monday to Sunday.

It is situated just outside of Reading town centre heading away from town over the inner distribution road (IDR) flyover and is opposite the junction of Zinzan Street and Oxford Road on the corner of Eaton place.

This is an area of specific high concern in relation to alcohol related anti-social behaviour linked to the congregation of street drinkers and close to known areas such as the IDR bridge where many sit, consume alcohol and beg.

The premises itself historically under the previous premises licence holder recorded a number of incidents relating to the sale of alcohol to drunks and also failed a test purchase process prior to July 2017.

Thames Valley Police provide the following chronology in order to detail fully the evidence which we intend to rely upon as part of this review process. All evidence provided relates solely to this premises licence since the new premises licence holder took over in July 2017:

4th August 2017 – A report was received by Thames Valley Police that a fight was occurring inside the premises at 21:12 hours. The record details that one person suffered facial injuries and some damage was also caused to the premises. The offender was recognised as a regular customer however the record also details that firstly staff could not work the CCTV system and then secondly that the CCTV was then found NOT to be working. In this scenario, vital evidence was therefore lost and the premises licence condition re CCTV in breach. (See APPENDIX 1)

30th September 2017 – A report was received by Thames Valley Police stating that a male was in the premises being abusive to customers and had punched two females. Officers on arrival note that no victims were located inside the shop and the drunk male left the premises. (See APPENDIX 2)

29th January 2018 – A report was received by Thames Valley Police that two males stole beers from within the premises. The caller stated that they go there all the time causing issues. We suggest that this is likely to be the result of the availability of high strength alcohol that attracts the street drinking fraternity into the area. This both is cause for concern to the residents of the vicinity and is also clearly a concern for staff safety. (See APPENDIX 3)

21st November 2018 – A report was received by Thames Valley Police that the “shop owner” had been assaulted by a group of male and female youths, including having a bottle thrown at him and being spat at. On this occasion the CCTV system is noted as showing the incident. (See APPENDIX 4)

16th December 2018 – A report was received by Thames Valley Police relating to a fight occurring both inside and outside of the premises at 21:27 hours. The victim is recorded to have sustained a minor head wound. Unfortunately the CCTV is recorded to have initially shown the incident however it was not recording and was not available as evidence. (See APPENDIX 5)

22nd April 2019 – A report was received by Thames Valley Police detailing the theft of alcohol, from the shop by an intoxicated and underage individual. Fizzy non -alcoholic drinks were also taken at the time. (See APPENDIX 6)

30th April 2019 – A report was received by Thames Valley Police stating that two males were fighting outside of the premises at 22:10 hours, they were intoxicated and smashing bottles and one was bleeding. (See APPENDIX 7)

25th July 2020 – A report was received by Thames Valley Police stating that a drunk male was in the shop and refusing to leave at 11:23 hours requiring police assistance. (See APPENDIX 8)

25th August 2020 – Thames Valley Police conducted a licensing inspection at the premises that was fully recorded on body worn video and identified the following areas of concern:

- Part B of the licence was incorrectly displayed and mixed with Part A. this was rectified with help from the inspecting officer.
- Staff and the DPS did not sufficiently recall or know all of the four licensing objectives.
- Training of staff was insufficient.
- The CCTV system only maintains recorded images for 17 days (general good practice is for a minimum of 28 days and usually 31)
- Concerns surrounding the sale of high/super strength beer and cider were discussed and the negative impact on the community and impact on staff safety.
- During the inspection a known street drinker/ beggar entered the premises and her body language we suggest showed an expectation to purchase high strength alcohol. She left without having made a purchase when she recognised police presence, however we suggest that this indicates known drunks and street drinkers are purchasing alcohol from this premises.

(See APPENDIX 9)

27th August 2020 – Thames Valley Police sent an example training document to the email address provided by the DPS in order to aid them in understanding how to deliver training and the key elements that as a minimum standard could be included. (See APPENDIX 10)

3rd September 2020 – Thames Valley Police provided an inspection letter to the premises licence holder and designated premises supervisor detailing the concerns raised at the inspection and providing advice and a set of recommended conditions that were felt should be added to the premises licence in order to aid the premises licence holder with the promotion of the licensing objectives. The conditions were specific to resolving concerns identified during the inspection and a date for agreement/ response set as 17th September 2020. The letter formed part of a stepped approach to resolve key issues without the requirement of further official action. The letter was both emailed to the DPS and hard copies sent to the address of the DPS and PLH.

To date no response has been received in relation to the example training document that has been provided or the offer to resolve matters via the addition of reasonable and proportionate conditions. (See APPENDIX 11)

*** Please note that Body worn Video footage of the inspection conducted on the 25th August 2020 shall be available and identified as APPENDIX 12.**

Conclusion

Thames Valley Police have identified that this premises is located in an area of high anti-social behaviour caused by the consumption of cheap high strength alcohol which is of concern to local residents. The sale of cheap high strength alcohol not only leads to incidents on the street but also incidents within licensed premises that sell the products.

In our submitted evidence we have highlighted a number of incidents involving fighting and intoxicated individuals that have taken place both inside this premises and also outside within the immediate vicinity. Thames Valley Police submit that the common denominator that link these incidents together is the ease and availability of cheap high strength beer and cider products over

the 6.0% abv mark.

During the inspection on the 25th August 2020 it is recorded that the outcome of the inspection was unsatisfactory. The licence conditions admittedly are poorly written and that may be the reason for the poor due diligence that was shown, leading to lowered standards compared to what would be expected of a premises licence holder in our area.

However, Thames Valley Police hoped to rectify this situation by recommending some improved and more understandable conditions that would better allow the premises licence holder to promote the licensing objectives.

Indeed, we also provided an example document to the DPS to aid them in their future planning and delivery.

Sadly, since we have communicated via both email and in writing via letters to the premises licence holder and designated premises supervisor we have received no further contact in relation to our recommended conditions or received any update regarding improvements that may have been implemented.

It is in response to this scenario that Thames Valley Police are making this application for the review of this premises licence in order that the licensing sub-committee may have the opportunity to assess both the impact of this premises licence and the ability of the premises licence holder to promote the licensing objectives.

Thames Valley Police set out our following recommendations for consideration of the licensing sub-committee:

- **the modification of the conditions of the premises licence;**

Thames Valley Police recommend that a number of conditions are required to be added to the premises licence to both replace the current three conditions and further them with improved conditions that shall aid the PLH promotion of the licensing objectives.

Our recommended conditions shall be included at the end of our submission.

TVP believe that the proposed conditions shall increase public safety and reduce public nuisance by removing the reason and attraction of street drinkers and drunks to the area by reducing the availability of super strength alcohol.

This shall aid in the prevention of crime and disorder and decrease the potential that staff shall be placed into confrontational situations when having to refuse violent and intoxicated individuals.

- **the exclusion of a licensable activity from the scope of the licence;**

Thames Valley Police are not recommending any exclusion of licensable activity at this time.

- **Revocation of the licence;**

Thames Valley Police are of the opinion that currently it may be prudent to provide the PLH the opportunity to improve their compliance and promote the licensing objectives via improved conditions and support to increase their compliance and therefore we preclude to recommend this option at this time.

- **the suspension of the licence for a period not exceeding 3 months;**

Thames Valley Police believe that a suspension of the licence coupled with the imposition of the recommended improved licence conditions may provide the PLH a period of time to implement new policies and ensure compliance.

However, we do not believe that the proposed conditions are such that they overstep what would generally be expected of any responsible operator anyway and as such do not believe that an over burdensome period of time would be required to implement these processes.

- **the removal of the designated premises supervisor;**

Thames Valley Police would recommend that this option is initially precluded at this time to provide the opportunity to show competence.

Thames Valley Police recommended conditions:

1. Staff employed to sell alcohol shall undergo training upon induction before they are allowed to sell alcohol. This shall include, but not be limited to:-

- The premises age verification policy
- The Four Licensing objectives
- *Dealing with refusal of sales*
- Proxy purchasing
- Recognising valid identity documents not in the English language
- Identifying attempts by intoxicated persons to purchase alcohol
- Identifying signs of intoxication
- Conflict management
- How to identify and safeguard vulnerable persons who attend and leave the premises.

a) Refresher training shall be provided every 6 (six) months.

b) Signed induction and refresher training records are to be kept for a minimum of 2 (Two) years of the date of training, and made available for inspection by a Police Officer or authorised officer of Reading Borough Council upon request.

c) All staff authorised to sell alcohol shall be accredited to a minimum of BII Level 1 award in responsible alcohol retailing (ARAR) or any other similarly nationally recognised approved accreditation curriculum within four weeks for existing and subsequent employees.

2. All staff to be trained to record refusals of sales of alcohol in a refusals book or electronic register. The book/register shall contain:

- Details of the time and date the refusal was made
- The identity of the staff member refusing the sale.
- Details of the alcohol the person attempted to purchase.

a) This book/register shall be available for inspection to an authorised officer of Reading Borough Council or Thames Valley Police. A weekly review of the refusals book/register shall also be carried out and signed off by the Designated Premises Supervisor or their nominated representative.

3. An incident register/log shall be used, maintained and kept on the premises to record any incident which has an impact on any of the four licensing objectives, or instances when the police have had to attend the premises.

- a) The register shall be made available for inspection to authorised officers of Reading Borough Council and Thames Valley Police upon request;

4. The premises shall at all times operate a Challenge 25 age verification policy to prevent any customers who attempt to purchase alcohol and who appear to the staff member to be under the age of 25 years from making such a purchase without having first provided identification. Only a valid British driver's licence showing a photograph of the person, a valid passport, military ID or proof of age card showing the 'Pass' hologram (or any other nationally accredited scheme) are to be accepted as identification. The age verification policy shall be in a written form and displayed in a prominent position.

5. Posters advertising the premises' Challenge 25 age verification policy shall be displayed in prominent positions on the premises.

6. The Premises Licence Holder shall display in a prominent position a copy of their written policy on checking proof of age.

7. No beers and ciders above 6.0% ABV shall be sold at any time during permitted licensing hours.

8. The premises licence holder shall ensure the premises' digitally recorded CCTV system cameras shall continually record whilst the premises are open to the public and recordings shall be kept for a minimum of 31 days with time and date stamping. The entire licensable area shall be covered by the CCTV and an appropriate number of cameras shall be installed to cover the external areas immediately outside of the premises. Data recordings shall be made immediately available to an authorised officer of Thames Valley Police or Reading Borough Council together with facilities for viewing upon request, subject to the provisions of the Data Protection Act. Recorded images shall be of such quality as to be able to identify the recorded person in any light. At least one member of staff on the premises at any time during operating hours shall be trained to access and download material from the CCTV system.

9. The premises licence holder or nominated representative shall keep and maintain all right to work documents for all staff members. Right to work documents shall be kept at the premises and produced to authorised officers of Reading Borough Council and Thames Valley Police upon request.

10. A current written authorisation list shall be displayed in a prominent position on the premises confirming the details of all current staff that have been authorised to sell alcohol by a Personal Licence Holder. The authorisation list shall include, the name of the staff member authorised, the name and personal licence details of the person authorising them to sell alcohol. This list shall also contain the date and signature of the staff member authorised and countersigned by the authorising Personal Licence Holder.

11. The premises licence holder/designated premises supervisor shall ensure that they and staff who are authorised to sell alcohol, are able to converse with customers and representatives of Statutory Agencies to a level that they are able to satisfactorily meet the four licensing objectives as contained in the Licensing Act 2003.

- I. The Prevention of Crime and Disorder.
- II. Public Safety.
- III. Public Nuisance.
- IV. The Protection of Children from Harm.

12. A section 57 notice shall be displayed in a prominent position detailing the location of the Part A of the premises licence, and a list of staff members that have an awareness of its location and content.

Thames Valley Police submit the following sections from within the Reading Borough Council statement of licensing policy and the current Secretary of States section 182 guidance as relevant to our review application.

Secretary of States Section 182 Guidance

11.19 Where the licensing authority considers that action under its statutory powers is appropriate, it may take any of the following steps:

- **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;**
- **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);**
- **remove the designated premises supervisor, for example, because they consider that the problems are the result of poor management;**
- **suspend the licence for a period not exceeding three months;**
- **revoke the licence.**

11.20 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 that the representations identify**. The remedial action taken should generally be directed at these causes and should always be no more than an appropriate and proportionate response to address the causes of concern that instigated the review.

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11.23 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 an appropriate means of promoting the licensing objectives or preventing illegal working. 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 appropriate and proportionate to the promotion of the licensing objectives and for the prevention of illegal working in licensed premises. **But where premises are found to be trading irresponsibly, the licensing authority should not hesitate, where appropriate to do so, to take tough action to tackle the problems at the premises and, where other measures are deemed insufficient, to revoke the licence.**

Reading Borough Council Statement of Licensing Policy

6.1 Conditions shall be appropriate and proportionate for the promotion of the licensing objectives and shall be unambiguous and clear in their stated aims. Conditions will also be tailored to the type, location and characteristics of the particular premises and the relevant licensable activities. Any condition imposed by the Authority shall also aim to avoid duplication of other legislation unless there is a requirement to impose such a condition in order to promote the licensing objectives (for example, a capacity limit for public safety reasons). This shall apply to all relevant applications (grant/variation of a premises licence or club premises certificate)

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9.1 It is the responsibility under the Act for all responsible authorities; licence holders and prospective licence holders to actively promote the four licensing objectives. The Council along with partner agencies, has a wider responsibility to protect the public as a whole and prevent crime, harm or nuisance from taking place.

9.15 Licensed premises that have a history of non-compliance over a period of months and years and/or incidents of serious crime taking place at that premises, will likely find that the Authority will initiate a review with a view to asking for the licence to be considered for revocation.

9.16 When considering what enforcement action to take, the Authority will always consider what is the most appropriate and proportionate step to promote the licensing objectives. The Authority is not required to wait for offences to occur before deciding it needs to take appropriate action. Case law – notably *East Lindsey District Council v Abu Hanif* – states that the promotion of the licensing objectives requires a prospective consideration of what is warranted in the public interest having regard to the twin considerations of prevention and deterrence. Similarly, the Secretary of State's Guidance to the Licensing Act makes clear that there is no requirement for the Authority to wait for the outcome of any criminal proceedings before it initiates any enforcement action. This is the approach that the Authority will take when considering what, if any, action should be taken when condition breaches and other criminal activity is found at licensed premises.

Furthermore Thames Valley Police recommend that when considering what enforcement action to take, the Authority will always consider what is the most appropriate and proportionate step to promote the licensing objectives. Thames Valley Police suggest that the authority is not required to wait for offences to occur before deciding it needs to take appropriate action. Case law – notably *East Lindsey District Council v Abu Hanif* – states that the promotion of the licensing objectives requires a prospective consideration of what is warranted in the public interest having regard to the twin considerations of prevention and deterrence and respectfully ask that the licensing Sub-Committee take cognisance of this factor with regards to this review application.

A full transcript of this Case Law is provided:

QBD, ADMINISTRATIVE COURT

Neutral Citation Number: [2016] EWHC 1265 (Admin)

CO/345/2016

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE

QUEEN'S BENCH DIVISION

THE ADMINISTRATIVE COURT

Royal Courts of Justice

Strand

London WC2A 2LL

Thursday, 14 April 2016

B e f o r e:

MR JUSTICE JAY

Between:

EAST LINDSEY DISTRICT COUNCIL

Appellant

v

ABU HANIF

(TRADING AS ZARA'S RESTAURANT AND TAKEAWAY)

Respondent

Computer- Aided Transcript of the Stenograph Notes of

WordWave International Limited trading as DTI

165 Fleet Street London EC4A 2DY

Tel No: 020 7404 1400 Fax No: 020 7404 1424

(Official Shorthand Writers to the Court)

Mr P Kolvin QC & Mr D Dadds (instructed by David Dadds LLP) appeared on behalf of the **Appellant**

The **Respondent** did not appear and was not represented

J U D G M E N T

(Approved)

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1. **MR JUSTICE JAY:** This is an appeal by way of case stated from the decision of the Lincoln Magistrates' Court, District Judge Veits, given on 23 June 2015, whereby he allowed an appeal from the revocation of a premises licence by the licensing authority.

2. The appellant, the East Lindsey District Council, is the licensing authority.
The

Magistrates' Court in the usual way is not a party to these proceedings. The respondent, Mr Abu Hanif, trading as Zara's Restaurant and Takeaway, is the licence holder. He through a licensing consultant has submitted correspondence making various limited points, but indicating that he would not be taking any part in these proceedings.

3. The premises in question are Zara's Restaurant and Takeaway situated in North Summercoates on the Lincolnshire coast. They are licensed to sell alcohol ancillary to the supply of food. The restaurant is owned and managed by the licensee, Mr Hanif. On 29 April 2014, the premises were the subject of a joint visit by the police and immigration officers, and it was discovered that Mr Miah was working in the kitchen as a chef. It was common ground that Mr Miah had no current entitlement to remain in the UK, let alone to work. I was told that he arrived here illegally some years ago. Furthermore, it was also accepted by the respondent that he (i) employed Mr Miah without paperwork showing a right to work in the United Kingdom; (ii) paid Mr Miah cash in hand; (iii) paid Mr Miah less than the minimum wage; (iv) did not keep or maintain PAYE records; (v) purported to deduct tax from Mr Miah's salary; and (vi) did not account to HMRC for the tax deducted.
4. The police then applied for a review of the respondent's licence under section 51 of the Licensing Act 2003 and the matter came before the appellant's subcommittee on 30 June 2014. The subcommittee decided to revoke the respondent's licence. Its reasons were as follows:
5. "The subcommittee were satisfied that Mr Hanif did not take the appropriate checks of staff members having knowledge that there were problems previously at the other premises with overstayers, and that he continued to allow staff to work at Zara's restaurant without making appropriate checks.
6. The subcommittee were satisfied that Mr Hanif had not undertaken the relevant checks to ensure the employee concerned was eligible to work in the United Kingdom. Instead of not allowing employees to work if they had not provided the correct documentation he allowed them to work and paid cash in hand. With all this in mind the subcommittee were satisfied that Mr Hanif had knowingly employed person/s unlawfully in the United Kingdom.
7. The subcommittee considered the evidence by Mr Kheng on behalf of Mr Hanif and the Home Office section 182 Guidance to Licensing Authorities. The subcommittee were of the view that the premises licence should be revoked and that revocation was an appropriate step with a view to promoting the crime prevention licensing objective."

8. The respondent then appealed to the Magistrates' Court. There was a hearing on 27 March 2015, and on 23 June the district judge decided to allow the respondent's appeal. On 1 September 2015, the district judge determined the issue of costs and on 7 January 2016 he stated the case. The appeal to the district judge was de novo, but he accepted that he could only allow the appeal if the subcommittee's decision was "wrong", the burden being on the appellant before him to establish that.
9. Looking now at the stated case, the district judge noted that the respondent had received a civil penalty for employing an illegal worker under section 15 of the Immigration, Asylum and Nationality Act 2006. An immigration officer gave evidence to the effect that although by virtue of section 21 a criminal offence was committed, such proceedings were rarely brought. The district judge also noted that the police and the Council's licensing officer were no longer saying that the respondent was a serial offender, but a redacted report which was placed before the subcommittee still gave the impression that he "was in a much worse position than he actually was". As for the failure to pay the minimum wage, the district judge said this:
 - A. "In his evidence before me Mr Hanif accepted that he had not paid the minimum wage and this in itself can be a criminal offence. I found that this was not the main basis of the subcommittee's decision however and again there was no evidence that he had been reported for that alleged offence. It would appear from their reasons that the subcommittee used the evidence of paying cash in hand as justification for the finding that he knowingly employed Mr Miah. The prosecuting authority however appear to have taken a different view in offering the civil penalty."
10. The district judge's core reasoning was that no crime had been committed. As he put it:
 - A. "It appeared to me that no crime had been committed as a result of the visit to the premises in April of last year. A civil penalty had been imposed rather than prosecution for the section 21 offence and no other crime had been reported in relation to not paying the minimum wage."
11. In the district judge's view, the crime prevention objective was not engaged.
12. The district judge also criticised the subcommittee for adopting an inconsistent approach because in other similar cases only warnings were issued. Finally, he considered that the subcommittee may have been influenced by comments in the police report, leading them to believe that they were dealing with a serial offender.
13. At the conclusion of the stated case, the district judge posed two questions for

my determination. I will address these at the end of my judgment.

14. I was taken by Mr Philip Kolvin QC to various provisions of the Licensing Act 2003 as amended. Under section 4(1) and (2) a licensing authority must carry out its licensing functions with a view to promoting the licensing objectives, which include "the prevention of crime and disorder". The provisions dealing with the review application brought by the police are contained in sections 51 and 52. Under section 52(3), the licensing authority (and on appeal the Magistrates' Court):

A. "... must, having regard to the application and any relevant representations, take such of the steps mentioned in subsection (4) (if any) as it considers appropriate for the promotion of the licensing objectives."

15. The epithet "appropriate" was introduced by amendment in 2011. Previously the test had been stricter. In my judgment, it imports by necessary implication the concepts of proportionality and relevance.

