

From: [Narancic, Peter](#)
To: [Julie Quarmby](#)
Cc: [Smalley, Robert](#)
Subject: FW: Bowl Central - new premises licence application [IWOV-WORKSITE.FID1485562]
Date: 27 June 2022 11:29:30
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image004.png](#)
[image005.png](#)
[image006.png](#)

This is it...

From: Smyth, Declan (C2107) <declan.smyth@thamesvalley.police.uk>
Sent: 24 June 2022 09:40
To: Licensing <Licensing@reading.gov.uk>
Cc: Smalley, Robert <Robert.Smalley@reading.gov.uk>; Narancic, Peter <peter.narancic@reading.gov.uk>
Subject: FW: Bowl Central - new premises licence application [IWOV-WORKSITE.FID1485562]

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Dear Licensing,

The Thames Valley Police Licensing departments response to Sandra Graham's email and the proposed conditions submitted as part of the Thames Valley Police representation for the Bowl Central, Caversham Road.

Response to amendments:

8. An active search policy shall be put in place to prevent illegal drugs and weapons being brought on to the premises. The policy shall include, but not be limited to, methods of search, detection, confiscation and disposal and shall be actively operated. The policy shall be in written format and made available upon request to an authorised officer from Reading Borough Council or Thames Valley Police. Notices shall also be put in place informing customers that the management reserve the right to conduct an outer body search and/or bag as a condition of entering the premises.

It is the opinion of Thames Valley Police that all premises should have a policy that addresses the need for public safety and the prevention of crime and disorder. The policy is a document that will insure best practice and good due diligence at the premises.

It is regrettable that young people feel the need to carry bladed articles and or drugs on their person, but this now a common occurrence. The proposed condition does not require the premises management or staff to search all customers but it does enforce upon them the need to be vigilant, reminding them of their responsibilities and right to refuse if the customer is under suspension that would lead to the premises calling for police assistance.

9. Regular checks of high risk areas for drug use (including the toilets) shall be carried out by door staff and premises staff when door staff are not available. A written record of all checks shall be maintained and made available upon request by an authorised officer from Reading Borough Council or Thames Valley Police.

This condition forms part of what Thames Valley Police believe to be a minimum level of service in best practice, maintaining high standards and good due diligence at a premises offering entertainment and alcohol. The area in which the premises is located historically has issues with drug users gaining access to premises facilities and using them for sales and usage.

Door Supervision

The current stance is that we at Thames Valley Police would not be willing to amend or remove the DOOR SUPERVISORS proposed conditions contained within the TVP representation.

The proposed conditions (numbers 3,4,5,6 & 7) have been drafted to help in the promotion of the four licensing objectives. On a Friday & Saturday night the premises will become part of the Reading Night Time Economy, as a preventive tool and responsibility of the premises it cannot become a drain on the emergency services. All premises of a similar business model have a condition for the need of SIA door supervisors.

It is the opinion of Thames Valley Police that the presence & visibility of trained SIA security will not only act as a deterrent for crime and disorder but will also put your customers at ease knowing that security can assist if needed.

Should you need anything further please do not hesitate to contact me.

Kind Regards

Declan Smyth

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Read our [Alcohol Licensing Operational Guidance](#)

This is it

From: Sandra Graham <Sandra.Graham@trethowans.com>
Sent: Monday, June 20, 2022 1:57 PM
To: Narancic, Peter <peter.narancic@reading.gov.uk>
Cc: declan.smyth <declan.smyth@thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk>; Smalley, Robert <Robert.Smalley@reading.gov.uk>
Subject: Bowl Central - new premises licence application [IWOV-WORKSITE.FID1485562]

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Dear Peter

I am grateful for your assistance in discussing this application. As advised, I am familiar with the area and issues and I did contact Sian some time ago to discuss proposals as there was some suggestion that there might have been a Premises Licence already in existence for the premises though it subsequently proved not to be the case. Equally, we did consider your Statement of Policy and did seek confirmation that the proposed premises were outside the Cumulative Impact Area which was confirmed. I appreciate the representations from yourself and TVP may be in a standard format but rest assured we did consider the site, the licensing objectives, s184 Guidance and your licensing Statement of Policy in some detail before applying. Indeed enquiries with Sian Richards date back to January.

I have discussed the representations from yourself and the Police and if I may group them together as they are very similar, and respond copying in the Police hopefully we can agree conditions going forward.

