

Public Document Pack



Regulatory Sub Committee

Monday, 14 July 2025 10.00 a.m.
The Board Room - Municipal Building,
Widnes

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'S. Young'.

Chief Executive

COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

Councillor Pamela Wallace (Chair)
Councillor Mike Fry
Councillor Kath Loftus

*Please contact Kim Butler on 0151 511 7496 or
kim.butler@halton.gov.uk for further information.*

The next meeting of the Committee is on 17 July 2025

**ITEMS TO BE DEALT WITH
IN THE PRESENCE OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC**

Part I

Item No.

Page No.

**1. DECLARATION OF INTEREST (INCLUDING PARTY WHIP
DECLARATIONS)**

Members are reminded of their responsibility to declare any Disclosable Pecuniary Interest or Other Disclosable Interest which they have in any item of business on the agenda, no later than when that item is reached or as soon as the interest becomes apparent and, with Disclosable Pecuniary Interests, to leave the meeting during any discussion and voting on the item.

**2. APPLICATION TO TRANSFER A PREMISES LICENCE AND
VARY THE DESIGNATED PREMISES SUPERVISOR -
BLUNDELL ARMS, HALE ROAD, WIDNES, WA8 8SX**

1 - 35

REPORT:	Regulatory Sub-Committee
DATE:	14 July 2025
REPORTING OFFICER:	Director – Legal and Democratic Services
PORTFOLIO:	Resources
SUBJECT:	Application to Transfer a Premises Licence and Vary the Designated Premises Supervisor – Blundell Arms, Hale Road, Widnes, WA8 8SX
WARDS:	Ditton, Hale Village and Halebank

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

To assist the Members of the Regulatory Sub-Committee in their consideration of two applications made by Lorraine Ashton for the Blundells Arms, Hale Road, Widnes.

The first application is for the Transfer of the Premises Licence for the Blundell Arms, Hale Road, Widnes.

The second application is to Vary the Designated Premises Supervisor at the Blundell Arms, Hale Road, Widnes.

2. RECOMMENDATION that

The Sub-Committee considers the contents of the report and makes a determination on the two applications.

3. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 3.1 An application has been made by Ms Lorraine Ashton to transfer the Premises Licence Holder and to Vary the Designated Premises Supervisor at the Blundell Arms, Hale Road, Widnes. The applications are two separate applications for the premises and each application has to be treated separately. Each application has been explained separately in the report.
- 3.2 An application has been made under Section 42 of the Licensing Act 2003 for the transfer of a Premises Licence in relation to the Blundell Arms, Hale Road, Widnes on the 8 June 2025.

- 3.3 An application was then submitted by Lorraine Ashton under Section 37 of the Licensing Act 2003 to Vary the Designated Premises Supervisor into Lorraine Ashtons name for the Blundell Arms, Hale Road, Widnes on the 10th June 2025.
- 3.4 The premises has held a licence since the 8th November 2021, there has been a previous licence in place at this premises since the 24th November 2005 until the 8 June 2021.

4. THE APPLICATION

- 4.1 An application was submitted to transfer the premises licence holder from the current licence holder (Cheshire Retail NW Ltd) to Lorraine Ashton. A copy of the application can be found at **Appendix A** of this report.
- 4.2 The application to transfer the premises licence was received on the 8 June 2025 and, the last date for representations was the 22nd June 2025.
- 4.3 The application has been made in an individual name, and officers can confirm that all the requirements for the Right to Work in the UK have been met. The current licence holder has consented to the transfer.
- 4.4 An application was subsequently submitted by Ms Lorraine Ashton to Vary the Designated Premises Supervisor to Lorraine Ashton. A copy of the application can be found at **Appendix B** of this report.
- 4.5 The application to Vary the Designated Premises Supervisor was received on the 10th June and, the last date for representations was the 24th June 2025.
- 4.6 The current Designated Premises Supervisor at the Blundell Arms is Steven Hewitt.
- 4.7 Under the Licensing Act 2003, the Premises Licence Holder must apply to vary the Designated Premises Supervisor at a licensed premises. Ms Ashton submitted the relevant documentation to transfer the premises licence first, then subsequently submitted an application to Vary the Designated Premises Licence Holder into her name. The correct procedure has been followed.
- 4.8 Attached for completeness at **Appendix C** of this report, is a copy of the licence for the Blundell Arms which includes the conditions attached to the licence.