16. Mr Kolvin submitted that the district judge erred in a number of respects. First, he wrongly held that, given that criminal proceedings were never brought, the crime prevention objective (see section 4(2)) was not engaged. The statute is concerned with the prevention rather than the fact of crime. Secondly, and in any event, the interested party had committed criminal offences in relation to tax evasion, the employment of an illegal worker, and employing an individual at remuneration below the minimum wage. As for the employment of an illegal worker, Mr Kolvin accepted that this requires knowledge on the part of the employer, and he also accepted that it is not altogether clear whether the district judge found as a fact that the respondent possessed the requisite knowledge. However, the core question is the promotion of the licensing objectives, not the fact of anterior criminal activity, and in this regard a deterrence approach is appropriate.

17. Thirdly, Mr Kolvin submitted that there was no evidence of an inconsistent approach by the subcommittee in giving warnings in some cases because all cases turn on their own facts. Finally, Mr Kolvin submitted that there was no basis for the district judge's conclusion that the subcommittee may have been influenced by a suggestion that the respondent was a serial offender.

18. I accept Mr Kolvin's submissions. In my view the district judge clearly erred. The question was not whether the respondent had been found guilty of criminal offences before a relevant tribunal, but whether revocation of his licence was appropriate and proportionate in the light of the salient licensing objectives, namely the prevention of crime and disorder.

This requires a much broader approach to the issue than the mere identification of criminal convictions. It is in part retrospective, in as much as antecedent facts will usually impact on the statutory question, but importantly the prevention of crime and

disorder requires a prospective consideration of what is warranted in the public interest, having regard to the twin considerations of prevention and deterrence. The district judge's erroneous analysis of the law precluded any proper consideration of that issue. In any event, I agree with Mr Kolvin that criminal convictions are not required.

19. To the extent that the analysis must be retrospective, the issue is whether, in the opinion of the relevant court seized of the appeal, criminal offences have been committed. In the instant case they clearly had been: in relation to tax evasion (see the common law offence of cheating the Revenue and the offence of fraudulent evasion of tax contrary to section 106A of the Taxes and Management Act 1970); and the employment of Mr Miah at remuneration below the minimum wage (see section 31 of the National Minimum Wage Act 1998). Moreover, given the evidence that Mr Miah never provided the relevant paperwork, notwithstanding apparent requests, the obvious inference to be drawn is that the respondent well knew that he could not, and that no tax code and National Insurance number had been issued. The corollary inference in my judgment is that the respondent well knew that Mr Miah could not provide the relevant paperwork because he was here illegally.
20. I also accept Mr Kolvin's submission that each case must turn on its own facts. As a matter of law, unless it could be said that some sort of estoppel or related abuse of process arose in the light of warnings given in other cases, the alleged inconsistent approach led nowhere. In my judgment, it could not be so said.
21. Finally, I agree with Mr Kolvin that there is nothing in the point that the subcommittee could have been misled about the interested party being a serial offender. The point that the subcommittee was making was the fact that the respondent had worked at premises where illegal workers were also employed meant that he should have been vigilant to the issue.
22. Thus the answer to the district judge's two questions are as follows:
 - A. Q. "Was I correct to conclude that the crime prevention objective was not engaged as no crimes had been proceeded with, the appellant only receiving a civil penalty?"
 - B. No.
 - C. Q. "Was I correct in concluding that the respondent had been inconsistent in similar decisions in not revoking the licence [sic]?"
 - D. No.
23. Having identified errors of law in the district judge's decision, the next issue

which arises is whether I should remit this case for determination in the light of my ruling or whether I have sufficient material to decide the issue for myself. I should only adopt the latter course if satisfied that the issue is so obvious that no useful purpose would be served by remission. I am so satisfied. Having regard in particular to the twin requirements of prevention and deterrence, there was in my judgment only one answer to this case. The respondent exploited a vulnerable individual from his community by acting in plain, albeit covert, breach of the criminal law. In my view his licence should be revoked. Another way of putting the matter is that the district judge had no proper basis for overturning the subcommittee's assessment of the merits.

24. It follows in my judgment that the only conclusion open to the district judge in the present case was to uphold the revocation of the respondent's licence. This appeal must be allowed and the respondent's licence must be revoked.
25. MR KOLVIN: My Lord, I'm very grateful. Can I deal with the question of costs, both here and below.
26. MR JUSTICE JAY: Yes.
27. MR KOLVIN: Should I start with here.
28. MR JUSTICE JAY: Yes.
29. MR KOLVIN: My Lord, we would ask for the costs before this court. I just want to pray in aid four very brief points. The first is the result. The second is that the district judge's approach was expressly urged on him by the respondent's legal team. Thirdly, that the respondent was expressly urged to concede this appeal to stop costs running, he was given that opportunity at pages 42 and 43 of the bundle. Fourthly, perhaps a little bit tugging at the heart strings, but there's no reason why the Council Tax payers of East Lindsey should bear the cost of establishing what has been established in this court. So we would ask for the costs up here.
30. There is a schedule and the schedule has been served upon Mr Hanif by letter dated 16 March of 2016. I don't know whether the schedule has found its way to my Lord, if not I can hand up a copy.
31. MR JUSTICE JAY: It has.
32. MR KOLVIN: It has. My Lord, I can see that VAT has been added on. It doesn't need to be because of course the Council can retrieve the VAT, so my application is for £16,185. I know there's not a lot of explanation around my fee, but it was taken on a single fee for all work involved in relation to the

case stated; advice, the skeleton argument and attendance today, so it's one single - -

33. MR JUSTICE JAY: What about your junior's fees?
34. MR KOLVIN: My learned junior is also my instructing solicitor, he wears two hats.
35. MR JUSTICE JAY: I see.
36. MR KOLVIN: He has his own firm which is Dadds LLP, and he is also a member of the bar, so although he has appeared as my junior, his fee is wrapped up in the solicitors' fees set out in the schedule.
37. MR JUSTICE JAY: Okay. What about the costs below?
38. MR KOLVIN: My Lord, I'm just trying to ascertain what the position is.
39. MR JUSTICE JAY: I thought there was no order for costs below.
40. MR KOLVIN: There was no order for costs below, that was on the basis that **the appeal had been allowed. The situation in relation to costs of licensing** appeals are set out in section 181 of the Act, which enables the court to make such order as it thinks fit. Normally when appeals are dismissed there is no real question about it, costs follow the event. When appeals are allowed, some further considerations come into play, which are expressed by the Master of the Rolls in a case which you may have come across called City of Bradford v Booth, which is the case where the Master of the Rolls said that local authorities shouldn't be put off from trying to make honest and reasonable decisions in the public interest. And so one has to take account additionally of the means of the parties and their conduct in relation to the dispute, but in this case of course the appeal has now been dismissed, and so we would say that the ordinary rule is that the costs should follow the event, the appeal having failed. I'm just trying to ascertain whether schedules were ever served below, in the light of the way the case came out. **(Pause)**
41. My Lord, I'm really sorry that we don't actually have the schedule here, apparently it was £15,000. If you were minded to order costs below the options are either I suppose to wait and we will have the thing emailed up, or to say, "Look, it was below, it's a little bit more complex, they should be assessed if not agreed."
42. MR JUSTICE JAY: This is going to wipe him out, isn't it?

43. MR KOLVIN: Well he has already said, I have to say, I'm just telling you frankly what I've been told this morning, that when the bundles and the schedules were served on him, he had clearly read them, but he said, "If you win in the High Court and get costs against me, then I'm just going to declare myself bankrupt." So there may well be a bit of football(?) about this, but nonetheless it was his appeal, his team raised a point which in retrospect was very surprising, and caused an awful lot of costs to be incurred.
44. MR JUSTICE JAY: Yes. Well I am going to assess the costs here in the round figure of £15,000.
45. MR KOLVIN: Thank you.
46. MR JUSTICE JAY: If there was a schedule, which you tell me there was, below, it is proportionate that I assess those costs rather than put you to the trouble of a detailed assessment, so if you could have that emailed to my clerk in due course, I will assess the costs below.
47. MR KOLVIN: Thank you, my Lord.
48. MR JUSTICE JAY: On the basis of that schedule.
49. MR KOLVIN: We're not trying to be too ambitious, but we would like to see what we can - -
50. MR JUSTICE JAY: I'll take a broad brush approach to that.
51. MR KOLVIN: Thank you.
52. My Lord, the only other thing to mention is that this isn't the only case which is kicking around the east of England where licensing subcommittees are being urged to take no action because there has been no prosecution in these immigration cases. Although I appreciate that this is hardly stellar law making, it's an application of pretty well established legal principles to the facts, I'm asking whether my Lord would be minded to certify this so that we can adduce the authority in other cases, because it's a clear statement of the law that there doesn't need to have been a prosecution. So with the practice direction in mind, would my Lord be minded to - -
53. MR JUSTICE JAY: Just remind me of the practice direction.
54. MR KOLVIN: Yes, can I hand it up?

55. MR JUSTICE JAY: Yes. (Handed)
56. MR KOLVIN: If Mr Hanif had come I wouldn't need to make the application. It's paragraph 6.1. The judgment has to clearly indicate that it purports to establish a new principle or extends the present law and that has to take the form of an express statement to that effect, and then 6.2 says what categories of judgment we're dealing with, which include applications attended by one party only.
57. So that's the situation we're in. In reality these judgments get around anyway, because we're dealing with administrative tribunals and not courts, but sometimes the point is taken, "Ah yes, but the court didn't certify".
58. MR JUSTICE JAY: But where's the new principle I've established?
59. MR KOLVIN: My Lord, what you have said clearly, which hasn't been said before, by dint of the fact that not many licensing cases reach the lofty heights of this building, is that there does not need to have been a prosecution in order for the crime to have - -
60. MR JUSTICE JAY: Oh, I see. Well that's so obvious it almost goes without saying, that's why it hasn't been said before.
61. MR KOLVIN: My Lord, it was obvious to everyone except the district judge, the appellant and other licensees in the east of England.
62. MR JUSTICE JAY: Okay.
63. In terms of the logistics, if you want a copy of the judgment, don't you have to pay for it?
64. MR KOLVIN: We may have to, and we would be obviously very pleased to do so.
65. MR JUSTICE JAY: Because I'm not sure that all judgments are, in the Administrative Court, they're not all transcribed and published.
66. MR KOLVIN: That is correct, and I have no doubt that my client would be - this isn't a matter about the costs of the judgment.
67. MR JUSTICE JAY: No, fortunately it doesn't cost that much. But I will give the certification. I have never been asked to do so before, I must confess.

68. MR KOLVIN: Yes.
69. MR JUSTICE JAY: Because these cases are referred to almost willy nilly, if they're available on Lawtel or wherever.
70. MR KOLVIN: Yes, they are.
71. MR JUSTICE JAY: Then they're just provided.
72. MR KOLVIN: They get into the textbooks and they - -
73. MR JUSTICE JAY: No- one objects.
74. MR KOLVIN: Yes. It has happened once before, in relation to the meaning of the Court of Appeal judgment in Hope and Glory, and Lindblom J, as he then was, was asked repeatedly would he certify in relation to the meaning of Hope and Glory, which is an important test, and he was pretty engaged in the practice direction. But since then that judgment, there's always an argument in court about whether it can be cited or not. The difference between licensing and some other fields of law is that very few cases reach here, so when they do, the judgments of High Court judges are gold dust.
75. MR JUSTICE JAY: Yes, well I'm happy to make the certification.
76. MR KOLVIN: Thank you very much indeed.
77. MR JUSTICE JAY: We wouldn't want this point to be taken again successfully.
78. MR KOLVIN: No.
79. MR JUSTICE JAY: Now as a matter of courtesy, is the judgment, once available, sent to the district judge, or is it something that I should do informally?
80. MR KOLVIN: I don't know, my Lord, what the normal practice is. I don't think that I have previously been on a legal team which has sent judgments, but we're very happy to undertake to do so.
81. MR JUSTICE JAY: Yes, I think if you're going to get a copy, obviously you're going to send it to the respondent - -

82. MR KOLVIN: Indeed.

83. MR JUSTICE JAY: - - so he can ingest it. I think you should send it to the district judge, just saying that the judge directed that out of courtesy he should see it.

84. MR KOLVIN: We're very happy to do that. Thank you very much indeed.

85. MR JUSTICE JAY: Thank you very much.

Have you made an application for review relating to the premises before

Please tick ✓ yes
☐

If yes please state the date of that application

Day	Month	Year
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

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

Please tick ✓

yes


- 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, UNDER SECTION 158 OF THE LICENSING ACT 2003, TO MAKE A FALSE STATEMENT IN OR IN CONNECTION WITH THIS APPLICATION. THOSE WHO MAKE A FALSE STATEMENT MAY BE LIABLE ON SUMMARY CONVICTION TO A FINE OF ANY AMOUNT.

Part 3 – Signatures (please read guidance note 4)

Signature of applicant or applicant's solicitor or other duly authorised agent (please read guidance note 5). **If signing on behalf of the applicant please state in what capacity.**

Signature

 5787

Date 26/09/2020

Capacity **Thames Valley Police (Authorised officer) Reading LPA**

Contact name (where not previously given) and postal address for correspondence associated with this application (please read guidance note 6)

Post town

Post Code

Telephone number (if any)

If you would prefer us to correspond with you using an e-mail address your e-mail address (optional)

Notes for Guidance

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

APPENDIX 1

ID: 16678936 Tape Number: 321

ANRISH NEWSAGENTS
102, OXFORD ROAD, READING, RG1 7LL

URN: 1593 Date: 04/08/2017 Time: 21:12 Location Reference: 7/9/23/498
 Beat Code: EA44
 Caller: [REDACTED]
 Classification: CRIME : ASSAULT/OTHER
 Response: IMMEDIATE
 Result: ENQUIRY COMPLETED
 Closing Type L2: VIOLENCE AGAINST THE PERSON
 Closing Type L3: CRIME REPORT

Brief Details:

03523/040817: FIGHT HAS HAPPENED IN THE SHOP. VICTIM IS STILL IN THE SHOP. OFFENDERS HAVE LEFT

Time(mins) from +IC:	Despatch = 3	At Scene = 9			Leave Scene = 44			
Force ID	Res Type	RD	AS	LS	RC	AI	DW	CI
309	AP					21:57		02:28
309	AP	21:16	21:22	21:41				
5635	AP	21:34	21:34	21:57				
6637	AP	21:34	21:34	21:57				
951	AP					21:57		02:28
951	AP	21:16	21:22	21:41				

Details from incident log:

21:13 04/08/2017 C7260 REQ FOR AMB ALSO.
 21:13 04/08/2017 C574 CONFIRM INJURIES PLS
 21:13 04/08/2017 C7260 FACIAL INJURIES
 21:13 04/08/2017 C7260 CONSCIOUS AND BREATHING.
 21:13 04/08/2017 C7260 HE WAS FIGHTING WITH ANOTHER MALE
 21:14 04/08/2017 C7260 SOM DAMAGE HAS BEEN CAUSED TO SIG ALSO.
 21:14 04/08/2017 C7260 BOTH VIC AND OFF ARE E.EUROPEAN
 21:14 04/08/2017 C7260 OFF; GREEN SHIRT AND SHORTS 25 YRS
 21:15 04/08/2017 C574 CALLING SCAS
 21:15 04/08/2017 C7260 WENT FROM THE REAR OF THE SHOP UNKNOWN WHICH WAY FROM
 21:15 04/08/2017 C7260 THERE
 21:16 04/08/2017 C574 SCAS 1714
 21:17 04/08/2017 C7260 CALLER WILL KEEP THE VICTIM THERE - HE IS POLISH ALSO
 21:17 04/08/2017 C7260 (OFFENDER IC1 AND POLISH)
 21:17 04/08/2017 C7260 CALLER WITNESSED THE ASSAULT - CALLER SAYS IT WAS
 21:17 04/08/2017 C7260 UNPROVOKED.
 21:17 04/08/2017 C7260 CALLER RECOGNISES THE OFF AS BEING A REGULAR CUSTOMER BUT
 21:17 04/08/2017 C7260 DOES NOT KNOW HIS NAME ETC.
 21:17 04/08/2017 C7260 THERE IS CCTV IN THE SHOP BUT CALLER CANNOT OPERATE IT.
 21:17 04/08/2017 C7260
 21:17 04/08/2017 C7260 INJURIES TO FACE AND EYES OF MALE.
 21:17 04/08/2017 C7260 BLEEDING
 21:19 04/08/2017 C7260 [REDACTED] STARTED
 21:31 04/08/2017 C6475 EA105 - VICTIM SAYS HE WALKED INTO THE SHOP AND GOT
 21:31 04/08/2017 C6475 PUNCHED HE IS INTOXICATED AND OBSTRUCTIVE ATT. 2CM CUT ON
 21:31 04/08/2017 C6475 EYEBROW ABH SAYS HE JUST WANTS TO GO HOME HE DOES
 21:31 04/08/2017 C6475 NOT WANT TO GIVE STATEMENT.
 21:31 04/08/2017 C6475 WILL CHECK CCTV FOR OFFENDER
 21:32 04/08/2017 C574 -
 21:32 04/08/2017 C574 SCAS CANCELLED
 21:33 04/08/2017 C7397
 21:33 04/08/2017 C7397 IC1 MALE EASTERN EURO
 21:33 04/08/2017 C7397 SHIRT DARK SPIKEY HAIR GREEN T-SHIRT WHITE AND BLUE
 21:33 04/08/2017 C7397 LETTERING ON THE FRONT GREY JOGGERS WHITE WRITING DOWN

21:33	04/08/2017	C7397	LEFT LEG.
21:33	04/08/2017	C7397	
21:33	04/08/2017	C7397	CCTV DOESNT WORK
21:33	04/08/2017	C7397	JUST FOUND OFFENDER OUTSIDE THE SHOP
21:33	04/08/2017	C7397	
21:34	04/08/2017	C7397	
21:34	04/08/2017	C7397	09 WITH 1
21:34	04/08/2017	C7397	WITH VAN
21:38	04/08/2017	C7397	
21:38	04/08/2017	C7397	MALES DETASILS
21:39	04/08/2017	C7397	09 DRUNK AND DISORDERLY
21:39	04/08/2017	C7397	.
02:27	05/08/2017	C4316	*****
02:27	05/08/2017	C4316	ASSAULT - ABH
02:27	05/08/2017	C4316	CRIMINAL DAMAGE
02:27	05/08/2017	C4316	OIC P0309 MORBEY
02:27	05/08/2017	C4316	URN CAN BE CLOSED PLEASE
02:27	05/08/2017	C4316	*****
			**** NO TEXT IN CLOSED LOG ****

APPENDIX 2

ID: 16777392 Tape Number: 322

ANRISH NEWSAGENTS
102, OXFORD ROAD, READING, RG1 7LLURN: Date: Time Location Reference:
1630 30/09/2017 22.28 7/9/23/498

Beat Code: EA44

Caller:

Classification: MISCELLANEOUS : ALTERCATION IN PROGRESS

Response: IMMEDIATE

Result: NO FURTHER POLICE ACTION

Closing Type L2: CONCERN/SAFETY/COLLAPSE/INJ/TRAP

Closing Type L3: NO QUALIFIER

Brief Details:

02935/300917 MALE IN THE STORE BEING ABUSIVE TO CUSTOMERS AND HAS PUSHED TWO FEMALES

Time(mins) from +IC	Despatch = 1	At Scene = 3			Leave Scene = 8			
Force ID	Res Type	RD	AS	LS	RC	AI	DW	CI
291	YQ		22:35	22:37				
6776	YQ	22:30	22:32	22:37				
7752	YQ		22:35	22:37				

Details from incident log:

22:29	30/09/2017	C5844	HE IS REFUSING TO LEAVE BEING ABUSIVE TO CUSTOMERS.
22:29	30/09/2017	C5844	.
22:29	30/09/2017	C5909	PREVIOUS FOR DISORDERS / ASSUALTS
22:29	30/09/2017	C5909	.
22:29	30/09/2017	C5844	WEARING BLACK JACK BLACK BAG DARK BLUE JEANS WHITE
22:29	30/09/2017	C5844	MALE - GREY HAIR.
22:29	30/09/2017	C5844	ABOUT 40 Y.O
22:29	30/09/2017	C5844	POLISH MALE.
22:29	30/09/2017	C5844	NAME UNKNOWN.
22:31	30/09/2017	C5844	THE FEMALES HAVE SINCE LEFT CALLER IS IN THE SHOP BY
22:31	30/09/2017	C5844	HIMSELF WILL AWAIT OFFICERS ARRIVAL.
22:31	30/09/2017	C5844	NOTHING FURTHER FROM CALLER.
22:35	30/09/2017	C7565	DRUNK -AIO
22:37	30/09/2017	C7565	MALE LEAVING
22:37	30/09/2017	C5909	P7752 - MALE IS LEAVING LOG CAN BE CLOSED
**** NO TEXT IN CLOSED LOG ****			

