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Regulatory Sub Committee

Thursday, 13 November 2025 9.30 a.m.
The Board Room - Municipal Building, Widnes

Chief Executive

COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

Councillor Pamela Wallace (Chair)
Councillor Victoria Begg
Councillor Mike Fry

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

The next meeting of the Committee is to be confirmed

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

Part I

REGULATORY SUB COMMITTEE

At a meeting of the Regulatory Sub Committee on Monday, 14 July 2025 at The Board Room - Municipal Building, Widnes

Present: Councillors Wallace (Chair), Fry and K. Loftus

Apologies for Absence: None

Absence declared on Council business: None

Officers present: E. Wilson-Lagan, K. Hesketh and C. Ward (observer)

Also in attendance: Ms. L. Ashton, Mr. B. Longman and Ms. L. Halliday

ITEM DEALT WITH UNDER DUTIES EXERCISABLE BY THE BOARD

Action

EXB3 APPLICATION TO TRANSFER A PREMISES LICENCE AND VARY THE DESIGNATED PREMISES SUPERVISOR - BLUNDELL ARMS, HALE ROAD, WIDNES, WA8 8SX

This is the formal notification of a decision made by Halton Borough Council's Regulatory Sub-Committee at a hearing held under the Licensing Act 2003 ("the Act") on 14 July 2025 in the Boardroom at Municipal Building at 10am.

The hearing was held to hear two applications made by the applicant, Ms Lorraine Ashton, in respect of the Blundell Arms, Hale Road, Widnes, WA8 8SX ("the Premises"). The first application was made under section 42 of the Licensing Act 2003 for the transfer of a Premises Licence. The second application was made under section 37 for a variation of the Designated Premises Supervisor (DPS).

The hearing was triggered as a result of a representation from Cheshire Police to both applications.

In attendance were:-

1. Members of the Regulatory Sub-Committee comprising Cllr Pamela Wallace ("Chair"), Cllr Kath

Loftus and Cllr Mike Fry (collectively referred to as "the Sub-Committee");
2. Ms Lorraine Ashton, ("the Applicant");
3. Mr Ben Longman ("the leaseholder of the Premises");
4. Ms Lesley Halliday ("Police Licensing Officer");
5. Mr Craig Ward ("Licensing Enforcement Officer");
6. Kim Hesketh ("Licensing Manager")
7. Elizabeth Wilson-Lagan ("Legal Adviser").

After the Chair had introduced the parties, the Legal Adviser outlined the procedure to be followed.

DETAILS OF THE APPLICATION

The applications were for a transfer of the premises licence from Cheshire Retail NW Limited to the Applicant and for the variation of the DPS from [redacted] to the Applicant. Both these applications were made with immediate effect at the time of their submissions on 8 June 2025 and 10 June 2025, respectively.

THE HEARING

The Licensing Manager summarised the contents of her report, referring to the appendices which included the Applications (at Appendices A and B) and the Police representations (Appendix C and D). She explained that since the publication of her report, Cheshire Police had submitted witness evidence from Ms Halliday, Special Constable Tobi Booth and Mr Ward. The applicant confirmed that she had received a copy of the witness evidence. Although there was reference to body camera footage, this was not presented to the Committee or the Applicant.

Neither of the parties present had any questions for the Licensing Manager.

The Applicant then presented her case. She explained that she had been in the pub trade for over 58 years and ran pubs for around 30 years, in both England and Wales. During this time she had never had a problem with getting a licence. She stated that she was not aware of the licensing condition requiring a personal licence holder to be on the premises at all times and has never known such a condition in all her years of being in the pub trade. She explained that it was near impossible to comply with the condition.

She stated that she had retired around 16 years ago

but that she had come out of retirement as she had missed the work. She had worked at the Premises for around 3 years. She explained that Mr Longman had taken over the Premises from [redacted] and she was helping the pub out. It was not a very busy pub and the intention was for it to become a community pub with the focus on families and children.