5. REQUIREMENT FOR A HEARING

- 5.1 The above applications are normally straight forward and dealt with as an administrative matter. As part of the application process, the applicant is required to give notice to the Chief Officer of Police and the Home Office where an application to transfer a premises licence has been made under section 42 of the Act and to the Chief Officer of Police where an application to vary the DPS has been made under section 37 of the Act.
- 5.2 Under the Act, where a Chief Officer of Police is satisfied that the exceptional circumstances of the case are such that granting the applications would undermine the crime prevention objective, he must serve notice on the licensing authority and, where such a notice has been served and not withdrawn, a hearing must be held to determine the application.
- 5.3 Equally, where the Home Office is satisfied that the exceptional circumstances of the case are such that granting the application would be prejudicial to the prevention of illegal working in licensed premises, they must serve notice on the licensing authority and a hearing must be held to determine the application.
- 5.4 The application to Transfer the Premises Licence Holder was submitted on 8 June 2025 and was sent to the responsible authorities (which are the Police and Home Office) on the same day. There is a 14 day representation period which expired on the 22 June 2025.
- 5.5 The application to Vary the Designated Premises Supervisor was submitted on the 10 June 2025 and was sent to the responsible authorities (which are the Police and Home Office) on the same day. There is a 14 days representation period which expired on the 24 June 2025.
- 5.6 During the 14 days representation period, the Licensing Authority received a relevant objection from one of the Responsible Authorities, namely Cheshire Police to both applications (transfer of Premises Licence Holder and Vary Designated Premises Supervisor).
- 5.7 As stated above, where relevant representations have been made and not withdrawn, the licensing authority must hold a hearing to consider them (unless otherwise agreed by the parties).
- 5.8 The hearing is held in accordance with the Act and the Licensing Act 2003 (Hearings) Regulations 2005. The procedure to be followed has been circulated to all parties and will be repeated at the beginning of the hearing.

- 5.9 The hearing is solely concerned with those aspects of the application, which has been the subject of the relevant representations as defined in the Act. These are the representations made by Cheshire Police.
- 5.10 At the time of writing this report I have not received any indication from the Cheshire Police, if they will be making any submissions to the Sub-Committee at the hearing. All parties have all been informed of the hearing.

6. THE REPRESENTATIONS

6.1 RESPONSIBLE AUTHORITIES

Relevant representations have been received from Cheshire Police.

Attached at **Appendix D** is a copy of the objection to the transfer of the Premises Licence. The objection is on the ground that it would undermine the licensing objectives on the prevention of crime and disorder.

Attached at **Appendix E** is a copy of the objection to the Vary of Designated Premises Supervisor. The objection is on the ground that it would undermine the licensing objectives on the prevention of crime and disorder.

7. OPTIONS

7.1 The Sub-Committee has the following options under Section 44 of the Act,

- (1) Grant the application to transfer the premises licence,
- (2) Reject the application to transfer the premises licence if it considers it appropriate for the promotion of the crime prevention objective,

The Sub-Committee has the following options under Section 39 of the Act;

- (1) Grant the application to vary the designated premises supervisor,
- (2) Reject the application to vary the designated premises supervisor if it considers it appropriate for the promotion of the crime prevention objective.

8. POLICY IMPLICATIONS

8.1 None

9. FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

- 9.1 There are no special financial considerations to the Authority which need to be highlighted at this stage. However, it should be noted that the decision of the sub-committee is subject to appeal to the Magistrates' Court. If an appeal is made, there will be costs associated with this.

10. IMPLICATIONS FOR THE COUNCIL'S PRIORITIES

10.1 Improving Health, Promoting Wellbeing and Supporting Greater Independence

None

10.2 Building a Strong, Sustainable Local Economy

None

10.3 Supporting Children, Young People and Families

None

10.4 Tackling Inequality and Helping Those Who Are Most In Need

None

10.5 Working Towards a Greener Future

None

10.6 Valuing and Appreciating Halton and Our Community

None

11. RISK ANALYSIS

- 11.1. The Council is required to hold the hearing in accordance with the Licensing Act 2003. Failure to do so, may mean that the Council is acting in breach of its obligations under that Act.

12. EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY ISSUES

- 12.1 There are no equality and diversity issues to highlight.

13. CLIMATE CHANGE IMPLICATIONS

13.1 There are no climate change implications since the decision will have no effect on the environment.

14. LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS UNDER SECTION 100D OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972

Document	Place of Inspection	Contact Officer
Application Documents	Legal Services	Kim Hesketh

APPENDIX A

Application to transfer premises licence to be granted 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/We LORRINE ASHTON
(insert name of applicant)
apply to transfer the premises licence described below under section 42 of the Licensing Act 2003 for the premises described in Part 1 below

Premises licence number LPA 0445

Part 1 - Premises details

Postal address of premises or, if none, ordnance survey map reference or description <u>BLUNDEL ARMS W14 8SX HARE RD WINDONS</u>	
Post town <u>CIRENCHORE</u>	Post code <u>W14 8SX</u>
Telephone number at premises (if any)	

Please give a brief description of the premises (see note 1)
PUBLIC HOUSE

Name of current premises licence holder
CIRENCHORE RETAIL (NO) LTD

Part 2 - Applicant details

In what capacity are you applying for the premises licence to be transferred to you?