APPENDIX 3

ID: 16976762 Tape Number: 326

ANRISH NEWSAGENTS

102, OXFORD ROAD, READING, RG1 7LL

URN: Date: Time: Location Reference:

1377 29/01/2018 19:56 7/9/23/498

Beat Code: EA44

Caller:

Classification: CRIME - SHOP LIFTING

Response: IMMEDIATE

Result: ENQUIRY COMPLETED

Closing Type L2: THEFT SHOPLIFTING

Closing Type L3: CRIME REPORT

Brief Details:

03277/290118:2 MALES HAS JUST STOLE BEERS FROM SIG - CALLER SAID THE ARE SITTING DOWN OPPOSITE THE CHURCH ON THE ALLEYWAY NOW

Time(mins) from +IC	Despatch = 4	At Scene = 12	Leave Scene = 27					
Force ID:	Res Type	RD	AS	LS	RC	AI	DW	CI
7027	AP							
7027	AP	20:00	20:08	20:23		20:23		22:33
7784	AP							
7784	AP	20:00	20:08	20:23		20:23		22:33

Details from incident log

19:58	29/01/2018	C3896	DUPLICATE NOT RELATED
19:58	29/01/2018	C3896	..
19:58	29/01/2018	C3896	DESC1 -BLACK MALE - 6FT - SLIM BUILD - WEARING BLACK
19:58	29/01/2018	C3896	CLOTHES - HOODIE ON
19:58	29/01/2018	C3896	-
19:58	29/01/2018	C3896	DESC2- BLACK MALE - 5FT8 - MEDIUM BUILD - CREAM JACKET -
19:58	29/01/2018	C3896	RED HAT -
19:58	29/01/2018	C3896	-
19:59	29/01/2018	C3896	THEY PICKED UP THE BEERS FROM A PACKET AND CALLER UNSURE
19:59	29/01/2018	C3896	OF HOW MANY AS HE HAS TRIED TO STOP THEM AND HE PUSHED
19:59	29/01/2018	C3896	HIM OUT OF THE WAY
19:59	29/01/2018	C3896	-
19:59	29/01/2018	C3896	CALLER SAID HE KNOWS THEM AS THEY GO THERE ALL THE TIME
19:59	29/01/2018	C3896	CAUSING ISSUES - CALLER DONT KNOW NAMES OR I/A
19:59	29/01/2018	C3896	-
20:01	29/01/2018	C3896	CALLER NOW DISCONNECTED
20:01	29/01/2018	C3896	NO MORE INFO
20:01	29/01/2018	C3896	-
20:01	29/01/2018	C3896	-
20:01	29/01/2018	C3896	-
20:01	29/01/2018	C1005	ET NOTED
20:01	29/01/2018	C1005	-
20:08	29/01/2018	C1005	AREA SEARCHING
20:08	29/01/2018	C1005	-
20:23	29/01/2018	C1005	EA102 - SHOPKEEPER CANT NAME MALES DONT KNOW WHATS
20:23	29/01/2018	C1005	STOLEN IIE DOESNT WANT US TO DO ANYTHING. JUST TO BE
20:23	29/01/2018	C1005	AWARE.
20:23	29/01/2018	C1005	ASNT
22:32	29/01/2018	7027	EA102 - OCC AS PER PAGE 3. OIC - PC 7027 SHERLOCK
22:32	29/01/2018	7027	FOR CLOSURE
			**** NO TEXT IN CLOSED LOG ****

APPENDIX 4

ID: 17455573

ANRISH NEWSAGENTS
102, OXFORD ROAD, READING, RG1 7LL

URN: 911 Date: 21/11/2018 Time: 17:30 Location Reference: 79/23/498
Beat Code: EA44
Caller: [REDACTED]
Classification: CRIME : ASSAULT/OTHER
Response: IMMEDIATE
Result: FORCE REPORT
Closing Type L2: VIOLENCE AGAINST THE PERSON
Closing Type L3: CRIME REPORT
Brief Details:

01881/211118:2 MALES AND 4 FEMALE YOUTHS ASSAULTED SHOP OWNER - THREW BOTTLE AT HEAD AND SPAT AT HIM

Time(mins) from +IC	Despatch = 1	At Scene = 7	Leave Scene = 47					
Force ID	Res Type	RD	AS	LS	RC	AI	DW	CI
350	AP			18:17				
350	AP					18:17	22:44	
350	AP		18:17	18:17				
350	EQ	17:31	17:38	17:42				
6885	AP					18:17	22:44	
6885	AP		18:17	18:17				
6885	AP	17:32	17:38	18:17				
7068	EQ	17:31	17:38	17:42				
98063	CF		18:15	18:17				

Details from incident log

17:31	21/11/2018	C4446	HAPPENED 5 MINUTES AGO
17:31	21/11/2018	C4446	
17:31	21/11/2018	C4446	SUS ATTEMPTED TO STEAL ITEMS FOR SHOP AND WHEN CALLER
17:31	21/11/2018	C4446	CONFRONTED THEM THEY THREW A BOTTLE AT CALLER HEAD AND
17:31	21/11/2018	C4446	SPAT AT HIM
17:31	21/11/2018	C4446	
17:32	21/11/2018	C4644	E.T VIEWING
17:32	21/11/2018	C4446	
17:33	21/11/2018	C4446	CALLER STATES HE DOES NOT NEED AN AMBULANCE
17:33	21/11/2018	C4446	DOT - LEFT SHOP FROM FRONT AND WALKED TOWARDS OXFORD
17:33	21/11/2018	C4446	ROAD
17:34	21/11/2018	C4446	
17:34	21/11/2018	C4446	SUS WERE APPROX 14-16YRS
17:34	21/11/2018	C4446	
17:34	21/11/2018	C4446	GROUP WERE WEARING TRACKIES 1 MALE WAS 'FAT'. CALLER
17:34	21/11/2018	C4446	THINKS THE MALES WERE ON BIKES BUT FEMALES WERE NOT
17:36	21/11/2018	C4446	
17:36	21/11/2018	C4446	FEMALE 1: TALL WHITE BLONDE HAIR BLACK JACKET 14-16
17:36	21/11/2018	C4446	
17:36	21/11/2018	C4446	CALLER HAS CCTV IN SHOP COVERING THE INSIDE
17:37	21/11/2018	C4446	
17:37	21/11/2018	C4446	SUS HAVE BROKEN A MIRROR INSIDE THE SHOP AND HAVE BROKEN
17:37	21/11/2018	C4446	A DOOR BY KICKING IT
17:38	21/11/2018	C4446	
17:38	21/11/2018	C4446	LINE CLEARED AS CALLER STATED POLICE WERE ON SCENE
17:41	21/11/2018	C4644	EPS51 - CRIM DAM SMASHING GLASS FRONT DOOR SHATTERING
17:41	21/11/2018	C4644	ENTIRE PAINE AND COMMON ASSAULT THROWING BOTTLE AT HIS
17:41	21/11/2018	C4644	HEAD CAUSING NO INJURIES
17:42	21/11/2018	C4446	[REDACTED]
17:43	21/11/2018	C4644	EA131 LIKELY SAME GROUP WHO HAVE BEEN CAUSING ISSUES
17:44	21/11/2018	C4644	EPS51 OFFD IS IC3 MALE

18:14	21/11/2018	C4644	IES22 - CAN SEE POSSIBLE GROUP NEAR NANDOS FRIAR STREET
18:14	21/11/2018	C4644	FA121 WILL HEAD THIS WAY
18:15	21/11/2018	C4644	BY NANDOS NOW
18:15	21/11/2018	C4644	EAN23 - NOT OUR GROUP
18:17	21/11/2018	C4644	CCTV CAPTURES WHITE FEMALE IN GROUP KICKING MALE IN LEG
18:17	21/11/2018	C4644	AND SPITTING AT HIM
18:17	21/11/2018	C4644	IC3 MALE KICKS DOOR CAUSING DAMAGE
22:43	21/11/2018	6885	██████████ ASSAULT ██████████ CRIM DAM. OfC 359
22:43	21/11/2018	6885	YUSEF. THIS CAN BE CLOSED THANK YOU.
**** NO TEXT IN CLOSED LOG ****			

APPENDIX 5

ID: 17494110

ANRISH NEWSAGENTS
102, OXFORD ROAD, READING, RG1 7LL

URN: Date: Time: Location Reference:
1212 16/12/2018 21:27 79/23/498
Beat Code: EA44
Caller: [REDACTED]
Classification: CRIME : ASSAULT/OTHER
Response: IMMEDIATE
Result: FORCE REPORT
Closing Type L2: VIOLENCE AGAINST THE PERSON
Closing Type L3: CRIME REPORT
Brief Details:

02150/161218: SOMEONE FIGHTING OUTSIDE * [REDACTED] ** [REDACTED] **

Force ID	Res Type	RD:	AS:	LS:	RC:	AI:	DW:	CL:
1941	AP					23:36	02:14	
1941	AP	21:28	21:34	23:36				
2147	XD	21:28	21:30	22:01				
7897	AP	21:28	21:31	22:11				

Details from incident log:

21:27	16/12/2018	C5481	THERE IS BLOOD THERE IS 3 YOUNG MALES
21:27	16/12/2018	C7399	NOTED PENDING UPDATES
21:27	16/12/2018	C5481	DESC - ASIAN MALES 20 YEARS OLD
21:27	16/12/2018	C5481	MALE IS NOW IN THE SHOP YELLING
21:27	16/12/2018	C7399	ANY WEAPONS
21:28	16/12/2018	C5481	CALLER IS THE SHOPKEEPER THERE IS DAMAGE TO THE SHOP
21:28	16/12/2018	C5481	FROM THE MALES FIGHTING
21:28	16/12/2018	C5481	20 YEAR OLD MALE BLEEDING FROM HIS HEAD
21:28	16/12/2018	C3108	- NOTED A WAITING UPDATE ON INJURIES.
21:29	16/12/2018	C5481	KICKED IN THE HEAD CAUSING BLEEDING NO WEAPONS
21:29	16/12/2018	C7399	.
21:29	16/12/2018	C7399	ET - MONITORING
21:29	16/12/2018	C7399	.
21:29	16/12/2018	C5481	THE MALE THAT IS INJURED IS CRYING IN THE BACKGROUND
21:29	16/12/2018	C5481	TH
21:29	16/12/2018	C7399	.
21:29	16/12/2018	C7399	JXD55 -
21:29	16/12/2018	C5481	THE OTHER MALES ARE GOING OUT THE BACK OF THE SHOP
21:29	16/12/2018	C5481	.
21:29	16/12/2018	C7399	ET - NOTHING OBVIOUS OUTSIDE SIG
21:29	16/12/2018	C7399	.
21:29	16/12/2018	C5481	CRIMINAL DAMAGE AND ASSAULT CONFIRMED
21:30	16/12/2018	C5481	**HE IS HAVING AN EPILEPTIC FIT
21:30	16/12/2018	C7399	.
21:30	16/12/2018	C5481	*HE HAS COME BACK AROUND
21:31	16/12/2018	C7399	.
21:31	16/12/2018	C7399	JXD55 - CANT SEE ANYTHING AT THIS LOCATION
21:31	16/12/2018	C5481	CALLER RELEASED AS HE COULD SEE OFFICERS
21:31	16/12/2018	C5481	*THEY ARE INSIDE THE STORE
21:31	16/12/2018	C3108	From . SCAS
21:31	16/12/2018	C3108	ETA 1 MIN. REF 2173
21:31	16/12/2018	C7399	.
21:31	16/12/2018	C7399	ET - FEMALE IN YELLOW COAT WAS OUTSIDE SHOP
21:31	16/12/2018	C7399	.
21:32	16/12/2018	C7399	EA123 - MALE HAS HEAD INJURY - OTHER PARTY IS AT BACK OF
21:32	16/12/2018	C7399	SHOP
21:32	16/12/2018	C7399	.

21:33	16/12/2018	C5481	*****
21:33	16/12/2018	C5481	CRIMDAM [REDACTED]
21:33	16/12/2018	C5481	ASSAULT ([REDACTED])
21:33	16/12/2018	C5481	*****
21:33	16/12/2018	C5481	HAVE CRIMED AS ABH UNTIL FULL INJURIES KNOWN
21:34	16/12/2018	C7399	
21:34	16/12/2018	C7399	JXD55 - AMB ON SCENE
21:34	16/12/2018	C7399	
21:34	16/12/2018	C7399	JXD55 - WILL AREA SEARCH FOR MALES
21:34	16/12/2018	C7399	
21:34	16/12/2018	C7399	JXD55 - SUSPECT THEY HAVE COME BACK OUT ONTO OXFORD ROAD
21:34	16/12/2018	C7399	
21:36	16/12/2018	C7399	
21:36	16/12/2018	C7399	EA123 - [REDACTED] - I/P
21:36	16/12/2018	C7399	
21:37	16/12/2018	C7399	FIGHTING OUTSIDE SIG CAME INSIDE AND TWO ASIAN MALES RAN
21:37	16/12/2018	C7399	OUT BACK OF SHOP
21:37	16/12/2018	C7399	
21:37	16/12/2018	C5481	FROM NICHE [REDACTED]
21:54	16/12/2018	C7399	
21:55	16/12/2018	C7399	EA153 - MALE HAS MINOR INJ ON HEAD WILL BE TAKEN TO RBH
21:55	16/12/2018	C7399	UNIT WILL FOLLOW UP
21:55	16/12/2018	C7399	SHOP CCTV SHOWS HE HAS STARTED FIGHT WITH COUPLE OF LADS
21:55	16/12/2018	C7399	WHO PUSHED HIM BACK AND HE HAS HIT HIS HEAD ON A SHELF
21:55	16/12/2018	C7399	
21:55	16/12/2018	C7399	OTHER MALES HAVE THEN LEFT
21:59	16/12/2018	C7399	
21:59	16/12/2018	C7399	EA123 -
21:59	16/12/2018	C7399	[REDACTED]
21:59	16/12/2018	C7399	
21:59	16/12/2018	C7399	[REDACTED]
22:04	16/12/2018	C7399	
22:11	16/12/2018	C3108	EA123- NO FOOTAGE AS CCTV NOT RECORDING.
22:52	16/12/2018	C1677	UNIT DEALING
22:54	16/12/2018	C1677	EA153 - WILL RETURN HIM TO RUSSELL STREET
23:35	16/12/2018	C1677	
23:36	16/12/2018	C1677	EA153 - WRITING OFF NOW
02:08	17/12/2018	1941	NICHE REF IN LOG URN CAN BE CLOSED
			**** NO TEXT IN CLOSED LOG ****

APPENDIX 6

ID: 17686950

ANRISH NEWSAGENTS
102, OXFORD ROAD, READING, RG1 7LL

URN: 1111 Date: 22/04/2019 Time: 19:14 Location Reference: 7:9/23/198
Beat Code: EA44
Caller: [REDACTED]
Classification: MISCELLANEOUS : ALTERCATION IN PROGRESS
Response: IMMEDIATE
Result: FORCE REPORT
Closing Type L2: OTII NOTIFIABLE OFF INC WEAPONS
Closing Type L3: CRIME REPORT
Brief Details:

02003/220419:CALLER SAYS THAT THERE ARE 2 MALES CURRENTLY SHOUTING AT PEOPLE AND BEING VERBALLY AGGRESSIVE TOWARDS OTHER PEOPLE. NO WEAPONS.

Time(mins) from +IC:		Despatch = 1		At Scene = 7			Leave Scene = 18		
Force (D)	Res Type:	RD:	AS:	LS:	RC:	AI:	DW:	CI:	
<u>2422</u>	AP					00:23	00:26		
<u>2422</u>	AP	19:16	19:22	19:33					
<u>2470</u>	AP					00:23	00:26		
<u>2470</u>	AP	19:16	19:22	19:33					

Details from incident log:

19:15	22/04/2019	C68	CALLER SAYS THERE ARE 2 MALES CURRENTLY SHOUTING AT
19:15	22/04/2019	C68	PEOPLE POSS INTOX.
19:17	22/04/2019	C68	DESC - WHITE MALE TALL SKINNY BUILD WHITE TSHIRT
19:17	22/04/2019	C68	CURELY BROWN HAIR.
19:17	22/04/2019	C68	DESC 2 - WHITE MALE [REDACTED] CALLER SAYS HE IS A
19:17	22/04/2019	C68	DRUG DEALER SHORT SHORT HAIR WHITE TSHIRT TRAINERS
19:17	22/04/2019	C68	BAG SLUNG OVER SHOULDER BLACK.
19:17	22/04/2019	C68	.
19:17	22/04/2019	C68	CALLER SAYS THERE WAS ANOTHER MALE
19:17	22/04/2019	C68	DESC 3 - WHITE MALE SHORT/FAT 16 YRS TRACKSUIT.
19:18	22/04/2019	C68	.
19:18	22/04/2019	C68	CALLER SAYS DESC 3 WAS NOT GETTING INVOLVED BUT WAS PART
19:18	22/04/2019	C68	OF THE GROUP.
19:18	22/04/2019	C68	.
19:18	22/04/2019	C68	CALLER SAYS THAT THEY HAVE ALSO STOLEN SOME FIZZY DRINKS.
19:18	22/04/2019	C68	.
19:18	22/04/2019	C68	CALLER SAYS THAT ONE OF HIS CUSTOMERS SAYS THEY ARE
19:18	22/04/2019	C68	WALKING ALONG OXFORD - THEY ARE ALL TOGETHER.
19:18	22/04/2019	C68	.
19:19	22/04/2019	C68	THESE MALE ALSO STOLE SOME WINE CALLER SAID THAT THEY
19:19	22/04/2019	C68	CANNOT PURCHASE THE WINE AS THEY ARE INTOX AND UNDERAGE
19:19	22/04/2019	C68	BUT THEY JUST TOOK THE WINE AWAY.
19:19	22/04/2019	C68	.
19:19	22/04/2019	C68	*ANYWAY
19:19	22/04/2019	C68	.
19:20	22/04/2019	C68	*CALLER SAYS THAT THEY WERE HEADING ALONG THE OXFORD ROAD
19:20	22/04/2019	C68	TOWARDS MCDONALDS*
19:20	22/04/2019	C68	.
19:20	22/04/2019	C68	CALLER SAYS THAT 1 OF THE MALES HAS BEEN THERE QUITE
19:20	22/04/2019	C68	REGULARLY.
19:21	22/04/2019	C68	.
19:21	22/04/2019	C68	CALLER SAYS THEY TRIED TO PUSH CALLER WHO WAS ASKING THEM
19:21	22/04/2019	C68	TO STOP TRYING TO TOUCH ME PLEASE STAY AWAY. THEY WERE
19:21	22/04/2019	C68	TRYING TO GO BEHIND THE COUNTER.
19:21	22/04/2019	C68	.
19:22	22/04/2019	C68	CALLER RELEASED POLICE ON SCENE. NO MORE INFO.

19:26	22/04/2019	C834	EA112 - [REDACTED] IS THE SUSPECT
19:29	22/04/2019	C834	EA112 - 3 MALES HAVE ENTERED THE SHOP
19:29	22/04/2019	C834	[REDACTED] HAS NOT COMMITTED AN OFFENCE THE OTHER 2
19:29	22/04/2019	C834	HAVE
19:30	22/04/2019	C834	WILL AREA SEARCH
19:30	22/04/2019	C834	EA112 - STOLEN 2 BOTTLES OF ALCOHOL. LOW VALUE
19:30	22/04/2019	C834	EAS72 - CAN WE DEFER FOR DDI DUE TO OTHER COMMITMENTS
19:32	22/04/2019	C834	EA112 - AGGD ADVISED HE WILL BE CALLED FOR AN APPT
20:40	22/04/2019	C275	From : ODMA
20:40	22/04/2019	C275	DEALING..
20:48	22/04/2019	C275	[REDACTED] SHOPLIFTING
00:25	23/04/2019	2470	DUPLICATE OCCURRENCE CREATED BY MISTAKE
00:25	23/04/2019	2470	[REDACTED] AS THIS OCCURRENCE HAS BEEN UPDATED WITH SUS
00:25	23/04/2019	2470	DETAILS THIS WILL BE USED AND THE PREVIOUS ONE WILL BE
00:25	23/04/2019	2470	REFERRED FOR A NONCRIME DUPLICATE
00:25	23/04/2019	2470	LOG TO BE CLOSED

**** NO TEXT IN CLOSED LOG ****

APPENDIX 7

ID: 17699923

ANRISH NEWSAGENTS
102, OXFORD ROAD, READING, RG1 7LL

URN: Date: Time: Location Reference:
1414 30/04/2019 22:10 7/9/23/498
Beat Code: EA44
Caller: [REDACTED]
Classification: MISCELLANEOUS : ALTERCATION IN PROGRESS
Response: IMMEDIATE
Result: ENQUIRY COMPLETED
Closing Type L2: CONCERN/SAFETY/COLLAPSE/INJ/TRAP
Closing Type L3: NO QUALIFIER

Brief Details

02920/300419: 2 MALES FIGHTING O/S SIG. SMASHING BOTTLES. ONE MALE IS BLEEDING ON HIS FACE. 2 X ICIM POLISH MALES.