In dealing firstly with the initial information you requested I now comment as follows:

1. It is estimated the proposed capacity of the premises will be around 160
2. It is anticipated that 2 to 3 floor walkers will be engaged at any one time dependent on occupancy levels
3. The applicant has engaged a separate advisor on planning matters and I have been advised that a planning application has been lodged but until that application has been registered (which is, I am told awaited) there is no specific case officer available to comment and discuss planning proposals further. My client is an experienced operator and is aware of all the necessary permissions required in order to proceed and the timescale is such (see next response) as to allow all matters to be resolved in a sensible time period prior to opening.
4. At the present time the proposed opening is estimated at March 2023

Conditions Proposed

As a precursor to my comments below, and as advised, my client and I are aware of issues in the Reading area, and are certainly not unfamiliar with the area. The site is obviously a good prominent site from the main Caversham Road and faces a busy commercial road whilst accepting and respecting the existence of the residential areas to the rear of the site.

Whilst the conditions put forward in the representations by yourself and TVP are worded differently to those put forward in the Operating Schedule we hope you can accept that in the main the aims and objectives are the same, namely to include:

- CCTV provision
- An Incident Log
- A Refusals book
- Staff training
- Quiet dispersal of patrons
- Challenge 25 policy

Accordingly, having reviewed with my client those conditions put forward by yourself and TVP, my client is content to accept the wording you and TVP have requested, if preferred, in respect of:

- CCTV (your proposed conditions 1 & 2)
- Dispersal policy (your proposed conditions 10-13)
- Incident register (your proposed conditions 14 – 15)
- Staff training (your proposed conditions 16 -17)
- Age Verification (your proposed conditions 18-22)
- Refusals book (your proposed condition 23)

My client will also accept your proposed conditions in respect of:

- Pubwatch (your proposed condition 24)
- Town Safe Radio (your proposed condition 25)
- Other initiatives (your proposed condition 29)

Glassware – would you be willing to agree to vary proposed condition 27 to read ‘all beer and lager to be served in containers made from toughened glass’ as my client is struggling to source toughened glassware for champagne/cocktail style drinking vessels.

Search Policy – my client is content to accept proposed condition 9 with regard to regular checking of high risk areas but does not consider that it is appropriate to have proposed condition 8 on any Premises Licence granted. For a family entertainment venue to undertake personal body searches/bag searches of patrons attending the premises would be somewhat surprising to patrons attending and indeed my client feels that this would send the wrong messages about the type of clientele and would be unwelcoming to the type of customers that are attracted to this style of premises. The premises are not a high-volume vertical drinking establishment, they will be run, as the applicant’s other ten-pin bowling centres have always been run, as a relaxed family entertainment venue with clientele that respect this.

Door Supervision

As per my comments above, the premises are proposed to be a family entertainment venue and it is not considered welcoming or appropriate to patrons to signal that there are door staff required when the premises are not some late night club or drinking establishment. My client compares his clientele to those that might attend TGI Fridays (nearly opposite) who are open until midnight with no door supervision requirements.

My client has formally amended the terminal hour on the application to 12 midnight (from 1am) on Fridays and Saturdays and in this connection would prefer not to have a condition relating to door supervision.

However, my client appreciates the concerns in the Reading area and is a responsible and aware operator, and if this cannot be agreed, and whilst the premises get established, he would be prepared to agree a condition along the lines that:

SIA accredited Door Security to be employed on Friday and Saturday evenings from 22:00 until at least half an hour after the end of permitted hours for the sale of alcohol on commencement of trading for the first three months of trading following which a risk assessment will be undertaken to determine whether such door security is required, thereafter three monthly reviews will be conducted subsequently to risk assess the position.

If proposed condition 3 can be amended as above then conditions 4 to 7 can follow with clarification of the below:

- Proposed condition 7(c) - bullet point 'Training Records' – is this meant to refer to training given by the Premises Licence Holder or all training as I am mindful that SIA doorstaff may well be employed via an agency?
- I assume that proposed condition 7 (f) and (g) refer to where (e) applies ie where Body Worn Video applies and therefore I would request that condition 7 (f) and (g) become 7 (e) (i) and (ii) for clarification that they only apply where BWV is deployed.

Whilst we totally accept the necessity to obtain and comply with all necessary planning consents (and my client is in the course of so doing) I would not expect that conditions relating to planning matters be imposed as a licence condition when there is adequate separate legislation to deal with this and I am hopeful that now given my comments and our discussions on the matter your proposed condition 28 can be avoided in this respect.

I hope we can agree the above and look forward to hearing from you further.

I am copying this in to Declan Smyth at TVP in the hope that the above will be acceptable to Thames Valley Police also.

Kind regards

Sandra Graham

Sandra Graham
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