	Please tick yes
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> a) an individual or individuals*	please complete section (A)
<input type="checkbox"/> b) a person other than an individual*	please complete section (B)
i. as a limited company/limited liability partnership	

ii. as a partnership (other than limited liability)	please complete section (B)
iii. as an unincorporated association or	please complete section (B)
iv. other (for example a statutory corporation)	please complete section (B)
c) a recognised club	please complete section (B)
d) a charity	please complete section (B)
e) the proprietor of an educational establishment	please complete section (B)
f) a health service body	please complete section (B)
g) an individual who is registered under Part 2 of the Care Standards Act 2000 (c14) in respect of an independent hospital in Wales	please complete section (B)
h) a person who is registered under Chapter 2 of Part 1 of the Health and Social Care Act 2008 (within the meaning of that Part) in an independent hospital in England	please complete section (B)
i) the chief officer of police of a police force in England and Wales	please complete section (B)

*If you are applying as a person described in (a) or (b) please confirm:

Please tick yes

- I am carrying on or proposing to carry on a business which involves the use of the premises for licensable activities; or
- I am making the application pursuant to a
 - statutory function or
 - a function discharged by virtue of Her Majesty's prerogative

(A) INDIVIDUAL APPLICANTS (fill in as applicable)

Mr Mrs Miss Ms Other title
 (for example, Rev)

Surname	ASHTON	First names	LOREANE
<input type="text"/>		<input type="text"/>	
I am 18 years old or over <input type="checkbox"/> tick yes			

postal address
 (please read)

fill your e-mail

it is, its gene
 be relevant t

a partnershi
 JK who:

work relating

April 2017 w

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per

ary
 vice

code

Current residential address if different from premises address	
[Redacted]	
Post town	
Daytime contact telephone number	
E-mail address (optional)	
[Redacted]	
Where applicable (if demonstrating a right to work via the Home Office online right to work checking service), the 'share code' provided to the applicant by the service (please see note 2 for information)	
[Redacted]	

Second individual applicant (fill in as applicable)

M
 r Mrs Miss Ms Other title

 (for example, Rev)

Surname		First name	
Date of Birth		Nationality	
I am 18 years old or over		Please tick yes	
Current residential address if different from premises address	[Redacted]		
Post town	Post code		
Daytime contact telephone number			
E-mail address (optional)			

Where applicable (if demonstrating a right to work via the Home Office online right to work checking service), the 'share code' provided to the applicant by the service (please see note 2 for information)

(B) Other applicants

Please provide name and registered address of applicant in full. Where appropriate please give any registered number. In the case of a partnership or other joint venture (other than a body corporate), please give the name and address of each party concerned.

Name	LADONNE AKHON
Address	[Redacted]
Registered number	[Redacted]
Description of applicant (for example partnership, company, limited liability partnership, association etc)	[Redacted]
Telephone number (if any)	[Redacted]
E-mail address (optional)	[Redacted]

Part 3

Please tick yes

Are you the holder of the premises licence under an interim authority notice?

Do you wish the transfer to have immediate effect?

If not when would you like the transfer to take effect?

Day Month Year

07 06 2025

Please tick yes

I have enclosed the consent form signed by the existing premises licence holder

If you have not enclosed the consent form referred to above please give the reasons why not. What steps have you taken to try and obtain the consent?

NA

Please tick yes

If this application is granted I would be in a position to use the premises during the application period for the licensable activity or activities authorised by the licence (see section 43 of the Licensing Act 2003)

Please tick yes

I have enclosed the premises licence

If you have not enclosed premises licence referred to above please give the reasons why not.

BECAUSE IT NEEDS TO STAY
ON PREMISES

- I have made or enclosed payment of the fee
- I have enclosed the consent form signed by the existing premises licence holder or my statement as to why it is not enclosed
- I have enclosed the premises licence or relevant part of it or explanation
- I have sent a copy of this application to the chief officer of police today
- I have sent a copy of this form to the Home Office Immigration Enforcement today
- I have included documents, or my Home Office online right to work checking service share code, to demonstrate my entitlement to work in the United Kingdom (please read note 2). [Applicable to all individual applicants, including those in a partnership which is not a limited liability partnership, but not companies or limited liability partnerships]
- 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.

It is an offence under section 24b of the Immigration Act 1971 for a person to work when they know, or have reasonable cause to believe, that they are disqualified from doing so by reason of their immigration status. Those who employ an adult without leave or who is subject to conditions as to employment, will be liable for a civil penalty under section 15 of the Immigration, Asylum and Nationality Act 2006 and, pursuant to Section 21 of the same act, will be committing an offence where they do so in the knowledge, or with reasonable cause to believe, that the employee is disqualified.

I understand I am not entitled to be issued with a licence if I do not have the entitlement to live and work in the UK (or if I am subject to a condition preventing me from doing work relating to the carrying on of a licensable activity) and that my licence will become invalid if I cease to be entitled to live and work in the UK (please read guidance note 2)

Part 4 – Signatures (please read guidance note 3)

Signature of applicant or applicant's solicitor or other duly authorised agent (please read guidance note 4) in what capacity on behalf of the applicant please state

Signature



Date

7/6/2025

Capacity

~~Signature~~

For joint applicants signature of 2nd applicant, 2nd applicant's solicitor or other authorised agent (please read guidance note 5). If signing on behalf of the applicant please state in what capacity.

Signature

Date

Capacity

Contact name (where not previously given) and postal address for correspondence associated with this application (please read guidance note 6)	
AS BEFORE	
Post town	Post Code
Telephone number (if any)	
If you would prefer us to correspond with you by e-mail your e-mail address (optional)	
HOME ADDRESS	

Notes for guidance

1. Describe the premises. For example, the type of premises it is, its general situation and layout and any other information which would be relevant to the licensing objectives.