Time(mins) from +IC	Despatch = n/a	At Scene = 4	Leave Scene = 21
Force ID:	Res Type	RD:	AS: LS: RC: AI: DW: CI:
2302	AP	22:11	22:16 22:31
3533	AP	22:11	22:14 22:31
3803	AP	22:11	22:14 22:31
N9446	AP	22:11	22:16 22:31

Details from incident log.

22:11	30/04/2019	C4848	GEN SHOUT
22:11	30/04/2019	C8401	ABANDONED CALL. RELUCTANT CALLER.
22:12	30/04/2019	C698	[REDACTED] - SUSPECT HAS LEFT DOWN ZINZAN STREET CALLER HAS
22:12	30/04/2019	C698	CCTV. AMB NEEDED FOR AGGD ON SCENE
22:12	30/04/2019	C698	
22:13	30/04/2019	C698	ST16 CALLING SCAS NOW
22:14	30/04/2019	C698	SCAS WILL RING CALLER
22:14	30/04/2019	C698	SCAS REF: 2134
22:16	30/04/2019	C4848	AREA SEARCHING
22:18	30/04/2019	C4848	EA105 - BEING TOLD MALE HAS GONE TO FIND HIS WIFE
22:18	30/04/2019	C4848	● ZINZAN STREET
22:18	30/04/2019	C4848	WE ARE THERE ATT
22:18	30/04/2019	C4848	EA125 - MAKING TO LOCATION#
22:20	30/04/2019	C3659	From: SCAS
22:20	30/04/2019	C3659	SCAS STATING TIFY ARE NOT ATTENDING AS THEY SPOKE TO
22:20	30/04/2019	C3659	INFMT ●●●●●● WHO SAID THE PATIENTS WIFE TURNED
22:20	30/04/2019	C3659	UP HE HAD A FIGHT WITH HIS WIFE WHO RAN AWAY AND HE
22:20	30/04/2019	C3659	CHASED AFTER HER.
22:20	30/04/2019	C4848	.
22:20	30/04/2019	C3659	.
22:20	30/04/2019	C3659	CAN UNIT ON SCENE CONFIRM [REDACTED] ZINZAN ST IS THE PATIENTS
22:20	30/04/2019	C3659	LOCATION OTHERWISE SCAS NOT ATTENDING?
22:21	30/04/2019	C4848	
22:21	30/04/2019	C4848	EA105 - LOCATED NO MALES ATT SPEAKING TO [REDACTED] ZINZAN
22:21	30/04/2019	C4848	STREET
22:21	30/04/2019	C4848	ONLY A FEMALE ATT
22:22	30/04/2019	C4848	.
22:22	30/04/2019	C4848	EA125 - AREA SEARCHING ATT TO LOCATE THE MALES
22:23	30/04/2019	C4848	EA105 - WITH THE MALE TOP OF ZINZAN STREET
22:23	30/04/2019	C4848	EA105 - WILL ASSESS HOW BADLY INJURED
22:24	30/04/2019	C4848	.
22:24	30/04/2019	C4848	EA125 - DOES THE OTHER UNIT NEED US?
22:24	30/04/2019	C4848	.
22:24	30/04/2019	C4848	EA105 - AIO ATT
22:25	30/04/2019	C4848	EA105 - CANCEL SCAS - INTOXICATED AND HAS A SMALL CUT ON
22:25	30/04/2019	C4848	TOP OF HIS HEAD

22:28	30/04/2019	C4848	1
22:28	30/04/2019	C4848	EA105 - ANYONE CAN CALL ON WORK MOBILE?
22:31	30/04/2019	C698	EA105 - MANAGED TO FIND MALE
22:31	30/04/2019	C698	[REDACTED]
22:31	30/04/2019	C698	HE HAS SMALL CUTS AND BRUISING TO FACE. ADAMANT WASNT
22:31	30/04/2019	C698	ASSAULTED TOO MUCH TO DRINK AND FELL OVER STEPS. HE WAS
22:31	30/04/2019	C698	OFFERED AMB OR TO ATTEND RBH BUT HE REFUSED REFUSED TO
22:31	30/04/2019	C698	DISCLOSE ANYTHING REF OFFENCES. SPOKEN TO WIFE TOO
22:31	30/04/2019	C698	NOTHING HAPPENING. THIS HE WAS IN ALTERCA'ION WITH
22:31	30/04/2019	C698	ANOTHER MALE BUT CANT PROVE ANYTHING ATT NO OFFENCES
22:31	30/04/2019	C698	CONFIRMED. SAFETYADVICE GIVEN AND URN CAN BE CLOSED
			**** NO TEXT IN CLOSED LOG ****

APPENDIX 8

ID: 18417757

ANRISH NEWSAGENTS
102, OXFORD ROAD, READING, RG1 7LL

URN: Date: Time: Location Reference:
490 25/07/2020 11:23 7/23/498

Beat Code: EA44

Caller:

Classification: MISCELLANEOUS : INCIDENT

Response: IMMEDIATE

Result: ENQUIRY COMPLETED

Closing Type L2: COMMUNITY

Closing Type L3: NO QUALIFIER

Brief Details:

00823/250720:CALLER HAS MALE IN THE SHOP HE IS BEING ABUSIVE AND REFUSING TO LEAVE.

Time(mins) from +IC:	Despatch = 1	At Scene = 4			Leave Scene = 43			
Force ID	Res Type	RD:	AS:	LS:	RC:	AI:	DW:	CI:
553	AT	11:24	11:27	12:06				
6159	AT	11:24	11:27	12:06				

Details from incident log

11:24	25/07/2020	C423	
11:24	25/07/2020	C423	MALE DRUNK BEING ABUSIVE IN THE SHOP AND STANDING IN
11:24	25/07/2020	C423	FRONT OF THE TILL REFUSING TO MOVE
11:24	25/07/2020	C423	
11:24	25/07/2020	C423	DESC: WHITE MALE SKINNY SHORT HAIR NO SHOES LIGHT
11:24	25/07/2020	C423	TRACKSUIT AND LIGHT T SHIRT.
11:24	25/07/2020	C423	
11:25	25/07/2020	C423	
11:25	25/07/2020	C423	CALLER RECOGNISES HIM BUT DOESN'T KNOW HIS NAME
11:25	25/07/2020	C423	
11:25	25/07/2020	C423	SUSPECT IS STILL REFUSING TO LEAVE AND STANDING IN FRONT
11:25	25/07/2020	C423	OF THE TILL
11:27	25/07/2020	C423	
11:27	25/07/2020	C423	CALLER STILL ON THE LINE HE IS ASKING SUSPECT TO LEAVE
11:27	25/07/2020	C423	AND HE IS REFUSING TO.
11:27	25/07/2020	C423	
11:27	25/07/2020	C423	CLEAR THE LINE - OFFICERS HAVE ARRIVED.
11:28	25/07/2020	C8165	
11:35	25/07/2020	C8165	
11:35	25/07/2020	C8165	

**** NO TEXT IN CLOSED LOG ****

PREMISES – RECORD OF INSPECTION DATED:

Licence No:	LP2002124
Name:	ANRISH NEWS
Address:	102 OXFORD ROAD READING, RG1 7LL
Type:	Premises Licence Club Premises Certificate

Licence Inspection

Summary on Display: ☒ Yes ☐ No *Partly* Correct Part A/Conditions held at Premises: ☒ Yes ☐ No

Premises Licence Holder: *WEST FOOD & WINE READERS LTD.* DPS: *DAVID GUNDA*

DPS as per Licence: ☐ Yes ☒ No DPS Present? ☐ Yes ☒ No

If No, Reason: _____ Authorised Person: _____

Licensable Activities (Carried On)

Regulated Entertainment: Plays | Films | Indoor Sporting Events | Boxing/Wrestling | Live Music | Recorded Music | Performance of Dance | Anything Similar

Are there any gaming machines? If so, how many? _____
Gaming permit produced and correct? _____

Late Night Refreshment: ☐ Yes ☒ No Sale/Supply of Alcohol: ☒ Yes ☐ No Location: ☒ On | ☐ Off | ☐ Both

Does the Licence/Certificate permit activities carried on? ☒ Yes ☐ No

Conditions of Licence/Certificate

① IMPROVE TRAINING
② CCW - only 17 days
③ ✓

Summary of Key Points Discussed

Concern surrounding ↑ ASB alcohol.
↑ CCW times.
Part A not displayed fully

Document Checklist

☒ Age policy operated *25* ☒ Section 57 ☒ Training Records *?* ☒ Authorisation List _____

Awareness of the Licensing Objectives by Licence Holder/DPS: A – Good | B – Fair | C – Bad (Circle Appropriate)

Inspection Outcome: ☐ Satisfactory ☒ Unsatisfactory

Lead Authority Inspecting Officer(s): *11 5784 WHELFER*

Signature of licensee or representative(s): *B. GUNDA*

Date of Inspection: *25/08/2020*

Time Started: *1710* | Time Ended: *1756*



Reading
Borough Council
Working better with you



THAMES VALLEY
POLICE

CONTINUATION SHEET OF ISSUES DISCUSSED:

CCTV - 30 Days - USB

Currently recording 17 days only

Summary page 1 of 1 A displayed instead of B

[REDACTED] @GMAIL.COM

Off instruction policy on display ✓

INSPECTING OFFICER:

PC 5525 WINTER

SIGNATURE OF LICENSEE/REPRESENTATIVE:

B. SUMNER

DATE OF INSPECTION:

25/08/2020

Wheeler Simon

From: Wheeler Simon
Sent: 27 August 2020 17:29
To: [REDACTED]@gmail.com'
Subject: Example training document
Attachments: Licensing Training Document - EXAMPLE -.docx

Dear Mr Ghaba

Please find attached an example training document which can be used for each member of staff.

Please talk through this with staff and sign and keep safe.

We suggest refreshing the training as a minimum at 3 – 6 month intervals.

Regards

**Police Constable 5787 Simon Wheeler | Neighbourhood Officer/ Advanced Practitioner (Licensing) |
Reading Town Centre | Reading LPA | Thames Valley Police |**

Address: Thames Valley Police, Reading Police Station, Castle Street, Reading, RG1 7TH
Email simon.wheeler@thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk | Mobile [REDACTED] Switchboard 101



Example Training Document

Name and Address of Premises:

Name of Staff Member:

The following training document states what we must do within the premises to be a responsible retailer. Everything we do under our premises licence must assist in preventing crime; protecting children from any harm; protect the public and prevent any nuisance being caused to the public. These are the four licensing objectives.

1. Prevention of crime and disorder (for example, making sure that alcohol is not sold to drunk people or there are no fights on the premises)
2. Protection of children from harm (for example, making sure that alcohol is not sold to children. We can do this by checking ID and using Challenge 25)
3. Protecting the public (for example, ensuring that the premises is safe at all times and that any food is stored, cooked and prepared properly)
4. Preventing Public Nuisance (for example, ensuring that any music is kept to a level which does not disturb neighbours)

AGE POLICY

This premises operates a Challenge 25 age verification policy. This means that any person who looks under 25 will be asked to provide ID when attempting to purchase alcohol.

Accepted identity documents are:

1. A Passport
2. A photo card driving licence
3. A 'PASS' card
4. Military ID Card

If a person cannot provide any of the identity documents mentioned above, then the sale shall be refused and logged in the refusal book. We must also be sure that all documents are valid.

HOW TO RECORD A REFUSAL

We have a refusal book which is located (insert location of refusal book). The following details shall be logged in the book:

1. Date and time of refusal
2. Description of person who has been refused (including any distinguishing features or clothing)
3. The reason for the refusal (for example, no ID produced or drunk)
4. The name of the staff member who dealt with the refusal.

We must also refuse a sale if we believe that alcohol is being purchased on behalf of someone else who may be under 18 or intoxicated. This is called proxy purchasing. If we refuse somebody and then someone else comes in and asks for the same product, this may be proxy purchasing and should be refused. We should also look outside the premises to see if there are people hanging around waiting for their friend to buy them alcohol. This refusal should also be logged in the refusal book.

THE REFUSAL BOOK SHOULD BE KEPT ON THE PREMISES AS THE COUNCIL AND THE POLICE MAY WISH TO LOOK AT IT.

HOW DO I KNOW IF SOMEONE IS INTOXICATED OR DRUNK?

Signs of excessive alcohol consumption could be:

1. The person is unsteady on their feet
2. Eyes are red and or streaming
3. The person may be continually coming back to the premises and buying super strength alcohol. This is likely to be a street drinker. We do not sell single cans of super strength alcohol.
4. The person may smell of alcohol either on their clothes or on their breath.

DEALING WITH CONFLICT

If a person is refused service, they may become annoyed or agitated. The best thing to do is to stay calm. Explain why you are refusing them calmly. If you have posters displayed stating what your age policy is or that you do not sell single cans of super strength alcohol, use them to point to.

DO NOT CHANGE YOUR MIND. IF YOU HAVE ASKED TO SEE ID THEN YOU MUST SEE IT. IF YOU HAVE REFUSED A SALE OF SUPER STRENGTH ALCOHOL THEN DO NOT SELL IT AS YOU WILL LIKELY BE COMMITTING AN OFFENCE.

If you believe that your safety is at risk then you can call the police on 101. Usually the threat of calling the police will ensure that the person leaves.

Any incident such as this should be logged in an incident book with details of the time and date of the incident; description of the person and what action was taken to deal with it.

REMEMBER TO STAY CALM THROUGHOUT.

VULNERABLE PEOPLE

All staff must keep a look out for any vulnerable people that may come into the premises. This could be people who come in by themselves or people who attend with others (for example, a young female with an older male who may

look distressed) It could also be underage children being forced to do things that may be illegal. It could also be intoxicated persons who are lost, for example.

If you suspect that someone may be vulnerable, then the police should be called on 101 and a note made in the incident book. CCTV footage should also be preserved.

Other policies:

1. All staff must provide the licence holder with their right to work documents before being employed. These documents can be found on the premises in (insert location of documents)

I understand all of the above policies:

Staff Name and signature:

Date of training:

Refresher Training carried out on:

Refresher Training carried out on:

Wheeler Simon

From: Wheeler Simon
Sent: 03 September 2020 22:07
To: [REDACTED]@gmail.com'
Cc: 'licensing@reading.gov.uk'; Smyth Declan
Subject: Inspection letter
Attachments: Anrish News inspection letter 03092020.docx

Dear Mr Ghaba

Please find attached your inspection letter.

Hard copies have been sent to both the Premises Licence Holder address and Designated Premises Supervisor.

Kindest regards

**Police Constable 5787 Simon Wheeler | Neighbourhood Officer/ Advanced Practitioner (Licensing) |
Reading Town Centre | Reading LPA | Thames Valley Police |**

Address: Thames Valley Police, Reading Police Station, Castle Street, Reading, RG1 7TH
Email simon.wheeler@thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk | Mobile [REDACTED] Switchboard 101





Best food and Wine Reading Ltd
121 Beavers Lane
Hounslow
TW4 6HF

PC 5787 Wheeler
Reading Licensing Dept

Reading Police Station
Castle Street
Reading
Berkshire
RG1 7TH

Tel: 101 [REDACTED]

Email:

simon.wheeler@thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk

Thursday 3rd September 2020

Licensing Act 2003

Premises Licence Number: LP2002124

Premises: Anrish News

Premises Address: 102 Oxford Road, Reading, RG1 7LL

To whom it may concern/ Mr Ghaba (DPS)

On the 25th August 2020 I inspected your premises licence with Mr Richard Hall from Reading Borough Council.

During the inspection I was assisted by the Designated Premises Supervisor (DPS) Mr Balbir Ghaba and his son.

Some areas of concern were identified regarding the levels of due diligence that are expected to sufficiently promote the licensing objectives.

On arrival Part B of your licence was incorrectly displayed, as the first page of the summary had been replaced with the front page of Part A of your licence. Part A of your licence was available when requested and advice was provided in relation to the correct displaying of your licence summary (Part B).

Also following on from this it was discovered that although you had a Section 57 notice within your licensing folder that the named staff were not aware of how to locate the premises licence. Advice was provided to train and ensure staff that they are fully aware of where to locate the premises licence and that good practice would be to display the Section 57 notice near to the summary of the licence.

In relation to maintaining sufficient records to prove due diligence you were able to provide a refusals register which was partially completed. We simply wish to advise you of the importance of this document and other incident registers so that you are able to record both refusals and incidents that have an impact on the four licensing objectives.

1. Condition 1 of your premises licence states that all staff must be adequately trained on the requirements of the Licensing Act 2003. The DPS was unable

to name any of the four licensing objectives without prompt and your staff member could name two. The training overall provided to staff was insufficient and only covered age verification and Challenge 25. Areas such as proxy sales, sales to drunks and conflict resolution were not covered albeit it this is neither an exhaustive list. An example training document has been provided to you to help with this process and we suggest an improved training condition on your licence stipulating specific areas of training, and a requirement for recorded refresher training may help you to provide this.

2. Condition 2 of your premises licence contains the requirement for you to provide CCTV. We note that the wording of this conditions is somewhat outdated and not helpful to you in terms of outlining an expected standard of provision. Having examined your current system it was noted that visual evidence is stored for seventeen days which would not in my opinion be sufficient to meet the current expected standard of a minimum of 28 days with 31 days formulating best practice. With this in mind we would recommend updating your CCTV condition in order to move it line with both GDPR and current standards deemed necessary to promote the licensing objectives.
3. Condition 3 of your licence relates to your age verification process. Again this condition is out of date and does not reflect your current good practice in that you already apply Challenge 25. Challenge 25 is recognised as an excellent standard in order to promote the protection of children from harm and we would strongly recommend amending this condition in order to reflect your current processes and ensure the standard is adhered to.

Furthermore, we discussed the super strength alcohol products that you were displaying for sale, and raised concerns that the sale of these products may be exacerbating community issues surrounding alcohol related anti-social behaviour in the area. This is both of serious concern to the localised immediate community and arguably also undermines the four licensing objectives.

At the time of this discussion you indicated that you only sell a very few of these products however we were able to note that the display of these products was reasonably large and a number of the product spaces were empty suggesting that they were popular.

During the inspection at 1727 hours a known street drinker/ beggar entered the store with the intention of purchasing high strength alcohol and only left the shop without making a purchase when she recognised me as being a police officer.

Therefore, in order to address our concerns relating to your due diligence we recommend that you consider amending a number of your premises licence conditions in order to enhance your ability to promote the licensing objectives.

This can be accomplished by ensuring that the conditions on your licence are both informative and understandable and reflect areas of good practice that you already employ as well as enhancing your opportunities to improve due diligence.

We therefore shall recommend three conditions to replace your current three licence conditions, as well as a small number of extra conditions that we believe

would enhance your promotion of the licensing objectives including a condition to restrict the sale of high strength beers and cider, as follows:

1. Staff employed to sell alcohol shall undergo training upon induction before they are allowed to sell alcohol. This shall include, but not be limited to:-

- The premises age verification policy
- The Four Licensing objectives
- Dealing with refusal of sales
- Proxy purchasing
- Recognising valid identity documents not in the English language
- Identifying attempts by intoxicated persons to purchase alcohol
- Identifying signs of intoxication
- Conflict management
- How to identify and safeguard vulnerable persons who attend and leave the premises.

a) Refresher training shall be provided every 6 (six) months.

b) Signed induction and refresher training records are to be kept for a minimum of 2 (Two) years of the date of training, and made available for inspection by a Police Officer or authorised officer of Reading Borough Council upon request.

2. All staff to be trained to record refusals of sales of alcohol in a refusals book or electronic register. The book/register shall contain:

- Details of the time and date the refusal was made
- The identity of the staff member refusing the sale.
- Details of the alcohol the person attempted to purchase.

a) This book/register shall be available for inspection to an authorised officer of Reading Borough Council or Thames Valley Police. A weekly review of the refusals book/register shall also be carried out and signed off by the Designated Premises Supervisor or their nominated representative.

3. An incident register/log shall be used, maintained and kept on the premises to record any incident which has an impact on any of the four licensing objectives, or instances when the police have had to attend the premises.

a) The register shall be made available for inspection to authorised officers of Reading Borough Council and Thames Valley Police upon request;

4. The premises shall at all times operate a Challenge 25 age verification policy to prevent any customers who attempt to purchase alcohol and who appear to the staff member to be under the age of 25 years from making such a purchase without having first provided identification. Only a valid British driver's licence showing a photograph of the person, a valid passport, military ID or proof of age card showing the 'Pass' hologram (or any other nationally accredited scheme) are to be accepted as identification. The age verification policy shall be in a written form and displayed in a prominent position.

5. Posters advertising the premises' Challenge 25 age verification policy shall be displayed in prominent positions on the premises.

6. The Premises Licence Holder shall display in a prominent position a copy of their written policy on checking proof of age.