The Applicant had nothing further to say at this stage and the Legal Adviser explained that this was her opportunity to put her case and that she may want to address the issues that the Police had raised. The Applicant handed over to Mr Longman.

Mr Longman explained that he was nervous having never attended a Licensing Committee. He is the leaseholder of the premises and provided a background of his involvement in the Premises. He started as an investor around 12/18 months ago when [redacted] was the Manager. His previous business partner, [redacted], was a nightmare and there was a breakdown in their business relationship. [redacted] is no longer involved in the Premises. He noted the history of the pub and the problems around drugs and underage drinking, but explained that this was before he was involved in the day to day running. He was only ever an investor at this time and [redacted] ran the business for him and [redacted].

Now that he is involved, he wanted to work with the Police Licensing Officer and the Licensing Enforcement Officer. He was not aware of the licence condition requiring someone with a personal licence to be present on the premises at all times or the action plan with [redacted]. In respect of the condition, he also stated was impossible to comply with. It meant the DPS would never have a holiday and, whilst there were 3 members of staff with a personal licence, it would not be financially viable to put anyone else in for the course. The bar itself was not very busy and that condition was a problem for the business. He went on to say that he had emailed the Police Licensing Officer and the Licensing Enforcement Officer asking for a meeting to discuss removing the condition but he had not heard from them. Whilst they told him they did not receive his email, he has it on his phone.

In relation to the applicant, he stated that she was the most experienced DPS that he knew. She is going to be working at the Premises all the time and that he was not going to be there. He is not shying away but wants to work with the Police going forward to ensure compliance.

Questions were then put to the Applicant which were initially answered by Mr Longman. He stated that he would require at least 5 members of staff with a personal licence to run the bar in compliance with the condition which made it impossible for them to operate. Ideally, he wanted that condition removed as the pub does not make that much money and it would not be viable to put that many staff through the personal licence course. He stated that with only 3 DPS's (the Sub-Committee understood this to mean personal licence holders), he may be seen behind the bar to ensure compliance, or even cleaning the toilets, as he would hate to see the bar go under.

When questioned on his level of involvement in the business, Mr Longman confirmed that he was the boss, the leaseholder and that he was hands on and he would do spot visits himself to ensure compliance with the licence going forward. He is the boss that you don't want but he can only deal with issues that he sees. Certainly, staff should not be drinking whilst on duty. He stated it was unfortunate that members of staff have drank alcohol whilst on duty in the past but there was a notice on the wall requiring staff not to drink and it was something he would deal with if he knew about it. The Landlord is Cheshire Retail.

The Applicant stated that she would pay the staff wages from the till and leave a note for Mr Longman. But, overall, he was responsible for the financial booking for the business. He was also responsible for staff training and ensuring there was a personal licence holder on the premises at all times.
The Applicant stated that she loved the business and did not want to be at the committee hearing. She confirmed that she had not received any training whilst working at the Premises but had over 50 years' experience. She stated that she was not familiar with the term "DPS" and asked whether this was new terminology.

She also disputed the Police's evidence that she had been [redacted]. She had left that evening because of personal issues. She drives to and from work and therefore [redacted] as otherwise she could not get home. Mr Longman confirmed that he had said to the Police that she had left because she was [redacted] and was not something he wanted to admit. But then said, she was not on duty at the time. The Applicant also disputed the comment made by Mr Ward that she had [redacted] during his visit on 2 July 2025. She had been sitting at the end of the bar which is where she sits

when not on duty.

When questioned on how she would ensure promotion of the crime prevention objective, she stated that she would do her best. She would not tolerate drugs and bar people. Other than that there wasn't much more she could do. She did not consider it was her responsibility to ensure compliance with the personal licence holder condition.

Ms Halliday then put forward her case. She stated that she had seen the body camera footage of Special Constable Tobi Booth from the compliance visit on 7 June 2025 and could confirm that Mr Longman had said that Ms Ashton had been on duty and had left after [redacted].