2. Right to work/immigration status

A licence may not be issued to an individual or an individual in a partnership which is not a limited liability partnership who is resident in the UK who:

- does not have the right to live and work in the UK; or
- is subject to a condition preventing him or her from doing work relating to the carrying on of a licensable activity.

Any licence issued in respect of an application made on or after 6 April 2017 will become invalid if the holder ceases to be entitled to work in the UK.

Applicants must demonstrate that they have the right to work in the UK and are not subject to a condition preventing them from doing work relating to the carrying on of a licensable activity.

They do this in one of two ways:

- 1) by providing with this application copies or scanned copies of the documents which an applicant has provided, to demonstrate their entitlement to work in the UK (which do not need to be certified) as per information published on gov.uk and in guidance.
- 2) by providing their 'share code' to enable the licensing authority to carry out a check using the Home Office online right to work checking service (see below).

Home Office online right to work checking service

As an alternative to providing a copy of original documents, applicants may demonstrate their right to work by allowing the licensing authority to carry out a check with the Home Office online right to work checking service.

To demonstrate their right to work via the Home Office online right to work checking service, applicants should include in this application their share code.

Consent of premises licence holder to transfer

I/we Cheshire Retail (NW) LTD
[full name of premises licence holder(s)]

the premises licence holder of premises licence number LPA0445
[insert premises licence number]

relating to

The Blundell arms Public house
[name and address of premises to which the application relates]

hereby give my consent for the transfer of premises licence number

LPA 0445
[insert premises licence number]

to

LORRAINE ASHTON
[full name of transferee]

signed 
name
(please print) NSW1

dated 7/6/25

Application to vary a premises licence to specify an individual as designated premises supervisor 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/we LOMAINE ASHTON
(full name(s) of premises licence holder)

being the premises licence holder, apply to vary a premises licence to specify the individual named in this application as the premises supervisor under section 37 of the Licensing Act 2003

Premises licence number

LPA 0445

Part 1 - Premises details

Postal address of premises or, if none, Ordnance Survey map reference or description

BLUNDELL ARMS
HALE ROAD
WIDNES

Post town

WIDNES

Post code (if known)

WA8 8SX

Telephone number (if any)

Description of premises (please read guidance note 1)

PUB
BLUNDELL ARMS
HALE ROAD, WIDNES, CHESHIRE, WA8 8SX

Part 2

Full name of proposed designated premises supervisor
LORRAINE ASHTON

Nationality
BRITISH

Place of birth
 [REDACTED]

Date of birth
 [REDACTED]

Personal licence number of proposed designated premises supervisor and issuing authority of that licence (if any)
 [REDACTED]

Full name of existing designated premises supervisor (if any)
STEVEN HEWITT

Please tick yes

I would like this application to have immediate effect under section 35 of the Licensing Act 2003

I have enclosed the premises licence or relevant part of it

(If you have not enclosed the premises licence, or relevant part of it, please give reasons why not)

Reasons why I have failed to enclose the premises licence or relevant part of it

[REDACTED]

Please tick yes

- I have made or enclosed payment of the fee
- I will give a copy of this application to the chief officer of police
- I have enclosed the consent form completed by the proposed premises supervisor
- I have enclosed the premises licence, or relevant part of it or explanation
- I will give a copy of this form to the existing premises supervisor, if any
- 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.

IT IS AN OFFENCE UNDER SECTION 24B OF THE IMMIGRATION ACT 1971 FOR A PERSON TO WORK WHEN THEY KNOW, OR HAVE REASONABLE CAUSE TO BELIEVE, THAT THEY ARE DISQUALIFIED FROM DOING SO BY REASON OF THEIR IMMIGRATION STATUS. THOSE WHO EMPLOY AN ADULT WITHOUT LEAVE OR WHO IS SUBJECT TO CONDITIONS AS TO EMPLOYMENT WILL BE LIABLE TO A CIVIL PENALTY UNDER SECTION 15 OF THE IMMIGRATION, ASYLUM AND NATIONALITY ACT 2004 AND, PURSUANT TO SECTION 21 OF THE SAME ACT, WILL BE COMMITTING AN OFFENCE WHERE THEY DO SO IN THE KNOWLEDGE, OR WITH REASONABLE CAUSE TO BELIEVE, THAT THE EMPLOYEE IS DISQUALIFIED.

Part 3 - Signatures (please read guidance note 2)

Signature of applicant or applicant's solicitor or other duly authorised agent (See guidance note 3). If signing on behalf of the applicant please state in what capacity.

Signature

[Redacted Signature]

Date

10/6/2025

Capacity

For joint applicants signature of 2nd applicant 2nd applicant's solicitor or other authorised agent (please read guidance note 4). If signing on behalf of the applicant please state in what capacity.