7. No beers and ciders above 6.0% ABV shall be sold at any time during permitted licensing hours.

8. The premises licence holder shall ensure the premises' digitally recorded CCTV system cameras shall continually record whilst the premises are open to the public and recordings shall be kept for a minimum of 31 days with time and date stamping. The entire licensable area shall be covered by the CCTV and an appropriate number of cameras shall be installed to cover the external areas immediately outside of the premises. Data recordings shall be made immediately available to an authorised officer of Thames Valley Police or Reading Borough Council together with facilities for viewing upon request, subject to the provisions of the Data Protection Act. Recorded images shall be of such quality as to be able to identify the recorded person in any light. At least one member of staff on the premises at any time during operating hours shall be trained to access and download material from the CCTV system.

Thames Valley Police believe that in order to promote the four licensing objectives, and to ensure that your due diligence processes improve and are maintained it is necessary for all of the above conditions to be applied to the premises licence.

With that in mind we would ask you to consider applying them to the licence via a minor variation in order to both support this process and also support the wider **community by reducing alcohol related anti-social behaviour within the vicinity of your shop** caused by the consumption of super strength beers and ciders within the public realm.

You may also be aware that Reading has a Public Space Protection Order (PSPO) in place which identifies the street consumption of alcohol as an issue serious enough to be included within the local legislation, and of course your agreement to reduce the strength of alcohol that you sell would also support this local legislative initiative.

Please consider this proposal in detail and I would encourage you to contact us to either discuss any concerns you may have in relation to this proposal or your intention to support this process.

We are willing to discuss this with you via the telephone or to meet with you as part of a formal performance meeting process? You may also wish to obtain some licensing advice in the meantime. However, we would ask that you please contact us no later than Thursday 17th September 2020 with your written formal decision via the email provided at the head of this letter.

Thames Valley Police are making this proposal as part of a formalised stepped approach. As such a failure to address the identified concerns in this letter via the manner proposed (via voluntary agreement) may result in further action being considered if it is deemed necessary to ensure the promotion of the four licensing objectives.

Thames Valley Police are keen to work in partnership with licensees to promote the licensing objectives and improve both the standards of your operation whilst addressing community concerns regarding the sale of alcohol in the area.

Yours Faithfully

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Simon Wheeler', with the number '5787' written below it.

PC 5787 Simon Wheeler

APPENDIX RS-2

LICENSING TEAM REPRESENTATION

Name of Officer	Peter Narancic Senior Licensing and Enforcement Officer						
Type of Application	Review of a Premises Licence - Licensing Act 2003						
Name of Premises	Anrish News						
Address	102 Oxford Road, Reading RG1 7LL						
Licensable Activities	Sale of Alcohol by Retail - Off the Premises						
Finish Times	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
<p>Content of Application:</p> <p>On 27 September 2020 Thames Valley Police submitted an application to review the premises licence of Anrish News, 102 Oxford Road, Reading RG1 7LL regarding the failure to uphold the licensing objectives.</p> <p>The Reading Borough Council, acting as a responsible authority, is making this representation in support of Thames Valley Police in relation to the review of the premises licence for Anrish News.</p> <p><u>Background</u> The premises operates as an off licence /convenience store. The premises licence holder at the time of this submission are stated as Best Food and Wine Reading Ltd 121 Beavers Lane, Hounslow, TW4 6HF and the sole Director and the designated Premises Supervisor is stated as Mr Balbir Singh Ghaba.</p> <p>The premises licence pursuant to the Licensing Act 2003 which permit the provision of the sale of alcohol</p> <p><u>Hours for the Sale by Retail of Alcohol (Off licence)</u></p> <p>Monday to Sunday from 0600hrs until 2300hrs</p> <p><u>Hours open to the Public</u></p>							

Monday to Sunday 0600hrs until 2300hrs

Annex 2

Conditions Consistent with the Operating Schedule

General

1. All staff must be adequately trained on the requirements of the Licensing Act 2003.

Prevention of Crime & Disorder

1. The Premises must have installed a CCTV system in accordance with the Association of Chief Police Officers standard, to a specification approved by the Crime Reduction Advisor of the Thames Valley Police. The CCTV system must be effectively maintained and must be operated continually throughout trading hours.

Protection of Children from Harm

1. A recognised proof of age scheme and/or a photo driving licence, will be operated within the premises in order to ensure alcohol is not sold to persons under the age of 18. All staff will be effectively trained in the use of the proof of age system.

Annex 3

Conditions attached after a hearing by the Licensing Authority

N/A

Annex 4

Plans

As attached plan 'Ground Floor' and rear flat roof dated November 2007

The Licensing Authority believe that this review is necessary given the history of non-compliance in regard to conditions and Licensing law and would invite the Licensing Committee to take the steps it deems appropriate and proportionate to promote the licensing objectives.

As stated in the review paperwork, the sales of super strength cheap beers and ciders in the area of the Oxford road are believed by Thames Valley Police to be fuelling incidents of alcohol related crime and disorder in the area of this premises, and it is of extreme concern and a priority for the oxford road residents and community to resolve this issue.

Licensing Officer's Comments:

The Licensing team in partnership with Thames Valley Police and Home Office Immigration Enforcement jointly visit and inspect licensed premises within the Borough of Reading. Particular attention is paid to premises where there have been previous incidents where the Licensing Objectives have not been fully supported by the premises licence holder.

The Oxford Road stretches over 3 miles from Reading town centre, west towards Purley on the A329. Unfortunately, this road and its surrounding areas suffer from high levels of crime and anti-social behaviour including street drinking, drug usage, prostitution, begging, graffiti and assaults. Oxford Road falls with a Public Space Protection Order (PSPO) which identifies street drinking of alcohol and its associated anti-social behaviour as having a direct negative impact on those that live and work in the area. The sale of super strength beers and ciders via retailers with poor processes and a lack of due diligence only exacerbates the issues. The low cost of some of these products, (in the region of £1.30 to £2 per can) and the fact that they can be two times stronger than many other beers and ciders, greatly appeals to 'problem drinkers'. These problem drinkers save up just enough money from activities like begging to purchase a single can that is then consumed outside, or nearby, the premises while they save up enough money for another can. During this time the individuals are getting more intoxicated which can lead to intimidating behaviour, public indecency and general public nuisance.

Licensing records show these premises have been visited on previous occasions.

On 1st June 2019, a Licensing officer with officers from the Home Office Immigration Enforcement visited the premises to check if the premises licence holder and staff were complying with the above premises licence and offer advice. Mr Babar Mehmood was present.

During the inspection, the Officer found a number of items of non-compliance. Summarised below:

- 1) There was no valid licence in force at the premises. The licence on display is issued to Mr Patwa who no longer owns the premises.
- 2) One illegal entrant was found in the premises. It was suspected that this individual was working at the premises contrary to the Licensing Act 2003 and various Immigration Acts. He did not have the right to live or work in the UK.
- 3) Part A of your premises licence could not be produced. This is an offence under Section 57 of the Licensing Act 2003 and should be rectified immediately.
- 4) Part B of your premises licence was not on display.
- 5) No Section 57 notice
- 6) An out of date staff authorisation list (for sale of alcohol) was been used.
- 7) No training records.

- 8) No historic training records.
- 9) Unclear verification policy.
- 10) Staff member unable to operate CCTV system
- 11) Fire door exit door was nailed shut.

The Officer was extremely concerned with his findings. A warning letter was sent to the premises licence holder Mr Ghaba, Best Food and Wine Reading Ltd. A copy of the letter is attached as **APPENDIX PN-1**.

In the review application, it was noted that staff at the premises requested police assistance to remove a drunk male from the premises at 23.23 hours on 25 July 2020. The premise licence states that all licensable activities and hours open to the public end at 23.00 hours. If this was the case, then the premises were in breach of licensing law.

It is noted that the premises has a larger rear entrance, it is unclear from Licensing records if this change to the plan has been communicated to the Council. An application must be submitted for any change of plan as it affects the premises licence.

General

Breach of premises licence conditions

Under the Licensing Act, every breach of condition is a criminal offence and means that licensable activity is being carried on not in accordance with an authorisation. Each breach of condition is contrary to Section 136 (1) of the Licensing Act 2003. It is worth remembering a further two points: Firstly, that conditions are attached to a premises licence as they are deemed appropriate and proportionate to promote the four licensing objectives at that premises.

Illegal Workers

Immigration offences that may be being committed on licensed premises undermine the prevention of crime and disorder licensing objective. This, more often than not, involves persons working in a licensed premises who have no legal right to work in the UK which would be contrary to Immigration law.

Summary

The Licensing team is very concerned that the Directors of Best Food and Wine Reading Ltd, Mr Ghaba the premises licence holder has clearly failed to uphold the licensing objectives in operating his business premises.

Reading Borough Council's Licensing Policy statement clearly states that its Vision is "To promote Reading as a safe and healthy environment in which responsible operators provide lawful and responsible facilities for the enjoyment of the Town's residents and visitors".

The statement of Licensing Policy is underpinned by four core objectives:

- The prevention of crime and disorder
- Public safety
- The prevention of public nuisance
- The protection of children from harm

It is the Licensing team's respectful submission that the only appropriate and proportionate step to promote the licensing objectives and safeguard the public as a whole, is for the licence for Anrish 102 Oxford Road, Reading to be have more robust improved conditions attached to the premises licence and a period of suspension to fully implement them before reopening. However, a more serious step may be considered by the Committee if it is confirmed that there was an illegal worker, working in the premises on 1 June 2019, and the premises were open past its licensable hours on 20 July 2020.

Recommended conditions

- 1) Staff employed and authorised to sell alcohol shall undergo training upon induction. This training shall include, but not be limited to:-
 - Understanding of the four licensing objectives
 - The premises age verification policy (Challenge 25)
 - Dealing with refusal of sales
 - Proxy purchasing
 - Recognising valid identity documents not in the English language
 - Identifying attempts by intoxicated persons to purchase alcohol
 - Identifying signs of intoxication
 - Conflict management
 - How to identify and safeguard vulnerable persons who attend and leave the premises
 - Drug Policy and substance awareness, recognise their effects and types of drug paraphernalia i.e. "any equipment, product or accessory that is intended or modified for making, using, or concealing drugs, bongs, pipes, clips, grinders, plastic baggies and similar items"
 - Child Sexual ExploitationRefresher training shall be provided every six months and signed records made available for inspection by an authorised officer of Reading Borough Council or Thames Valley Police together with facilities for viewing upon request. Written records are to be kept for a minimum of two years of the date of training.
- 2) Before any person is employed at the premises sufficient checks will be made of their bona fides to ensure they are legally entitled to employment in the UK. Such checks shall include:
 - Proof of identity (such as a copy of their passport)
 - Nationality
 - Current immigration statusEmployment checks will be subject of making copies of any relevant documents

produced by the employee, which will be retained on the premises and kept for a minimum period of one year. Employment records as they relate to the checking of a person's right to work will be made available to an authorised officer of Reading Borough Council, Thames Valley Police or Home Office Immigration upon request.

3) (Option 1) Singular condition

No beers, lagers and ciders of 6.0% ABV (alcohol by volume) and above shall be sold at any time during permitted licensing hours.

(Option 2) Three part condition

a) The premises licence holder shall not sell super strength beers, lagers or ciders with an alcohol content of 5.5% ABV (alcohol by volume) or greater.

b) All alcohol sold from the premises will be marked in a way that can be used to identify that the alcohol has been purchased from the shop.

c) There shall be no self-service of spirits except for spirit mixtures.

Date Received	27.09.2020	Date Due	24.10.2020
	<i>Peter Narancio</i>	Date	23.10.2020

Frances Martin
Executive Director of Economic Growth &
Neighbourhood Services
Civic Offices, Bridge St, Reading, RG1 2LU
☎ 0118 937 3787

Anrish News
102 Oxford Road
Reading
RG1 7LL

Our Ref: LIC/FRV5RE1020/1

Direct: ☎ 0118 9373 762 Option 3
e-mail:

4 June 2019

Your contact is: Anthony Chawama, Licensing

Dear Mr Ghaba,

Licensing Act 2003
Premises Licence Number: LP2002124
Premises: Anrish News
Premises Address: 102 Oxford Road, Reading

On the **1st June 2019 at 1639hrs** I visited your premises with colleagues from the Home Office Immigration Enforcement to ensure you are complying with the above premises licence and advise on any matters that may arise during the inspection. I carried out the inspection with **Mr Babar Mehmood**.

During my inspection, I found a number of items that require your attention as outlined below:

- 1) There was no valid licence in force at the premises. The licence on display is issued to Mr Patwa who no longer own the premises, it is your responsibility as a business owner to ensure that you are complying with the relevant legislation.
- 2) One illegal entrant was found working in your premises. It is suspected that this individual was working at your premises contrary to the Licensing Act and various Immigration Acts as never had the right to live or work in the UK. Please provide me with an explanation as to why this individual were found in your licensed premises.
- 3) Part A of your premises licence could not be produced. This is an offence under Section 57 of the Licensing Act 2003 and should be rectified immediately.
- 4) Part B of your premises licence was not on display. All pages of the licence need to be on display in a prominent position. This is an offence under Section 57 of the Licensing Act 2003 and should be rectified immediately.
- 5) No Section 57 notice could be found at the premises. This notice details where Part A of your premises licence is located and who has custody of it. This is an offence under Section 57 of the Licensing Act 2003 and should be rectified immediately.

- 6) An authorisation list stating who had been authorised to sell alcohol was found but contained out of date names. All sales of alcohol have to be undertaken by or authorised by a personal licence holder. Therefore any sale of alcohol by a person who has not been authorised is an offence under the Licensing Act 2003 and a breach of the mandatory conditions attached to your licence. Please ensure that all staff members who sell alcohol are suitably trained and authorised and that your list is updated.
- 7) Condition 1 on your premises licence under the heading 'General' relating to alcohol training was not being complied with in two respects. Firstly, there was no evidence of any written or verbal training having been carried out as staff could not explain what they had been trained on. Secondly, the condition requires that training is refreshed every six months. There was no evidence that this had been done either. It is recommended that all training is documented for each member of staff and that they sign to say they have done it. This is an offence under Section 136 (1) of the Licensing Act 2003 and should be rectified immediately.
- 8) Condition on your premises licence under the heading 'General' in relation to training records must be in writing and kept for 12 months was not being complied with. This is a breach of Section 136 (1) of the Licensing Act 2003 and should be rectified immediately.
- 9) There were concerns about how you were retailing alcohol. It was not clear what age verification policy was being operated and whether all staff were aware of it. Simply having a Challenge 25 poster is not evidence that all staff are aware of this policy. It is a requirement of the mandatory conditions attached to your premises licence that all premises have an age verification policy and it is the responsibility of the DPS to ensure it is put in place. I am also concerned about the lack of basic best practice measures such as use of a refusal book and the lack of any training to do with the sale of alcohol on the premises and the lack of training.
- 10) Condition on your premises licence under the heading 'Prevention of Crime & Disorder' in relation to CCTV. The premises must have installed a CCTV system in accordance with the Association of Chief Police Officers standard, to specification approved by the Crime Reduction Advisor of the Thames Valley Police. The CCTV system must be effectively maintained and must be operated continually throughout trading hours. Your CCTV have no date or time on display and Mr Mehmood couldn't demonstrate to us that the CCTV works.
- 11) Your fire exit door was nailed down, making it impossible for anyone to escape in the event of fire. These matter have been reported to our colleagues in Environmental Health.

All of the above is extremely concerning and we are considering what, if any, further action we will take in relation to these offences. In the meantime, please rectify all of the above points and provide explanations within 14 days.

Should you wish to discuss the issues, please telephone me on the number above, during office hours.

Yours faithfully

Anthony Chawama

Licensing & Enforcement Officer

APPENDIX RS-3

Wed 21/10/2020 11:01

Dear Licensing

Please record the following representation in connection with the premises license review ongoing for Anrish News, 102 Oxford Road

I write on behalf of the Oxford Road Safer Neighbourhood Forum.

Anrish News is a popular convenience store which is well-used by many sections of the community. As well as alcohol It sells general groceries, frozen foods, sweets, newspapers etc and is located in a convenient site with heavy footfall.

The area immediately around these premises has, along with other locations on and around Oxford Road, problems with anti-social and criminal behaviour by street drinkers. They are seen to gather outside the premises, causing distress to passing pedestrians and local residents. One or more will enter to buy alcohol, and the group will set off around the streets drinking until they run out, and congregate again outside the premises. The purchases are frequently funded by begging, and are generally of single cans of strong beer or cider.

The individuals are often obviously intoxicated and a properly-run outlet should refuse to serve them. It's concerning that this outlet does not seem to have staff trained to carry out a suitable refusal regime.

Experience of premises further along Oxford Road has demonstrated that a license condition preventing sale of above 6% ABV beer and cider reduces the ASB in the immediate area.

In the pursuance of the licensing principles of the Prevention of Crime and Disorder and the Prevention of Public Nuisance, the Safer Neighbourhood Forum specifically supports Thames Valley Police's request for a license condition preventing sale of beer and cider above 6.0% ABV. Any other conditions which help enforce this premises' operation in pursuance of all 4 licensing objectives are also welcome.

Peter Bowyer
Chair, Oxford Road Safer Neighbourhood Forum

LICENSING ACT 2003 PREMISES LICENCE - PART A

Reading Borough Council being the Licensing Authority under the above Act,
HEREBY GRANT a **PREMISES LICENCE** as detailed in this licence.

Premises Licence Number	LP2002124
--------------------------------	------------------

Premises Details

Trading name of Premises and Address

Anrish News
102 Oxford Road
Reading
Berkshire
RG1 7LL

Telephone Number

Where the Licence is time limited the dates the Licence is valid

N/A

Licensable Activities

Licensable Activities authorised by the Licence

Sale of Alcohol by Retail - Off the Premises

Authorised Hours for Licensable Activities

The times the licence authorises the carrying out of licensable activities

Hours for the Sale by Retail of Alcohol

Monday	from 0600hrs until 2300hrs
Tuesday	from 0600hrs until 2300hrs
Wednesday	from 0600hrs until 2300hrs
Thursday	from 0600hrs until 2300hrs
Friday	from 0600hrs until 2300hrs
Saturday	from 0600hrs until 2300hrs
Sunday	from 0600hrs until 2300hrs

Opening Hours

Hours the Premises is Open to the Public

Monday	from 0600hrs until 2300hrs
Tuesday	from 0600hrs until 2300hrs
Wednesday	from 0600hrs until 2300hrs
Thursday	from 0600hrs until 2300hrs
Friday	from 0600hrs until 2300hrs
Saturday	from 0600hrs until 2300hrs
Sunday	from 0600hrs until 2300hrs

Alcohol

Where the licence authorises supplies of alcohol whether these are on and/or off supplies

Sale of Alcohol by Retail - Off the Premises

Premises Licence Holder

Name, (registered) address of holder of premises licence

Name: Best Food and Wine Reading Ltd

Address: 121 Beavers Lane, Hounslow, TW4 6HF

Additional Details

Name, address and telephone number of designated premises supervisor where the premises licence authorises the supply of alcohol

Name: Mr Balbir Singh Ghaba

Address: [REDACTED]

Designated Premises Supervisor

Personal Licence number and issuing authority of personal licence held by the designated premises supervisor where the premises licence authorises the supply of alcohol

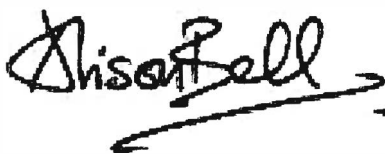
Personal Licence Number: LBHIL3701

Issuing Authority: London Borough of Hillingdon

This Licence shall continue in force from **26/07/2017** unless previously suspended or revoked.

Dated: 14 August 2017

Head of Environment & Consumer Services



Mandatory Conditions

Supply of Alcohol

To be applied where a premises licence authorises the supply of alcohol

- 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 made under the premises licence must be made or authorised by a person who holds a personal licence.

Film Exhibitions

To be applied only where a premises licence or club premises certificate authorises the exhibitions of films

- 1 The admission of children to any exhibition of any film must be restricted in accordance with section 20 of Part 3 of the Licensing Act 2003.
- 2 In the case of films which have been classified by the British Board of Film Classification admission of children to films must be restricted in accordance with that classification.
- 3 In the case of films which have not been classified by the British Board of Film Classification, admission of children must be restricted in accordance with any recommendation made by the Licensing Authority.

Door Supervisors

To be applied where a premises licence or club premises certificate includes a condition that any person must be at the premises to carry out a security activity. [Except premises with a premises licence authorising only plays or films or premises used exclusively by a club].

- 1 Each individual present at the licensed premises to carry out a security activity must be licensed by the Security Industry Authority.