Signature

Date

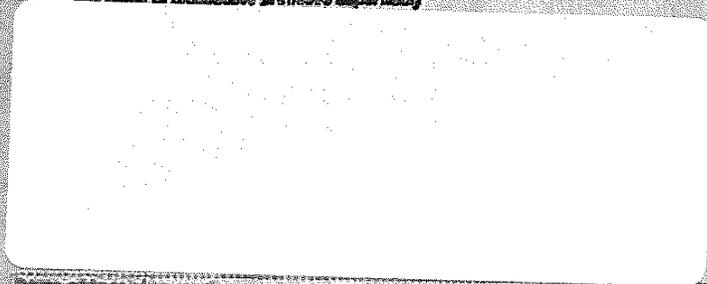
Capacity

Contact name (where not previously given) and postal address for correspondence associated with this application (please read guidance note 5)

[Redacted Contact Information]

Consent of individual to being specified as premises supervisor

I LORNAINE ASHTON
(the name of prospective premises supervisor)



(home address of prospective premises supervisor)

hereby confirm that I give my consent to be specified as the designated premises supervisor in relation to the application for

BLUNDELL ARMS
(type of application)

by LORNAINE ASHTON
(name of applicant)

relating to a premises licence LPA0445
(number of existing licence, if any)

for BLUNDELL ARMS
HALE ROAD
WIDNES
CHESHIRE
WA8 8SX
(name and address of premises to which the application relates)

and any premises licence to be granted or varied in respect of this application made by

 LORRAINE ASHTON
(Name of applicant)

concerning the supply of alcohol at

BLUNDELL ARMS
HALF ROAD
WIDNES
WA8 8SX

(Name and address of premises to which application relates)

I also confirm that I am entitled to work in the United Kingdom and am applying for, intend to apply for or currently hold a personal licence, details of which I set out below.

Personal licence number

 0CC0306
(Insert personal licence number, if any)

Personal licence issuing authority

 DENVESHAM
(Insert name and address and telephone number of personal licence issuing authority, if any)

Signed



Name (please print)

 LORRAINE ASHTON

Date

 10/6/2025



Licensing Act 2003

Premises Licence**LPA0445**

Part 1 - Premises Details

POSTAL ADDRESS OF PREMISES, OR IF NONE, ORDNANCE SURVEY MAP REFERENCE OR DESCRIPTION**BLUNDELL ARMS**

Hale Road, Widnes, Cheshire, WA8 8SX.

WHERE THE LICENCE IS TIME LIMITED THE DATES

Not applicable

LICENSABLE ACTIVITIES AUTHORISED BY THE LICENCE

- an indoor sporting event
- a performance of live music
- any playing of recorded music
- a performance of dance
- the sale by retail of alcohol

THE TIMES THE LICENCE AUTHORISES THE CARRYING OUT OF LICENSABLE ACTIVITIES

Activity (and Area if applicable)	Description	Time From	Time To
C. Indoor sporting event	Monday to Thursday	11:00am	Midnight
	Friday and Saturday	11:00am	1:00am
	Sunday	Noon	11:30pm
E. Performance of live music (Indoors)	Monday to Thursday	11:00am	Midnight
	Friday and Saturday	11:00am	1:00am
	Sunday	Noon	11:30pm
F. Playing of recorded music (Indoors)	Monday to Thursday	11:00am	Midnight
	Friday and Saturday	11:00am	1:00am
	Sunday	Noon	Midnight
G. Performance of dance (Indoors)	Monday to Thursday	11:00am	Midnight
	Friday and Saturday	11:00am	1:00am
	Sunday	Noon	11:30pm
M. The sale by retail of alcohol for consumption ON and OFF the premises	Monday to Thursday	11:00am	12:30am
	Friday and Saturday	11:00am	1:00am
	Sunday	Noon	11:30pm

THE OPENING HOURS OF THE PREMISES

Description	Time From	Time To
Monday to Thursday	11:00am	12:30am
Friday and Saturday	11:00am	1:00am





Licensing Act 2003

Premises Licence**LPA0445****THE OPENING HOURS OF THE PREMISES continued ...**

Description	Time From	Time To
Sunday	Noon	11:30pm

WHERE THE LICENCE AUTHORISES SUPPLIES OF ALCOHOL WHETHER THESE ARE ON AND / OR OFF SUPPLIES

- M. The sale by retail of alcohol for consumption ON and OFF the premises

Part 2

NAME, (REGISTERED) ADDRESS, TELEPHONE NUMBER AND EMAIL (WHERE RELEVANT) OF HOLDER OF PREMISES LICENCE

Cheshire Retail NW Ltd

135 Higher Parr Street, St.Helens, Merseyside, WA9 1DA.

REGISTERED NUMBER OF HOLDER, FOR EXAMPLE COMPANY NUMBER, CHARITY NUMBER (WHERE APPLICABLE)

Cheshire Retail NW Ltd

06653474

NAME, ADDRESS AND TELEPHONE NUMBER OF DESIGNATED PREMISES SUPERVISOR WHERE THE PREMISES LICENCE AUTHORISES THE SUPPLY OF ALCOHOL

Steven William HEWITT

PERSONAL LICENCE NUMBER AND ISSUING AUTHORITY OF PERSONAL LICENCE HELD BY DESIGNATED PREMISES SUPERVISOR WHERE THE PREMISES LICENCE AUTHORISES FOR THE SUPPLY OF ALCOHOL

Licence No. [REDACTED]

Issued by [REDACTED]

ANNEXESDefinitions:

"Act" means the Licensing Act 2003

"Application" means the Application for this Licence submitted by or on behalf of the Holder

"Holder" means the Licence Holder named on this Licence

"Licensing Authority" means Halton Borough Council

"Operating Schedule" means the Operating Schedule accompanying the Application

THIS LICENCE CONSTITUTES A NEW LICENCE AS DEFINED IN THE ACT

The Holder shall comply with the following conditions:

A Alteration of details relating to this Licence

No details set out on this Licence shall be altered without the consent of the Licensing Authority

B Compliance with the Operating Schedule



Licensing Act 2003

LPA0445

Premises Licence

ANNEXES continued ...