Responsible Drink Promotions (commencement date 01/10/2014)

- 1) The responsible person must ensure that staff on relevant premises do not carry out, arrange or participate in any irresponsible promotions in relation to the premises.
- 2) In this paragraph, an irresponsible promotion means any one or more of the following activities, or substantially similar activities, carried on for the purpose of encouraging the sale or supply of alcohol for consumption on the premises—
 - (a) games or other activities which require or encourage, or are designed to require or encourage, individuals to—
 - (i) drink a quantity of alcohol within a time limit (other than to drink alcohol sold or supplied on the premises before the cessation of the period in which the responsible person is authorised to sell or supply alcohol), or
 - (ii) drink as much alcohol as possible (whether within a time limit or otherwise);
 - (b) provision of unlimited or unspecified quantities of alcohol free or for a fixed or discounted fee to the public or to a group defined by a particular characteristic in a manner which carries a significant risk of undermining a licensing objective;
 - (c) provision of free or discounted alcohol or any other thing as a prize to encourage or reward the purchase and consumption of alcohol over a period of 24 hours or less in a manner which carries a significant risk of undermining a licensing objective;
 - (d) selling or supplying alcohol in association with promotional posters or flyers on, or in the vicinity of, the premises which can reasonably be considered to condone, encourage or glamorise anti-social behaviour or to refer to the effects of drunkenness in any favourable manner;
 - (e) dispensing alcohol directly by one person into the mouth of another (other than where that other person is unable to drink without assistance by reason of disability).

Supply of Tap Water (commencement date 01/10/2014)

1. The responsible person must ensure that free potable water is provided on request to customers where it is reasonably available.

Age Verification Policy (commencement 01/10/2014)

1. The premises licence holder or club premises certificate holder must ensure that an age verification policy is adopted in respect of the premises in relation to the sale or supply of alcohol.
2. The designated premises supervisor in relation to the premises licence must ensure that the supply of alcohol at the premises is carried on in accordance with the age verification policy.
3. The policy must require individuals who appear to the responsible person to be under 18 years of age (or such older age as may be specified in the policy) to produce on request, before being served alcohol, identification bearing their photograph, date of birth and either—
 - (a) a holographic mark, or
 - (b) an ultraviolet feature.

Drink Measurements (commencement date 01/10/2014)

1. The responsible person must ensure that—
 - (a) where any of the following alcoholic drinks is sold or supplied for consumption on the premises (other than alcoholic drinks sold or supplied having been made up in advance ready for sale or supply in a securely closed container) it is available to customers in the following measures—
 - (i) beer or cider: ½ pint;
 - (ii) gin, rum, vodka or whisky: 25 ml or 35 ml; and
 - (iii) still wine in a glass: 125 ml;
 - (b) these measures are displayed in a menu, price list or other printed material which is available to customers on the premises; and
 - (c) where a customer does not in relation to a sale of alcohol specify the quantity of alcohol to be sold, the customer is made aware that these measures are available.”

Minimum Permitted Pricing (commencement 28th May 2014)

1. A relevant person shall ensure that no alcohol is sold or supplied for consumption on or off the premises for a price which is less than the permitted price.

2. For the purposes of the condition set out in paragraph 1—

(a) “duty” is to be construed in accordance with the Alcoholic Liquor Duties Act 1979;

(b) “permitted price” is the price found by applying the formula—

$$P = D + (D \times V)$$

where—

(i) P is the permitted price,

(ii) D is the rate of duty chargeable in relation to the alcohol as if the duty were charged on the date of the sale or supply of the alcohol, and

(iii) V is the rate of value added tax chargeable in relation to the alcohol as if the value added tax were charged on the date of the sale or supply of the alcohol;

(c) “relevant person” means, in relation to premises in respect of which there is in force a premises licence—

(i) the holder of the premises licence,

(ii) the designated premises supervisor (if any) in respect of such a licence, or

(iii) the personal licence holder who makes or authorises a supply of alcohol under such a licence;

(d) “relevant person” means, in relation to premises in respect of which there is in force a club premises certificate, any member or officer of the club present on the premises in a capacity which enables the member or officer to prevent the supply in question; and

(e) “value added tax” means value added tax charged in accordance with the Value Added Tax Act 1994

3. Where the permitted price given by Paragraph (b) of paragraph 2 would (apart from the paragraph) not be a whole number of pennies, the price given by that sub-paragraph shall be taken to be the price actually given by that sub-paragraph rounded up to the nearest penny.

4. (1) Sub-paragraph (2) applies where the permitted price given by Paragraph (b) of paragraph 2 on a day (“the first day”) would be different from the permitted price on the next day (“the second day”) as a result of a change to the rate of duty or value added tax.

4. (2) The permitted price which would apply on the first day applies to sales or supplies of alcohol which take place before the expiry of the period of 14 days beginning on the second day.

Annex 2

Conditions Consistent with the Operating Schedule

General

1. All staff must be adequately trained on the requirements of the Licensing Act 2003.

Prevention of Crime & Disorder

1. The Premises must have installed a CCTV system in accordance with the Association of Chief Police Officers standard, to a specification approved by the Crime Reduction Advisor of the Thames Valley Police. The CCTV system must be effectively maintained and must be operated continually throughout trading hours.

Protection of Children from Harm

1. A recognised proof of age scheme and/or a photo driving licence, will be operated within the premises in order to ensure alcohol is not sold to persons under the age of 18. All staff will be effectively trained in the use of the proof of age system.

Annex 3

Conditions attached after a hearing by the Licensing Authority

N/A

Annex 4

Plans

As attached plan 'Ground Floor' and rear flat roof dated November 2007

APPENDIX RS-5

Wheeler Simon

From: Wheeler Simon
Sent: 07 October 2020 15:11
To: 'Chanimini'
Cc: 'licensing@reading.gov.uk'; 'Smyth Declan'
Subject: RE: Best Food And Wine Reading Limited Alcohol Licensing

Dear Sir

In relation to your query as to Thames Valley Police exact recommendations please may I refer you to the section headed "Thames Valley Police recommended conditions", and conditions 1 – 12 listed within that section of the review application dated 26th September 2020 for which you are in receipt. They are written in a quite specific and easy to understand manner so that they can be easily understood and implemented.

In relation to the fairness of the "review" process it is designed to be a balanced and fair process whereby all evidence from both sides (responsible authorities) and (Premises Licence Holders) shall be heard by an independent panel (sub-committee) of Councillors.

The sub-committee shall ensure that you have a fair and suitable opportunity to make reference to any evidence that you provide in order to support your submission.

Please be assured that Thames Valley Police only intention throughout this process is to promote the licensing objectives and to support licensees to deliver the safe and responsible retailing of alcohol.

If you have any further questions about this process or wish to make any evidential arguments against the review contents or submit any evidence please refer them to licensing@reading.gov.uk as the administrators of the hearing.

Kindest regards

Police Constable 5787 Simon Wheeler (Q.Inst.Pa) | Neighbourhood Officer/ Licensing Paralegal | Reading Town Centre | Reading LPA | Thames Valley Police |

Address: Thames Valley Police, Reading Police Station, Castle Street, Reading, RG1 7TH
Email simon.wheeler@thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk | Mobile [REDACTED] Switchboard 101



From: Chanimini [mailto:chanimini@reading.gov.uk]
Sent: 06 October 2020 23:30
To: Wheeler Simon <Simon.Wheeler@thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk>
Subject: Best Food And Wine Reading Limited Alcohol Licensing



I am emailing you regarding Anrish News 102 Oxford Road, Company Best Food and Wine Reading Limited. We received an email and written letter from you last week stating recommendation that you will be putting in place after mentioning that we failed to meet the licensing objectives which we believe that we didn't. The reason being that we refused customer numerous of times on many occasions that we will not be

selling single cans of 6% beers and ciders since these objectives came into our knowledge.

I would also like to make you aware that customers would buy alcohol from nearby shops and will come sit outside our property and will also come into our shop drunk trying to buy beer to which we strictly refuse despite facing verbal assault. They will then cause commotion outside our shop to which we cannot do anything about and will call the police to handle. We have also refused selling alcohol to people who buy alcohol for kids which shows that we have been meeting the licensing objectives.

I would like to bring to your attention that we believe that this is unfair as we haven't done anything wrong and have complied with the rules to our best of abilities, as after you had come to inspect our shop on the 25th of August and stated that you would like us to stop selling cheap alcohol, we understood our responsibility and since then we stopped selling this to street drinkers.

Also would you be able to provide us with what exact recommendations you will be putting in place as we are a bit confused to what you are suggesting. I would really appreciate you taking this email into consideration before putting anything in place and I would like to apologise for the previous times you have contacted us as it was my sons email.

If you require any further information could you contact us on  or 

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Wheeler Simon

From: Yash Ghaba <ghabayash[REDACTED]>
Sent: 04 October 2020 21:18
To: Wheeler Simon
Subject: 102 Oxford Road RG1 7ll

Hi, there This is 102 Oxford Road Best Food and Wine Reading limited Regarding Your inspection to the shop we have made some improvements. Being the following we have removed some beers Such as ones that are very popular amongst street drinkers and no longer sell them this being The Omega cans and the Frosty Jack Cans, however, we cannot remove other 6% drinks as many other customers who are not street drinkers purchase them and we do not sell to people whom we know are drinking on the street and will refuse to server some will get angry and swear but none have been physical towards staff. We are also enforcing the 4 Pack rule much more Stricter. We have also changed the sheet on the wall from letter A to B. The training document you have provided has been of much help and we understand how a training sheet must look like and understand that it must be clear and precise. Regarding the camera, we are changing the hard disk and it will be changed to 30 days.

If any other information is required please let us know

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Request to external organisation for the disclosure of personal data to the Police

Under Schedule 2 Part 1 Paragraph 2 of the Data Protection Act 2018 and GDPR Article 6(1)(d)

To:

Position (where known):

Organisation:

Address:

I am making enquiries which are concerned with:

- ☒ The prevention or detection of crime*
- ☒ The prosecution or apprehension of offenders*
- ☐ Protecting the vital interests of a person*

☒ I confirm that the personal data requested below is needed for the purposes indicated above and a failure to provide that information will be likely to prejudice those matters.

☒ I confirm that the individual(s) whose personal data is sought should not be informed of this request as to do so would be likely to prejudice the matters described above.

**Check mark as is appropriate*

Information required:

CCTV is required to be immediately viewed by officers and copies of footage provided at the officers request in relation to an investigation into intelligence received that the handling of stolen goods may be taking place within Anrish News, 102 Oxford Road, Reading, Berkshire, Rg1 7LL.

It is suspected that stolen goods have been received within the premises by staff between the following dates and times:

6th October 2020 1715 – 1915 (hours)

4th October 2020 1300 – 1500 (hours)

Please can all CCTV cameras covering all licensable areas be provided and made accessible to officers.

* May we also remind you that this request is made in conjunction with condition 1. Under the prevention of crime and disorder heading within your current premises licence on page 7.

OFFICIAL (WHEN COMPLETE)

Police Reference:

N/A

From:

Rank/Number/Name:

PC 6930 Jones/ PC 1711 Keys

Station:

Reading Police Station, Castle Street, Reading, Berkshire, RG1 7TH

Date/Time:

07/10/2020 – 13:12 hours

Telephone Number(s):

101

Email address:

Jason.jones@thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk – stuart.keys@thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk

Signature*:

Please see Guidance Notes on following page

Explanatory Note

This form replaces the Section 29(3) Form which has become redundant by virtue of new data protection legislation. It is used by the police as a means of making a formal request to other organisations for personal data where disclosure is necessary for the purposes of the prevention or detection of crime or the apprehension or prosecution of offenders. It places no compulsion on the recipient to disclose the information, but should provide necessary reassurance that a disclosure for these purposes is appropriate and in compliance with the Data Protection Act 2018 and the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR).

Crime and Taxation - The GDPR regulates the processing of personal data where it is done so for non-Law Enforcement purposes. Article 23 of the GDPR permitted the UK Parliament to create, via legislation, exemptions from particular elements within the GDPR which would otherwise compromise the public interest.

Consequently Parliament used the Data Protection Act 2018 to set out exemptions from the GDPR which apply in some circumstances. They mean that some of the data protection principles and subject rights within the GDPR do not apply at all or are restricted when personal data is used or disclosed for particular purposes.

The most relevant exemption for Law Enforcement is that within the Data Protection Act 2018 at Schedule 2 Part 1 Paragraph 2 (Crime & taxation: general). This applies where personal data is disclosed by an organisation subject to the GDPR to the police for the purposes of *the prevention or detection of crime or the apprehension or prosecution of offenders*.

It restricts the application of the GDPR data protection principles and subject rights (as listed in the Data Protection Act 2018 at Schedule 2 Part 1 Paragraph 1) to the extent that the application of those provisions would be likely to prejudice *the prevention or detection of crime or the apprehension or prosecution of offenders*.

In effect the exemption means that an organisation can provide personal data to the police where necessary for the prevention or detection of crime or the apprehension or prosecution of offenders without fear of breaching the GDPR or Data Protection Act 2018.

Vital Interests – GDPR Article 6(1)(d) provides a lawful basis for organisations to disclose personal data to the police where the disclosure *is necessary in order to protect the vital interests of the data subject or of another natural person*.

Further guidance on the use of this form may be obtained from the force Data Protection Officer.

Completion Guidance

Police officers or staff completing this form should type and tab between the fields on the form. The information required field should provide the recipient with sufficient information to allow them to locate the information sought. Where a signature and/or counter signature are required the form will need to be printed off and signed manually. Some organisations may require a counter signature to be added to the form. Normally this should be the supervisor or line manager of the person completing the form, but may be a higher rank if reasonably required by the recipient.

Submitting Officer			
Shoulder No:	P1711	Name:	PC KEYS
Station:	READING	LPA:	READING

Incident References			
Premises Name:	ANRISH NEWS	Location:	102 OXFORD ROAD
Incident Date:	07/10/2020	Incident Time:	1312HRS
Command & Control URN:		Crime Report(s):	
CCTV Seized:	NO		
Sources of Information:	PC KEYS / PC JONES		

Nature of Incident – what happened?
<p>Attended on enquiries relating to stolen goods being potentially taken to this premises and purchased by owner(s) for re-sale. GDPR request for CCTV relating to this incident was issued on 07/10/2020</p> <p>On 08/10/2020 Officers re-attended to view and collect the CCTV</p>

Premises Response – what part did staff play? How did they react/assist? (include good/poor performance)
<p>Staff were not able to operate their CCTV system and said that it was due an upgrade. Staff confirmed that CCTV would not be provided and no evidence shall be made available for the investigation</p>

Police Response – what action was taken? Please identify the main officers who dealt with the incident
<p>Failure to provide CCTV reported to licensing officer, PC WHEELER, for an advisory as this has both hindered the investigation into possible staff involvement into handling stolen goods and may also be a potential breach of the premises licensing conditions.</p> <p>Police can now neither prove nor disprove the involvement of staff with regards to the intelligence received which may have a direct impact on the prevention of crime and disorder objective.</p>

27/10/2020 - 14:33

To whom it may concern

Can the following please be added to the Thames Valley Police submission for the benefit of the licensing sub-committee in relation to the reviews for:

Today's Express
Anrish News
Butts convenience store
I & R Convenience Store
KB Superstore

We wish to update the proposed wordings of condition regarding the restricted sales of certain ABV products.

Option 1 updates a "typo" from each original submission; and Option 2 is designed to capture a number of high strength Eastern European beers which are also deemed high strength and potentially link into categories of alcohol which exacerbate ASB.

Both conditions have successfully been observed in operation in two other Oxford Road premises, and we provide them for the consideration of the sub-committee.

(Option 1) Singular condition

No beers and ciders of 6.0% ABV and above shall be sold at any time during permitted licensing hours.

(Option 2) Three part condition

- a) The premises licence holder shall not sell super strength beer, lager or cider with an alcohol content of 5.5% ABV (alcohol by volume) or greater.
- b) All alcohol sold from the premises will be marked in a way that can be used to identify that the alcohol has been purchased from the shop.
- c) There shall be no self-service of spirits except for spirit mixtures.

Kindest Regards

Police Constable 5787 Simon Wheeler (Q.Inst.Pa) | Neighbourhood Officer/ Licensing
Paralegal | Reading Town Centre | Reading LPA | Thames Valley Police |

Address: Thames Valley Police, Reading Police Station, Castle Street, Reading, RG1 7TH
Email | Mobile | Switchboard 101



Cllr Karen Rowland
resident at Zinzan Street

APPENDIX RS-6

Statement in response to the review of licenses for Anrish (Premier) Shops at 102 Oxford Road and the Today's Express Shop at 107 Oxford Road specifically:

As a resident and local Councillor very near to these shops, I have taken myself off the Licensing Committee for at least these two shops so that I can weigh in as an observer of the situation and also as a local Councillor in representing the concerns of local residents.

My comments here need to be recorded in respect of these two shops collectively, and not as two separate entities, unless specified in the details. **It is the cumulative impact of the two shops together that the damage to the area in terms of the resultant ASB in the area is seen. It is my opinion, that neither shop has significantly higher scruples to the other in serving the street-drinking community that thrives in the area.**

Background-a systemic localised problem:

2014 neighbourhood survey

The area has a systemic and long-term problem with drinking and ASB. To verify my own knowledge of that, I went through my old emails to locate some of the specific issues that I became involved in shortly after I moved to Zinzan Street at the end of 2013. My earliest records go back to early 2013 when I lived on Russell Street, after I worked with neighbours to set up the Baker Street Area Neighbourhood Association (BSANA) to resolve some of the issues in the area. Shortly after forming BSANA, the group did its first neighbourhood survey which identified street-drinking as one of the top 5 issues that concerned residents back then (Please see attached survey). The Oxford Road NAG/Safer Neighbourhood Forum(SNF) has done bi-annual surveys in the area that they may be able to share.

Closure of Baker St off- license and results of that effort:

Beginning in 2014 the situation with street drinkers in the area had been noted to be so out of control that BSANA began a long campaign to secure the closure of an off- license shop situated in Baker Street (between Zinzan Street and Waylen Street) in the heart of the neighbourhood. Whilst it was acknowledged that the original intent of the shop had been to supply local residents with basic staple items such as eggs, milk, basics, cleaning supplies, and originally a rather nice level of wine offerings, during the last two years of its existence, it became the local street-drinkers go-to location. I had been quoted in the Chronicle as having called Baker Street as "Street Drinkers Alley" at that time. The shop was closed entirely in a hearing of the Licensing Committee in 2015. <https://www.readingchronicle.co.uk/news/13785427.neighbours-dub-road-street-drinkers-alley-as-council-revokes-corner-shops-licence/>.

Once the shop was closed there, the problem of street-drinkers ceased to run along Baker Street but instead they moved along to purchase alcohol largely at these two shops up for review instead. The off- licenses had been thriving along Oxford Road for decades and it was already a healthy trade there. With the closure of the Baker Street shop, whilst Jesse Terrace residents were initially a "bit perturbed" that they had to walk further for a pint of milk or bread, they said it was a small price to pay overall for a quieter area. There has been praise ever since that the problem of street – drinkers yelling in the streets or passed out on the pavement, in the heart of the neighbourhood was alleviated. At the last Oxford Road SNF (on-line) , we were again thanked for this initiative. People still remember the nightmare and now 5 years later, they are still grateful.

Mapping the problem in 2014- the map is (virtually) the same today

During that period of time when the appeal for the Off- license on Baker Street was being undertaken, the neighbourhood was so inundated with street drinkers, ASB and beer can litter that in 2014, I stood out in the area, observed what was happening and where- and I mapped

out the issues to speak with the Salvation Army about what we were observing as a direct route to and from Willow House to the off-licenses in the neighbourhood to procure alcohol. I did the observation work in order to justify my map and detail it correctly. The map was designed specifically for a meeting with the Salvation Army and to see if Willow House could come up with a way to help their residents, many of whom had serious issues with alcohol addiction. (Please see the attached map).

You can see that at that time, they took off either to the site on Baker St (before it was closed) or they took off down towards the Oxford Road to the off-licenses currently for review. The "route" taken from Willow House to the shops on the Oxford Road, follows along Howard St, Body Road, Anstey Road, Carey Street, Zinzan Street and Waylen Street most heavily. With the removal of the Baker Street shop, these streets now form the major route directly to the Oxford Street shops.

Frequent hang-outs of drinkers and drug users are noted at the corner of Howard St and Baker Street (see attached recent picture from a week ago showing little change) as identified on the map. If they are not there drinking or dealing drugs, they are at the entrance of the car park at the Carey Centre (identified on the map) just to the south of the line of trees along Body Road. It was years ago that I gave up trying to point out to the constant group of lager and cider drinkers at that location that there were potential fines for open can drinking, as they sat right in front of a sign about that and naturally laughed at my attempts to curb their behaviour. Eventually, the worthless sign was removed, as it was clearly blatantly disregarded and seldom enforced.

Persons that utilise services and beds at CIRDIC on Berkeley Avenue also tend to meet up with friends from Willow House and join them along these routes. My map does not highlight that route from CIRDIC as the map was expressly made at that time to work with the Salvation Army in order to alleviate the neighbourhood issues.

The point being, is that this map (minus the Baker Street link) serves otherwise as a map for 2020. I would urge the Committee not to therefore take this as "old" or "irrelevant" information. It is as current (minus the Baker Street shop) as if I had created it today. The other point is to highlight the length of time that this has gone largely unchecked and that from 2014 virtually nothing has changed, although even at that time, I wasn't mapping anything new. This will continue to be the issue for this neighbourhood unless or until something is done. Along these routes there is all manner of ASB that takes place, a good deal of it related to drug dealing and use, also, but exacerbated by alcohol use in many cases. The stories are non-stop. I will hope to tell "just a few that I remember" in line with the four licensing objectives in this document.

The biggest issue with both of these shops- and the reason why I am writing a joint statement in regard to both of these shops, is that the street-drinking population uses these shops to supply their addictions interchangeably. If they are refused service at one store (which from time-to-time I feel that the cashiers do attempt to do) they simply go across the street, send in another one of their group, etc until they are successful at procuring the alcohol that they want. These shops are sadly, in my opinion, both as guilty as the other. I will state however, that whilst the cashiers do attempt to stop the sales of alcohol to some of the most belligerent, at the end of the day, the crush of street-drinkers into the shops is too great, and the effort to constantly shove off all of them is too much. The ultimate caveat, however, is that both of these shops rely heavily and clearly cater to this clientele trade for their livelihood. This is a factor that has stopped many in the past from tackling the issues except by "softly softly" approaches of "gentlemen's agreements" to sell four packs only or to raise prices enough to deter a £/can purchases.

A statement to the general lack of community involvement in reporting ASB and crime (Lower numbers than one might expect given the reputation) or sticking their neck out to write in about these shops:

One of the most infuriating things is linking specific evidence to the shops and determining that there are indeed significant ASB issues in the neighbourhood, as there is so little actual reporting of ASB in the area.

The persons that live in this area have never been great at reporting crime or ASB and there are any number of reasons for that.

- Many are afraid of reporting incidents for fear of retaliation by the criminal and ASB elements in the area.
- There are also high numbers of immigrants in the streets here, and many are either unaware of how to report, do not speak the language or are afraid of the system to report. They feel less empowered to demand and expect results or improvements and are more inclined just to accept the "status quo" as something that is unchangeable.
- Even those of us that have reported frequently in the past have become exhausted and disenfranchised by the system. 101 can take ages to get through. Even when you report it, some operators refuse to give URNs for "ASB". Reporting online can take ages and is not at all a quick and easy answer. I even admit having virtually given up on reporting, but I have also been very vocal about that ease of ability to do so and the challenges and difficulties of reporting.
- There is a running joke amongst locals, that the only way to report all that happens in the area is if we wanted to spend all day long on the phone to 101. No one has the time.

Therefore, incident numbers in the area do not look anywhere nearly as high as you might expect. I point out later in the report how we no longer even bother to call the Police or Ambulance when we find people passed out on pavements. I can only give you my promise as a local councillor and local resident that the "reputation" of the area in terms of ASB especially is: quite accurate.

I also think that there will be little take up on residents writing in about these shops, although it is an issue that many have strong feelings about. The state of the Oxford Road and its knock-on effects on the neighbourhood is concerning to residents. I have spoken with many people about these reviews and gotten overall positive response to the Police reviewing the premises along the road, but they do not believe that it can possibly significantly . However, I do think residents worry that **the shops will go away if a primary source of their income is altered**. And although their product is meagre and the food not of a very high nutritional value, there is still a need for these shops to at the very least provide staples, quick snack food, cola, and the like. It is for some a double-edged sword.

I will try to illustrate at least one case -likely more- in respect of each of the Licensing Objectives:

The prevention of crime and disorder:

- 1.) **In setting the stage, it is not a "coincidence" that these shops exist and operate so well right within a neighbourhood with high levels of ASB.** The ASB in the neighbourhood is frequently but not always seen to be exacerbated by alcohol and inebriated individuals. It is also often drug-related. Although it is hard to say which came first, the "chicken or the egg" (the bad reputation of the area for ASB or the shops) the two seem to go hand-in-hand. It is also hard to prove that the alcohol – related ASB comes exclusively from these two shops, but in terms of ASB in the immediate area that was mapped in 2014 and still valid today, a "beyond reasonable doubt" case can be made for a good deal of the issues certainly to the south of the Oxford Road from Russell Street to Howard Street, and in the alley way directly behind the stores, that geography points a reasoned-finger to some of the issues being exacerbated by the sales of alcohol to the "local street-drinking community" from these two shops. Whilst the area is also well known for drug dealing and use, it cannot be said that the alcohol does not feed into that, and provide those that are most vulnerable to addictions with drink or drugs , the perfect area to pick up alcohol and drugs and "as a result" act out in the streets in the area.

- a.) I live on Zinzan Street and I know **the immediate area's "nasty reputation" for drugs, ASB and drinking**. The same reputation exists for Waylen Street and Howard Street and Body

and Anstey Roads in particular. This is not to say that the wider community to the Reading West Railway Bridge and beyond and north into the Great Knollys Street area have not been affected by lax standards of sales from numerous off-licenses all along the Oxford Road, but it is pretty safe to assume that this immediate area is adversely affected by these two shops. Street-drinkers have been known to urinate, (and even defecate), pass out cold on the pavements and in the front gardens of the neighbourhood and yell and curse up and down the street with their buddies creating noise disturbances from day till night.

Myself and my neighbours live with constant yelling up and down the street and occasional persons passed out in the street that are also mixed up with an on-your-face drug-dealing and usage scenario in the area. These addictions are separate, but the consumers of illegal drugs often drink and in many cases alcohol-addicted persons also abuse drugs.

Noise and yelling of drinkers is a constant day into the evening usually ending somewhere around 10-11. I can think of very few days that go by that there isn't someone yelling in a drunken manner on the street. I sent in video to the TVP recently (approx 2 months ago) of a woman that has constantly been up and down the streets (especially Waylen Street) yelling a barrage of curse words, kicking over rubbish bins and barely standing up to make it down to the Oxford Road for drink, where apparently she is served. Whilst she clearly has mental problems, the alcohol that is sold to these persons that already have issues, clearly exacerbates the situation.

- b.) It is no coincidence that **the Change Grow Live Clinic (formerly IRIS) and known by its local colloquial name as the "methadone clinic" is set up in this area.** This was knowingly done to be accessible to where the persons that need help with their addictions frequent.
 - c.) **The Centre for Health and Disability Assessments is also located right in this area,** approx 50 m from the Premier Shop to the West. Again, set up to be available and accessible to those that need it most.
 - d.) **So, what we have along the Oxford Road is a tailor-made one-stop shop area for vulnerable persons with addiction problems.** They can throughout the course of the day, buy their alcohol, buy their drugs, attend an AA meeting at Change Grow Live or pick up their methadone prescription and hang out with their friends all day along the Oxford Road or in the area. These groups tend to intimidate, beg for money, and be very unpleasant to walk by or encounter. **It is not per se, the fault of the shops for this geographical nirvana for the person addicted to alcohol or drugs, as they have been in situ for years. But it is clear they rely on this "clientele". This has been a long-term problem and the Committee is reviewing some very old licenses put in place prior to the establishment of the four licensing objectives as a standard if I have been led to understand correctly and trying to right these licenses.** But the situation will only continue to impact the neighbourhood where any number of residents work hard and deserve to be able to sleep and live in relative peace if nothing is changed at all.
- 2.) **The area is an area of multiple indices of deprivation. It is not the highest in Reading, but it is one of the highest five areas in town.** It is noted on the RBC website that the areas of deprivation in the town centre appears to be most closely linked to the "high levels of crime and the poor living environment." Many of the houses in the immediate area are not in good condition and the area is well-known for being an area where poorly-cared-for, inexpensive HMOs and flats owned by out-of-town landlords are the norm and not the exception. This is especially notable in the streets directly off the Oxford Road near these shops: Waylen, Zinzan and Howard Streets. The area looks "run-down" and has a "reputation" for drug-related crime and ASB. The shops being reviewed, their physical appearance and the quality of items that they carry do nothing to improve this "poor living

environment." There have been numerous studies about alcohol abuse in poorer communities and whilst alcohol addiction is not exclusive to poorer communities, middle-aged and older people with ingrained financial problems tend to be susceptible to abuses of drugs and alcohols as "pain-relievers" to the realities of life.

- 3.) I have been told on numerous occasions by **people from further to the west in the neighbourhood (from Russell Street and beyond) that they will walk along Castle Hill or Baker Street, just to avoid the Oxford Road which they consider to be dangerous and an unpleasurable route to be avoided.** To walk along the Oxford Road, they need to pass groups of street drinkers and drug users, which is not pleasant and can be intimidating. They congregate right outside the shops on both sides of the street for large portions of the day and on the way to the Town Centre or to the rail station, there is little way to avoid them if walking along the Oxford Road.
- 4.) **The Providence Chapel (two doors to the east of the Today's Express) serves free food to those in need on Monday evening and has done so for years.** Their reasoning is, as I have been advised, is to get something other than alcohol into their clients' stomachs. Monday evenings are a boon night for these stores as especially the Today's Express is inundated with persons from this group gathering outside the shop before the line forms for the food at the church to purchase alcohol and to socialise, and to return back to the shops after they have eaten for more alcohol. **Monday nights on Zinzan Street are usually always noisy when between 8-10 at night the drinkers wind their way back towards their residences. The shops know this happens and I am sure that they count on this business boon every Monday night. In the streets we can always count on the extra noise and trouble that we have to hear on Monday night.**
- 5.) **I have come in to both shops over the years and seen and observed alcohol being sold to people that are clearly not sober on a good number of occasions.** I would dare to say, however, when they see me coming anymore and I have seen them 'shoo" their customers away from the counter to get me in and gone, so that once I am gone they can serve the alcohol to the quite possibly -and sometimes blatantly inebriated individual. They know that if I observe them selling in this manner, I will challenge both them and the customer.
 - a.) **I have tried to get the Police to look at video before, but sadly using CCTV in many of these instances is ineffective.** Without sound it is hard to always tell if the person is drunk or belligerent. I have seen the inebriated individuals "put on a straight face" outside to go in and try to look sober enough to purchase alcohol.
 - b.) **It is not always the cashiers' faults either when inundated with a frequent barge of these persons to "challenge" many or all of these cases.** Sometimes they know, that for their own safety and peace of mind, they need to sell the person the alcohol and get them out of the shop. Usually, the purchaser knows what they are doing; they have their coins ready, they keep the alcohol in their hand and flash it to the cashier, throw the coins on the counter and run out the door, so as not to be challenged.
 - c.) **From time to time, street- drinking groups will swarm a shop in order to distract the cashier to shop-lift for the group.** I have observed this in action at the Today's Express before. As noted elsewhere in this document, whilst Premier has been swarmed by teens, (see below "Public Safety" no 3) Today's Express is swarmed frequently by groups of middle aged "street drinkers" that tend to hang outside.


Public safety:

- 1.) There has been at least one incident and possibly two –(if I recall correctly)of a **one of the members of these street-drinker "gangs" being hit by a car at the corner of Oxford Road and Eaton Place just 13 m outside the front of the Premier Shop in broad daylight.** Although I did not see it, it was reported to me by neighbours that the group had just purchased alcohol from the Premier Shop and that the person that was hit had been "flying" – ("flying" as in either high or drunk or both) and thus **the victim's lack of coherence was what lead to the event. This is the level of inebriation that these persons are at often times**

when sold alcohol at these shops.

- 2.) There is a well-known street drinker in town that is a tall white skinny male that always wears his pants rolled up above his ankles. He is familiar to anyone in the area. **I have twice stopped to have to help him in broad daylight, walking deliriously down the centre of the Oxford Road between the two shops trying to get alcohol and causing traffic to swerve to avoid him.** I literally had to try to call the police to get them to try to get him out of the street once and once I had to literally stop traffic from hitting him until he made it over to the other side of the street. Whilst from time-to-time they may not sell alcohol to him, I know they do sell it to him frequently enough so that he clearly knows that he can get alcohol from one of these two shops, otherwise why is he often seen outside them? Formerly he shopped more frequently at the Baker Street shop until it closed and I had seen him fall and smash his bottle of wine, get back up, and go back in and get another one. **I have observed incidents of other local street- drinkers running dangerously across the streets between the shops.**
- 3.) The area attracts a regular group of street- drinkers (often from Willow House or CIRDIC) but there are also tougher characters that also tend to hang out in the area from time to time that are affiliated with the "regulars" and many are extremely threatening or off-putting. See photo of "aggressive Oxford Road person up Zinzan Street" attached who is an example of the types of person that tend to congregate in the area. This person came up from the Oxford Road shop area and followed me down the street to my house yelling and cursing at me. Again, this persons existence is not the shops fault , but what is it that the shops are causing by their presence to let persons such as this know that this is an area that they can "hang out in" and ultimately attract little attention.
- 4.) Whilst I do not believe that this has happened this year, largely due to CV19, previously for the past couple of years, the area has had a group of teenagers that liked to gather in the streets in the neighbourhood and walk about yelling and causing general nuisance in the area. **There were multiple incidents with these teens aggressively entering the Premier Shop swarming the shop to shop-lift food and drink. These incidents involved kicking and shattering the glass in the front door, aggressively entering the desk area behind the cash machine and threatening the cashier, distracting him and shop-lifting alcohol and food using foul language and shouting .** This happened in particular to one of the cashiers that has worked at that shop. At one point, I gave the cashier my personal number after I had known him to be really shaken up by these teenagers. He was advised never to hit back or to defend himself physically, as he was the one that could be charged with aggression towards a minor child. He felt very helpless. The teens also seemed to know this and taunted him and took advantage of this situation.

One time, the cashier called me later in the evening in a panic after an incident had just happened whilst I was away on holiday, sending me footage of the violence as it happened. He was audibly extremely shaken. I know that a few of these incidents were sent on to the Police, but I do not know whether the kids were charged, and I think they managed to get away with a severe talking to.



- 5.) **I have been alarmed at the lack of Covid -19 precautions at both stores,** (especially the Premier Shop), where-in the cashiers desk is right at the entrance, and frequent crowding of customers that are often un-masked occurs. There is poor clear plastic coverage of the Premium shop cashier from the public. The coverage of the cashiers desk is far better at Today's Express. I would say that only about 40% of the time that I am in the stores, however, the cashiers are wearing masks. I would say that more often than not, customers are not wearing masks and except for small signage on the doors this is not enforced by the cashiers on their customers. I have even on several occasions run to the shops and

forgotten my mask, and apologised, but each time I've been told," no problem." Strictly speaking I should have been refused service. None of the street-drinkers in the area wear masks at all whilst hanging around and they shop all day long in these two stores.

6.) I believe there is a statement forth-coming from Richard Rowlands, a neighbourhood resident and community volunteer with BSANA and the Oxford Road SNF, who personally knows a few of the street -drinkers/drug abusers in the area. Mr Rowlands is a well-meaning person who has tried in his own way for several years to help any number of members of this drinking community. **Sadly, Mr. Rowlands has had two persons that have rented a room in his home on Anstey Road, die of alcohol and drug-abuse related issues. I knew both of these persons myself and I also knew that they frequented the two shops** being reviewed to feed their addiction. I saw them walk up and down Zinzan Street many times to get their alcohol and they were often very vocal and very loud as they went up and down the street arguing with their friends or arguing with themselves.

7.) **Currently, there are another two street-drinkers that Mr. Rowlands and I both know, that as they have told me "drinking themselves to death."** I have had serious words with both of them. Neither are heavy drug users and alcohol is their main vice. **Both as I know live at [REDACTED] and both primarily get their alcohol from these two stores.**

a.) One fellow by the name of [REDACTED] (not his real name) has had a problem with alcohol for many years. He has tried and failed to get off drink many times. He recently was admitted to the programme at Prospect Park, only to leave early and wind up passed out on Body Road (where I found him). A couple of years ago, after he and his girlfriend [REDACTED] (not her real name) who hangs out in this group), had a baby that was removed from them as soon as it was born, he had tried to sober up to get the child back. This never worked and once the child was permanently removed from he and he gave up and returned to drinking. He has told me that he can't help himself and he "might as well drink himself to death." Both [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] frequent these two stores. I see them there frequently. **Sadly [REDACTED] has frequently been passed out cold on streets in the neighbourhood all over the area. I once found him beating his head against a wall at the corner of Zinzan Street and Oxford Road (80m from my house) screaming and cursing himself so loudly I ran out of my house to see what the noise was. He bloodied and bruised his head massively. He was passed out this year on Oxford Road (and I believe taken away in an ambulance) and I have found [REDACTED] passed out cold on Zinzan Street twice and on Anstey Road once, and on Body Road as I stated above having left Prospect Park, most recently. I bluntly confronted him as he was semi-awake on Body Road "napping on the pavement" as he told me. I said, "You realise that you are killing yourself with this alcohol," and he replied that with his baby being gone there was no point anymore and he didn't care if he killed himself in this manner. He continued to "nap" blocking the pavement and I had to leave him there. You cannot get ambulances to attend to persons passed out in the local streets anymore. (Noting that back in 2013 and 2014 you had a bit more success doing that).**

b.) Another fellow named [REDACTED] (not his real name) is also well-known to Mr. Rowlands and I. He has gone downhill particularly this year and I caught him once this summer outside Premier Shops and sat down with him on the Pharmacy steps and tried to have a heart-to-heart with him. (He was drinking a beer he had gotten from Premier there). I said the same thing, **"you are killing yourself with this alcohol." And his response was, "I know I am. I can't help myself. This is the way I am going to go."**

I do not understand how, in good conscience, that these stores can continue to provide the opportunity for people to kill themselves with alcohol. I do believe that they are fully aware of the sad nature of many of the most ill in those groups and yet they sell alcohol to them anyway. Serving these people and feeding their addictions are a primary source of income for both of these stores.

The prevention of public nuisance:

- 1.) Please see the picture that I have submitted of **a drunk passed out in front of a home in Waylen St**, passed out in his own vomit sent to me from the 15 September of this year. **This is a fairly common sight in the neighbourhood.** We have no proof that this person bought alcohol at these two shops, but the geographical evidence is there.
- 2.) In speaking with the pastor of the Carey Baptist Church, he has advised me **that staff at the Carey Centre are constantly having to pick up beer cans and bottles from their front entrance way every morning.** As I point out on my map, this lies in the direct "pathway" of known street- drinkers walk to and from Willow House. It is not fun for the church to have to make a morning sweep of the left-over drink hubris every day before they get into the office for work. This is an indirect issue which again geographically is linked to the presence of these stores.
- 3.) **There are at least six street bins along Zinzan St alone- a street that is only 180 m long. Three of them sit within 60 m of the Zinzan St/Oxford road intersection.** One sits directly outside my house at a 100m up the road from that intersection. **A considerable amount of waste is largely beer cans and bottles. The ones closest to the shops frequently overflow onto the floor and are usually always full of beer cans and bottles especially in the summer.** Empty bottles and cans of alcohol frequently are left along the wall near the intersection. Street drinkers congregate at this intersection frequently to drink making others walk out in the street to get around. There are another two bins further along on the street nearer to Baker Street. Again, there is no proof that the stores sold all of this, but geography notes the proximity of the stores to Zinzan Street and preponderance of alcohol cans and bottles especially in the bins right next to these two shops.
- 4.) **My elderly next- door neighbour who feels very conscientious about trying to keep "her street" clean regularly goes out several times a week to litter pick the street. I have gone with her several times and the largest quantity of items that are picked up are beer cans and bottles.** Again, no direct proof, but geographically it points to a very likely connection.
- 5.) **Last year, a known drug dealer and very inebriated/ "high" person that "lives out of his car" and frequents the area" and is personally known to the "local street drinking crowd" urinated on Zinzan St outside his car in full view of a young ten year old girl standing inside her house.** The father became aware of the incident as his daughter screamed, and he chased the man off driving away in his unregistered car. Visibly shaken, the father saw and alerted me directly thereafter. We called the Police and within the course of a half hour the man returned to the street in his car. The father ran after him and confronted him outside his car parked near the corner of Zinzan St and Oxford Road, in front of the Premier Shop, holding his arms behind him whilst I called 999. The father was stuck by a dirty drug needle from the car during the incident. The mother and the father both opened the car and looked inside as empty beer cans poured out of the car onto the ground and they observed many needles and drugs inside. **This was "excitement" for the local street-drinkers who gathered around to watch, en masse, as I believe I observed purchasing drinks from the shops (I saw them coming out of Premier during the incident) standing right outside the shop "to cheer on" the entire event as the Police returned to arrest the man. I remember counting how many there were watching at the time and I recall counting appx 15 that I would consider to be members of the local "street- drinking" group watching.**

My insinuation is not to assume that the empty beer cans that poured out of the car were all purchased from the shops, although my sense is that he spent a lot of time in his car parked on these streets and invariably many may have been. However, the fact that the street-drinkers all seemed to be right there, loitering as they do in the area, having been sold more alcohol during the incident and rallying in the intersection is the issue. **The shops are not of course responsible for the incident either, but the shops are responsible for the fact that because of their attraction to these groups that the area is constantly flooded with these groups. These shops by virtue of their popularity for alcohol purchasing by these persons only serve to make the area a welcome "hang-out" for these groups of street-drinkers – and indeed a gathering place.** They frequently hang out drinking during the day

on the steps of the near-by shops on the north side near Premier or again outside the Today's Express shop. This is the "view" that most people have in their mind when they think of this area of the Road.