The Holder shall comply with the Operating Schedule and the details set out in the Application except as varied or inconsistent with anything set out in this Licence

C Conditions agreed by the Holder during the Licence application process

TRADING STANDARDS

Protection of Children from Harm;

- All children to be accompanied by an identified responsible adult at all times.
- All children off premises by 20.00.
- Premises to operate a 'Challenge 25' system operating a refusals register.

REFUSALS REGISTER

An alcohol sales refusal register shall be kept at the premises, in either written form or electronically, and be maintained to include

details of all alcohol sales refused. The register will include:

- i. the date and time of refusal
- ii. the reason for refusal
- iii. details of the person refusing the sale
- iv. description of the customer
- v. any other relevant observations.

The refusals register will be made available for inspection and copying on request of an authorised officer of a Responsible Authority.

The refusals register to be examined and signed off by DPS at least on a monthly basis. Any corrective action to be noted in register.

CHESHIRE POLICE

Prevention of Crime & Disorder

A CCTV system shall be used and shall be designed and installed in accordance with the Cheshire Constabulary's CCTV guidance document called 'CCTV in Licensed Premises - An Operational Requirement'. This system shall be in operation at all times when licensable activities are taking place.

Recorded CCTV images will be maintained and stored for a period of twenty-eight days.

A staff member from the premises who is conversant with the operation of the CCTV system shall be on the premises at all times when the premises are open to the public. This staff member shall be able to show/provide footage to a Police officer or an authorised officer of the licensing authority data or footage upon request.





Licensing Act 2003

Premises Licence

LPA0445

ANNEXES continued ...

Designated supervisors will need to demonstrate that their CCTV system complies with their Operational requirements. They will need to be able to demonstrate the following:-

- Recordings are fit for their intended purpose,
- Good quality images are presented to the officer in a format that can be replayed on a standard computer
- The supervisor has an understanding of the equipment/training,
- Management records are kept,
- Maintenance agreements and records are maintained,
- Data Protection principles and signage are in place.

The applicant has not offered any age verification scheme, so in order to enhance the conditions already offered under the protection of children from harm, the following conditions are to apply:

Protection of Children from Harm

A "Challenge 25" policy shall be operated at the premises at all times.

The only forms of ID that shall be accepted (at the discretion of the Management) as proof of age are a valid passport, a valid photographic driving licence, a PASS approved proof of age card, HM Services Warrant Card or other reliable photo ID (that has been approved for acceptance by the Police or an Officer of the Local Authority)

Publicity materials notifying customers of the operation of the "Challenge 25" scheme shall be displayed at the premises.

The Designated Premises Supervisor or Premises Licence Holder shall operate and maintain an up-to-date Register of Refusals of Sale of Alcohol, indicating the date, time and reason for refusal which shall be made available for inspection by Local Authority Officers and the Police.

The DPS or other responsible person shall check and sign the register once a week.

Alternatively an electronic point of sale refusals log shall be kept.

A documented training programme shall be introduced for all staff in a position to sell, serve or deliver alcohol. A written record for each member of staff shall be kept of the content of such training and shall be made available for inspection at the request of Local Authority Officers and Police. The DPS or Premises Licence Holder shall conduct six monthly training reviews with all members of staff authorised to sell, serve or deliver alcohol in order to reinforce the training and to promote best practice. A written record for each member of staff shall be kept of the content of such reviews and shall be made available for inspection at the request of Local Authority Officers and Police.

A list of persons authorised to sell alcohol shall be kept on site and made available for inspection at the





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request of Local Authority Officers and Police.

Clearly visible signage is to be displayed at the entrances and at points of sale indicating it is illegal to sell alcohol to people under the age of 18.

D Conditions consistent with the Operating Schedule

D - Display of Licence

D1 The Summary Licence or a certified copy of that summary must be prominently displayed at the premises whenever the premises are being used for one or more licensable activities authorised by the licence.

D2 A notice specifying the position held at the premises by any person nominated for the purposes S 57 (2) of the LA 2003 (which relates to the keeping at the premises of the premises licence or a certified copy of it) must be prominently displayed at the premises whenever the premises are being used for one or more licensable activities authorised by the licence.

D3 Whenever the premises are being used for one or more licensable activities authorised by the licence a constable or an authorised officer may require any person referred to in D2 as the person nominated for the purposes of S 57 (2) L A 2003 to produce the premises licence or a certified copy of it.

E Mandatory Conditions

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.

Every supply of alcohol under the premises licence must be made or authorised by a person who holds a personal licence.

2. (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





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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 carried 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 carried 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).

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

4. (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

5. The responsible person must ensure that-

(a) Where any of the following alcoholic drink 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) is available to customers in the following measure-

- (i) Beer or cider, ½ pint
- (ii) Gin, rum, vodka or whisky: 25ml or 35ml, and
- (iii) Still wine in a glass: 125ml





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(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.

6. 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.

F Miscellaneous conditions

N/A

G Pre-existing conditions

N/a

H Plans

The unreferenced plan submitted with the application form dated 20th September 2021 form part of this licence.

Conditions consistent with Operating Schedule on the application dated 20 September 2021

General

Making sure staff & customer are aware of rules and kept safe at all times. Personal Licence Holder on site at all times. H & S and risk assessments completed with staff first aid equipment on site.

Prevention of Crime and disorder

- CCTV on all public areas
- Join pub watch
- Work with other pubs & landlords
- Regular contact with local police
- External lighting
- Be aware of customers drinking habits
- Zero tolerance on drugs
- CCTV notice displayed
- Equipment on at all times

Public Safety

- External lights





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- Car park lights
- Fire safety notices
- Allergy notices
- Active fire alarm
- Emergency exit lighting
- Wet floor signs/trip hazards
- Be aware of capacity and make sure enforced
- Complete fire risk assessments
- Event of fire notices displayed
- Fire drill
-

Prevention of Public Nuisance

- Notices informing customers to respect neighbours keeping noise down
- Closing smoking areas at reasonable times
- Remove bottles & glasses removed from public area

Protection of children from harm

- No children on site after 20:00
- No children on site unless with responsible adult
- Children must be accounted for during all time
- Special effects inc smoke, dry ice not used when children on site

NON STANDARD / SEASONAL TIMINGS

None





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Premises Licence Summary

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Premises Details

POSTAL ADDRESS OF PREMISES, OR IF NONE, ORDNANCE SURVEY MAP REFERENCE OR DESCRIPTION

BLUNDELL ARMS

Hale Road, Widnes, Cheshire, WA8 8SX.

WHERE THE LICENCE IS TIME LIMITED THE DATES

Not applicable

LICENSABLE ACTIVITIES AUTHORISED BY THE LICENCE

- an indoor sporting event
- a performance of live music
- any playing of recorded music
- a performance of dance
- the sale by retail of alcohol

THE TIMES THE LICENCE AUTHORISES THE CARRYING OUT OF LICENSABLE ACTIVITIES

Activity (and Area if applicable)	Description	Time From	Time To
C. Indoor sporting event	Monday to Thursday	11:00am	Midnight
	Friday and Saturday	11:00am	1:00am
	Sunday	Noon	11:30pm
E. Performance of live music (Indoors)	Monday to Thursday	11:00am	Midnight
	Friday and Saturday	11:00am	1:00am
	Sunday	Noon	11:30pm
F. Playing of recorded music (Indoors)	Monday to Thursday	11:00am	Midnight
	Friday and Saturday	11:00am	1:00am
	Sunday	Noon	Midnight
G. Performance of dance (Indoors)	Monday to Thursday	11:00am	Midnight
	Friday and Saturday	11:00am	1:00am
	Sunday	Noon	11:30pm
M. The sale by retail of alcohol for consumption ON and OFF the premises	Monday to Thursday	11:00am	12:30am
	Friday and Saturday	11:00am	1:00am
	Sunday	Noon	11:30pm

THE OPENING HOURS OF THE PREMISES

Description	Time From	Time To
Monday to Thursday	11:00am	12:30am
Friday and Saturday	11:00am	1:00am





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Premises Licence Summary

THE OPENING HOURS OF THE PREMISES continued ...

Description	Time From	Time To
Sunday	Noon	11:30pm

WHERE THE LICENCE AUTHORISES SUPPLIES OF ALCOHOL WHETHER THESE ARE ON AND / OR OFF SUPPLIES

- M. The sale by retail of alcohol for consumption ON and OFF the premises

NAME, (REGISTERED) ADDRESS OF HOLDER OF PREMISES LICENCE

Cheshire Retail NW Ltd 135 Higher Parr Street, St.Helens, Merseyside, WA9 1DA.

REGISTERED NUMBER OF HOLDER, FOR EXAMPLE COMPANY NUMBER, CHARITY NUMBER (WHERE APPLICABLE)

Cheshire Retail NW Ltd 06653474

NAME OF DESIGNATED PREMISES SUPERVISOR WHERE THE PREMISES LICENCE AUTHORISES THE SUPPLY OF ALCOHOL

Steven William HEWITT

STATE WHETHER ACCESS TO THE PREMISES BY CHILDREN IS RESTRICTED OR PROHIBITED

Not applicable



Representation Form.

Responsible Authority.