This public urination in front of a minor/needle stabbing incident was reported to Anthony Stansfeld last year at his annual presentation to RBC's Housing Neighbourhoods and Leisure Committee. The scene in the area was described and Mr. Stansfeld resolved to "get something done about it". Sadly, despite the man having orders to stay out of the area, he still frequents it. These are the types of persons that hang around and make-up the "local street- drinking community".

- 6.) **Having been asked at least twice before in "kinder and gentler" initiatives to:**
- a.) **only sell drinks in 4 packs (a method to reduce binge and cheap drink purchases).** I have observed within days this "gentleman's agreement" fall apart, as I've seen the street- drinkers go in, rip a can out of the 4 pack, throw a £1 note at the cashier and walk out before the cashier is able to stop them. 4 packs do not work. Attempts of the staff and owners to keep this policy going were not robust and although it was difficult with the drinking crowds, who would peel a can out of a four- pack and run out the door with it, throwing money at the cashier, I feel both shops could have tried harder. Signage went up noting that they would only sell "four- packs" and signage came down again very quickly in both stores.
 - b.) **keep prices on high strength lagers above 99p. I have seen that this has failed in both of these stores in a matter of days or weeks on each occasion.**

Selling high strength lager for 99p a can, does not show responsibility to the surrounding neighbourhood. It shows only a desire for profits on the part of the owner at the expense of ensuring a lack of ASB to the surrounding community. The owners are aware of this. Prices that were to be clearly priced and marked and put up above the 99p as requested in a "soft touch scheme " last about two years ago, fell apart quickly when the two stores started losing money to the other store because one of the two of them started selling for less to get the sales volume. Whilst some cans were labelled and marked with prices as requested, I personally noted that there were always a few brands that were never price marked in each of the stores. These attempts have never worked and they have never been maintained. These two stores are in direct competition to the other and they always cave in to capture the high-volume street drinker purchases.

- 7.) **Neither store focuses on items that could be sold for broader use in the community beyond a focus on keeping their street lager/cider shelves well stocked.** I have attempted to cajole both stores on multiple occasions to carry a decent calibre and quality of more nutritional food and not "food poverty" level of food: (crisps, snacks, colas, energy drinks and pre-packaged foods). Sadly, their food stocks leave much to be desired. Neither (as I recall) carries fresh vegetables and neither carries meat at all unless in a pre-packaged sandwich. Staples are at a bare minimum. If one was to rely on these shops exclusively for food, you would be mal-nourished in a quick bit of time. As I work from home now and am often short on time, I run in to purchase cheap plastic containers of Instant Noodles- about the only thing they carry that I consider to be edible. The pickings are deplorable. "Anrish News" (Premier) also advertises itself as a "news agent" but they have quit carrying newspapers entirely.

The one prominent thing that they do carry is alcohol and each has at least one whole chiller plus dedicated to high strength lager and cider, and vodka-laced power drinks. Food, household supplies and other miscellaneous items that one actually needs a shop to carry, are relegated to minor sections of the stores.

Again, this only goes to show that their interest and raison d'être is to carry high- alcohol

content drink, and that is the focus of their stock. They both know full well that the high-octane alcohol sales fuel and exacerbate the ASB in the neighbourhood, but there seems to be no desire to improve or change course to benefit the local community or residents.

The protection of children from harm:

I would say that this is where the least issues lie. I have written above about the "groups of teens" that feel they can swarm the shops and threaten the cashiers. I've written about the 10 year old girl subjected to a full-face on view of an inebriated individual urinating in front of her with no regard. Under-age alcohol tests have been done here before and whilst I recall one possibly failing once, there was no follow-up but both stores normally pass under-age challenges. I believe there are Challenge 25 posters up clearly in the store. The street-drinking community that these stores cater to, however, is largely an older crew.

- 1.) One incident of "selling to minors" that I have come to learn of only recently, and this was not definitively proven to me, however the story reported by a very "reliable and trusted source" and it seems likely enough to mention it. Since CV19 I there have been multiple incidents of parties in a flat up above the Punjab Grill next door facing the back car park of that building (out onto Zinzan Street) They parties are very loud and very crowded. The noise can be heard at least to my house at 80m away and has kept many people up at night until 2-3 in the morning. It has been reported by neighbours with their "pulse" on that end of the street, that there are a very many "young" (seemingly under-age) people at these parties. I have observed the crowded nature of the parties which can be seen from down the street with "persons practically hanging out of the windows."

Several weeks ago, and notably within the time period since the Blue Notices for the shop reviews have gone up, there was another party at this location. **As reported to me by local neighbours that I consider to be "in the know" the parties on this occasion were running low on alcohol, and they tried to replenish their stash of alcohol by going to the Today's Express shop. Apparently, the shop keeper refused them service citing that he believed them to be purchasing for under-age drinkers. This is commendable; however, it was understood that apparently they went directly across to the Premier Shop where they were able to purchase the alcohol.** Whilst this is second-hand reporting albeit by knowledgeable neighbours, it is still to me, entirely likely that this had occurred. If you can't get it at one shop, go across to the other one and you can generally get what you want.

Proving the point that these shops supply the alcohol that leads to the issues in this neighbourhood:

- 1.) **Boycotting of the stores by locals due to their bad performance on alcohol sales has been reported to me several times by residents in the area.** The local residents are abundantly aware of what goes on and have told me on numerous occasions. Zinzan Street locals have informed me that whilst they will go to the Today's Express shop when they desperately need something, they boycott the Premier Shop altogether, as they feel that the Today's Express standards are higher for not fuelling the drink problem in the area. For the record, I tend to feel the opposite, and frequent the Premier shop more often myself, although I think it is motivated more because I don't like to round the corner at Today's Express to be accosted by the usual group of "street drinkers" gathered out front looking for or asking for money. I shop at these stores occasionally for convenience only and if I had more time to go further afield, I probably would not patronise either of them, out of a similar level of concern about the results of their alcohol sales on the neighbourhood. From where I live, I can at least see if they are standing out front of the Premier shop and avoid the situation. My husband boycotts both stores for these reasons.

It is clear that the shops' abilities to function as a shop for items that locals need to live on, beyond high-strength lager and ciders are minimal. There are others in the surrounding area that also refuse to use these stores at all for the same reasons described above.

- 2.) **I have (at great length) listed a few of the examples of issues in the neighbourhood of these shops' failures to meet or achieve the 4 licensing objectives.** I have tried to provide you with links of the ASB in the area to the shops' failures, where I feel that the issues are most obviously and blatantly related. My observations are largely as a resident that observes their actions living within 120 m of these shops, but also, they are taken from residents observations where they are reported to me as a local Councillor. I receive many complaints here in the area.
- a.) **I have given you the map I created 6 years ago that is still valid today and shows the routes many of these street-drinkers take from their residences at Willow House and at CIRDIC to shop on the Oxford Road.**
- b.) **I have described alcohol – related ASB directly along those direct routes shown on my 2014 map.**

- 3.) **Can this portion be redacted as Officers feel is best.**

Perhaps the single most incriminating "witness statement" to corroborate the fact that these shops are causing the issues that we have along Oxford Road between the Zinzan St and Howard St intersections and that feed directly up into the neighbourhood streets is a statement that I have reported to both Simon Wheeler and to Licensing to ask how to handle and present it. It is what I consider a very incriminating and true statement that was told to me. Sadly, as both Licensing and PC Wheeler understand, the statement could come at a risk to someone [REDACTED] as a result and I cannot therefore have it appear publicly. I consider there to be one "informant" on that street that knows the situation better than anyone else by observation and I was informed by that person that it was their opinion, that if both of the shops were closed, that the troubles on the street would entirely disappear. Due to the need for the community to have these small shops for "convenience" to the local area, I had never allowed myself to think this, but upon this being said to me, I recognised that as much as this informant knows of what actually goes on right in the area of those two shops, that he had a very true point to be made. See my concluding thoughts herewith.

Concluding thoughts:

- 1.) Can we prove that all of the ASB in the area is related to the selling of alcohol to inebriated individuals and known "street-drinkers" in every single case, or is it just "coincidence" that a high level of seemingly alcohol-related ASB just occurs near-by in the area? **Whilst it is clear that not all of the area's ASB comes from this lax practice, it is also clear to me that the escalated incidences of ASB in the area has a strong correlation to the practice of selling inebriated, street-drinking groups alcohol throughout the day. These shops in that regard bear their portion of the role they play in these situations.** I think that in these cases, we are looking more at the incriminating and geographical evidence as shown on my map of 2014 that is still current today that there are undeniable correlations.
- 2.) Whilst I have not kept records of every URN report that I have called in over the years in the area, I can also acknowledge my own despair and failure to call in every incident I see of ASB in the neighbourhood. Due to the increasing challenges of calling in to 101- (and operators occasionally telling me that I am not to report ASB to the Police/101 at all) or reporting on-line, my own reports of ASB related issues have gone way down in the past two to three years. **However, it is my very clear sense that despite the lack of reporting, the problems have been on the rise overall in the past few years with reduced policing in the area. I cannot come near to recalling all of the stories where there was drink-related ASB in the immediate area, it is so commonplace; but my memories are dominated by people passed out cold in the streets, individuals urinating in the streets discreetly or not, loud yelling and arguing all up and down the street, audible from within my home to the level**

that it is disturbing nearly every day I have lived on Zinzan St. Knowing many of the street-drinkers personally, and many more by sight, I have seen these persons that cause these issues in my street and the area also frequently near these two shops and being sold or consuming alcohol from those shops. I believe beyond a reasonable doubt that many of the area's ASB issues are therefore related to the lox practices of these stores.

- 3.) **I do believe that removing the rights of these shops to sell alcohol entirely would be the best way to curb the ASB related issues I see in this immediate area. But that would only move the problem further down the street, or elsewhere, and I am not sure that is the answer either.**
- 4.) **I do believe that it is the cumulative effect of so many off-license shops along the Oxford Road, especially concentrated at this end of the Road that causes the issues. I also believe that these two stores are the worst in the area, are prone to be frequented by the "street-drinking set out of geographical proximity to where they live or hang out , or out of habit and an on-going fulfilment of the reputation that the area has. I believe also that these two stores set the tone and reputation for the Oxford Road, certainly on the east end of it closest to town.**

If street- drinkers do not get it from one shop, they can always get it from the other. I do not believe that either of these shops has better standards than the other in dealing with these addicted individuals that buy alcohol from their shops. This practice as I know it, continues on down the Road with certain shops. Individual owners and cashiers – admittedly for their own sanity and safety, may be powerless to enforce proper sales of alcohol in the area without a total removal of the product that causes the issue. Their jobs and livelihoods are also linked to these stores and to this trade. I also believe that the owners rely too greatly on their income from this source, and that the shops are entirely designed to cater to this clientele base, and cashiers can feel the pressure from owners to make sufficient sales to maintain store profits. This is how they make those profits. I do not know if they can turn-around their businesses to survive without selling alcohol entirely, but I would surely contemplate it; at the very least to eliminate the sales of those drinks that cater to this established clientele.

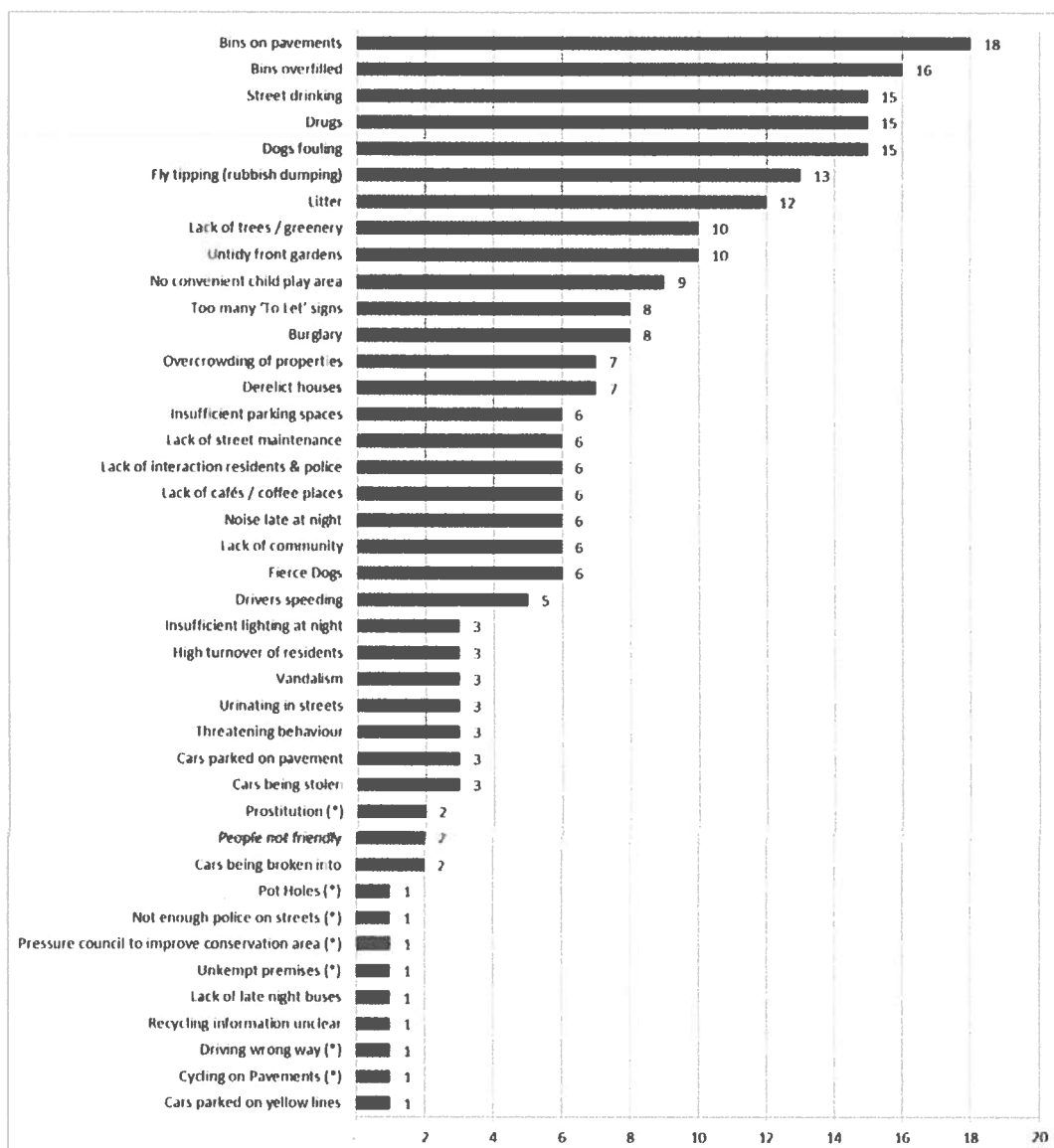
I would say that to remove the sales of these high-octane lagers, ciders and alcohol-laced energy drinks may considerably curb some of this activity, although the street- drinkers do not entirely limit themselves to these drinks. On one occasion, I managed to get the cashier at Premium to remove the bottle of vodka/gin (appx £25 value) from the person he had just sold it to, because the fellow was clearly inebriated and the money was returned to the person. We then watched him leave the shop and go across to Today's Express to purchase the alcohol successfully there. These shops are highly inter-related and the "street-drinkers" do not discriminate between the two.

In so saying that, **I feel that responsible residents deserve to be able to pick up a bottle of wine, gin or vodka or reasonable ales or craft beers, in the area in which they live, but I sense the "street- drinking" crowd is so entrenched in this area, that they will either adapt to higher prices to get their alcohol (leading to more begging, possible burglary related crime to get money) or only maybe if the environment is so changed, only move further down the street or back in to town to procure their alcohol.**

Although it is very extreme, it is my opinion that the elimination of sales of all alcohol in these two stores would be the most sure answer to resolving the problem. I also know that that might likely cause them to have to shutter their doors because they cannot easily adapt their stores to sales without alcohol, although I believe that they could do so, if they wanted. I just do not believe the will is there in either of these shops to do so. I also know that it will only place the problem elsewhere and that is not fair either.

- 5.) Whilst I apologise for the length of this document, sitting on the Licensing Committee myself, I know what the burden of proof must be in determining courses of action and I have tried to provide sample evidence to prove that the 4 licensing objectives are not being properly achieved or worked towards in these shops. In the end, I leave it to the Committee, to which I feel have been presented a very difficult decision, of grappling with what to do. I believe also, that they have the power to return a neighbourhood back to a measure of normalcy by making the right decision, and to begin to actually put a real dent in what has been a decades long issue along the Oxford Road and in the surrounding streets off of it. I do believe that the people in the area, despite living in an area with multiple deprivation indices and issues, deserve better and it does not mean that they need to suffer unduly from the surrounding troubles that the practices of these stores have a substantial part in helping to sustain.

Survey Questionnaire Results



Notes

1. (*) denotes other issues that individuals added to the list. If they had been listed in the survey, they may have had more ticks.
2. Total number of questionnaires returned is 29. This reflects approximately 3-4% return on the number of forms distributed.
3. There were 246 votes for the 41 issues.



OFF -LICENSE SHOPS

MONDAY NITE FREE
MEAL Providence
Chapel

READING TOWN CENTRE

IDR

Green arrows indicate
the paths used from
the Town Centre
headed towards our
neighbourhood



OFF -LICENSE SHOP-
NISA - cheapest prices-
worst control

The
Oasis

Area of most
persistent
problem/ "Home
Base" under
trees.

Carey Center of the Carey
Baptist Church

RED DOTTED LINE
denotes common
paths of the area's
ASB regulars



Salvation
Army HQ



Salvation Army HQ

Willow House

The licensing committee

Date: Sunday 24th October 2020

Author: Richard Rowlands, [REDACTED] Anstey Road, Reading, [REDACTED], tel: [REDACTED], email: [REDACTED]

Introduction

I wish to protest about the availability of alcohol from:

- Today Express, 107 Oxford Road
- Anrish News / Premier Shop, 102 Oxford Road

Background

My name is Richard Rowlands. I live on Anstey Road (so a local resident). I was a founder member of the local Baker Street Area Neighbourhood Association (BSANA) and have worked for BSANA for over seven years. I am also the secretary of the Oxford Road Safer Neighbourhood Forum (formerly Neighbourhood Action Group).

I have had one friend, a lodger of mine, who spent a lot of time drinking and, only two weeks after leaving me, died. Another had to be sent to rehabilitation for six months. Another lodger died having been a regular consumer of alcohol. These were my friends and to see them die well before their time is a tragic loss. Another two of my friends drink high strength alcohol much of the day, every day. One of them can become very loud when drunk. I worry they will not be with us for much longer.

I understand that it is their choice to buy the alcohol, and that they are adults. However if someone is an alcoholic, the availability of high strength (7.5% or more) alcohol for a low price is like leaving an expensive Satnav on the windscreen of a car parked on a public street.

This availability means that these people can get up, start drinking and continue drinking all day.

The change from one-pound cans to a minimum of a four pack means people have a higher target, but as soon as they reach that, they can buy a four pack or a large bottle of cider.

Effect

This leads to these people sitting around near the shops in groups which can be ten or more people, often talking loudly, using bad language and asking passers-by for money. This is a public nuisance.

These people have a limited supply of money, often given them all in one batch once a month. Once this is spent, the rest of the month they need money for alcohol. With just the products they need sitting on a shelf in a nearby shop can cause them to either seek any method to get money (e.g. by begging) or to steal the bottles. Removing the availability can reduce the amount of crime and disorder.

The effect on the public passing by along the Oxford Road, which is a main access route from west Reading into the town centre. The loud and foul language can be upsetting to people and the public may fear for their safety.

Action

I do not have a general problem with these stores selling alcohol. My worry is the easy availability of low cost, high strength alcohol. This includes cans and bottles of high strength cider. I have been told that just removing those cans may cause the alcoholics to choose lower strength alcohol, which is less dangerous for them and does not make them as drunk, which makes them less belligerent. Another effect may be that they walk to the next shop to buy their alcohol. This action has to be extended to as wide an area as possible.

I really worry about the lives of these people whom I call my friends. Once you are an alcoholic, it's almost impossible to stop on your own. There are programmes (such as at Prospect Park), but these are expensive (which means limited availability) and not always successful. The solution has to include other methods to help people either not to become alcoholics or to ease them off the alcohol and the damage it does to them and to their lives.

I have spoken to several of my drinking friends and when asked what they would do if there was no cider on sale. They said they would either go to the next shop along the road, or buy cheap vodka (or similar drinks).

I ask for licensing to seek ways to reduce the amount of high strength alcohol sold inexpensively to street drinkers. This may include

- Reduce the maximum strength of alcohol sold
- Bottles not openly on display, where they can be easily stolen. For example like shops sell cigarettes.
- Reduced hours that alcohol is available

R C Rowlands