POLICE

Your Name	Lesley Halliday
Job Title	Police Licensing Officer
Postal and email address	Warrington Police Station, Charles Stewart House, 75-77 Market Street, Warrington, WA1 1NF
Contact telephone number	

Name of the premises you are making a representation about.	Blundell Arms
Address of the premises you are making a representation about.	Hale Road, Widnes, WA8 8SX

Which of the four licensing Objectives does your representation relate to? Please state yes or no.	Yes Or No	Please detail the evidence supporting your representation. Or the reason for your representation. Please use separate sheets if necessary
The Prevention of harm to children	Yes	See below
To prevent Public Nuisance	Yes	See below
To prevent crime and disorder	Yes	See below
Public Safety		

Suggested conditions that could be added to the licence to remedy your representation or other suggestions you would like the Licensing Sub Committee to take into account. Please use separate sheets where necessary and refer to checklist.	See Below:
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COMMENTS:

On behalf of Cheshire Police, I wish to record an objection to the application to transfer the premises licence for the premises known as the Blundell Arms, Hale Road, Widnes, WA8 8SX.

The transfer application is seeking to transfer the licence from the landlord Mr Navin Soni's company Cheshire Retail NW Ltd to Lorraine ASHTON.

Mr Soni has spoken to HBC Licensing Enforcement officer Craig Ward and stated that Ms ASHTON is not named on the lease for the premises, the lease is in a company name Mollies Bar Ltd, which has 2 directors Mr Steven Hewitt and Mr Ben Longman.

Mr Hewitt has previously made an application to transfer the premises into his name on 10/06/2025 and due to the lack of compliance and poor management of the premises an objection was made by Cheshire Police and the application was later withdrawn.

I believe that this transfer of the licence to Ms Ashton is an attempt to circumvent the action plan that has recently been agreed with Mr Hewitt to attempt to bring the premises into compliance. Following this application Mr Ward made Ms Ashton aware of the action plan and that it still applied even if the transfer was granted, and it would become her responsibility. Mr Hewitt contacted Mr Ward following this saying that he was no longer involved with the premises, and he didn't see why the action plan would still apply. As per the tenancy agreement I would argue that Mr Hewitt is still very much involved in the operation of the business.

It is also worth noting that police officers attended the premises on 07/06/2025 at 19:56 there were approx. 10 customers at the premises and one male was subject to a Section 23 Stop Search, although nothing was found. All toilets tested positive for cocaine use.

There was no personal licence holder on duty at the time of the visit, which is a requirement of the premises licence, which both Mr Hewitt and Mr Longman have been made aware of.



The Constabulary would therefore ask the licensing committee to refuse this transfer application.

Signed:

Lestey Halliday

Date: 18/06/2025

Notice under Section 37 (5) Licensing Act 2003

Following an application to vary a licence to specify an individual as a premises supervisor under Section 37 of the Licensing Act 2003.

Your Name	Lesley Halliday
Job Title	Police Licensing Officer
Postal and email address	Warrington Police Station, Charles Stewart House, 55 Museum Street, Warrington WA1 1NE [REDACTED]
Contact telephone number	[REDACTED]

Name of the person the notice refers	Lorraine ASHTON
Address of the person the notice refers	
Name and address of premises subject to the application to vary the DPS	Blundell Arms, Hale Road, Widnes, WA8 8SX

The chief officer of police is satisfied that the exceptional circumstances of the case are such that granting the application to vary the designated premises supervisor would undermine the crime prevention objective.

The broad grounds for such an objection are inter-alia: -

Cheshire Police would like to object to the application to vary the DPS in respect of the above premises.

The grounds for the objection are that the applicant is unsuitable.

I was made aware that Ms Ashton was a duty manager at the premises during a compliance visit on 02/04/2025, although she was not present at the time of the visit. The premises has been non-compliant with the terms of the premises licence for over 12 months and an action plan has recently been agreed with the current DPS Mr Steven Hewitt to try and bring this premises into compliance.

Police officers attended the premises as part of a routine licensing check on 07/06/2025 at 19:56 there were approx. 10 customers at the premises and one male was subject to a Section 23 Stop Search, although nothing was found. All toilets tested positive for cocaine use.

There was no personal licence holder on duty at the time of the visit, which is a requirement of the premises licence, which both Mr Hewitt and Mr Longman have been made aware of.



I believe that this DPS variation to Ms Ashton is an attempt to circumvent the action plan that has recently been agreed with Mr Hewitt to attempt to bring the premises into compliance. Following this application Mr

Ward the council's licensing enforcement officer made Ms Ashton aware of the action plan and that it still applied, and it would become her responsibility to meet the requirements set out in the action plan. Mr Hewitt contacted Mr Ward he was unhappy and claiming that he was no longer involved with the running of the premises, and he didn't see why the action plan would still apply.

Ms Ashton is not named on the tenancy for the premises and is just a manager employed by Mr Hewitt and Mr Longman and I would argue that Mr Hewitt is still very much involved in the running of the premises, and I believe that Ms Ashton would just be the name on the licence with little or no involvement in the day to day operation of the business.

It is the considered view of the Chief Officer of Police that the likely effect of this variation of DPS on the promotion of the licensing objectives would be adverse and it would undermine the Crime and Disorder licensing objective.

Signed: *Lestey Halliday*

Date: 18/06/2025

This form must be returned within the Statutory Period. Generally 14 days from the date of the application was given to the responsible authority.