She considered that Mr Longman was being economic with the truth when he said that he was not aware of the conditions of the licence, particularly with regards to the requirement for a personal licence holder to be on the premises at all times. This was made known to Mr Longman during the compliance visit on 2 April 2025 which was also followed up in writing. Non-compliance with the licensing conditions had been ongoing for over 18 months which resulted in an action plan being drawn up. Ms Ashton and Mr Longman were made aware of that plan and there has been no engagement to date.

She went on to explain that whenever she has visited the Premises, Ms Aston has not been present and she considered that she was not in control of the business and is just a name on the licence.

Despite the historic problems with drugs, underage drinking and trading outside of hours, nobody was engaging with the Police and ensuring the premises was being ran well. There was no staff training, the refusal register was not being completed or signed off by the DPS as required and the personal licence condition was not being adhered to. Ms Halliday had grave concerns if the applications were granted since Ms Ashton was not in day to day control of the business, [redacted] and the lack of engagement in respect of the issues set out in the action plan.

She also made reference to noise complaints. The Sub-Committee were reminded that it was the crime prevention objective that was the relevant issue.
Ms Halliday confirmed that she had not received an email from Mr Longman about removing the personal licence

condition.

Questions were asked, particularly in respect of Mr Ward's evidence. Given that Ms Aston had not fully addressed Mr Ward's evidence in her submissions, the Sub-Committee gave both parties an additional 5 minutes to deal with this in the interests of fairness. Ms Aston confirmed that she had told Mr Ward it was not her responsibility to ensure that a personal licence holder was on the premises at all times as this was something Mr Longman sorted out. She confirmed that "Sarah" who was taking over from her on the day in question did not have a personal licence.

Both parties summoned up accordingly.

THE DETERMINATION

The Sub-Committee resolved to **REFUSE**:-

1. The application to transfer the premises licence to the Applicant;
2. The application to vary the Designated Premises Supervisor to the Applicant.

REASONS FOR THE DETERMINATION

In making its decision, the Sub-Committee took into consideration the written representations, the witness evidence and the oral statements made at the hearing together with the Council's Statement of Licensing Policy and the Section 182 Guidance.

In particular, the Sub-Committee found that:-

1. The Applicant was not the person carrying on the business or the person with the day to day responsibility for the premises. This was evidenced by the fact that:-

    a. Mr Longman was the boss as per his numerous statements to this effect;
    b. Mr Longman was the leaseholder of the premises;
    c. Mr Longman was responsible for staff training;
    d. Whilst the Applicant paid staff wages from the till, she would leave a note confirming this to Mr Longman;
    e. It was Mr Longman that was responsible for the financial book keeping for the business.
    f. The Applicant confirmed that Mr Longman was responsible for ensuring there was someone with

a personal licence on the premises at all times – therefore he was the one with the responsibility for complying with the licence condition.

g. It was Mr Longman who mainly addressed the committee at the hearing and explained how the premises was run as opposed to the Applicant.

As such, the Sub-Committee did not consider the Applicant to be the appropriate person applying to be the Premises Licence Holder ("PLH") or Designated Premises Supervisor ("DPS").

1. In addition, the Sub-Committee, in looking to the Police as the main source of advice on crime and disorder as set out in the Section 182 Guidance, placed significant weight on the evidence of Ms Halliday and Special Constable Tobi Booth. They accepted that the premises had a history of offences under the Licensing Act 2003 and non-compliance with the licence conditions. Whilst appreciating this was before the Applicant's time as PLH and DPS, the Sub-Committee were not confident that she would be able to ensure compliance with the licence and promote the crime objective going forward given the Applicant's limited responsibility in the business.

2. This was further supported by the fact that:-

    a. The Applicant had been the PLH and DPS since 8 and 10 June respectively but, despite the historic problems and the action plan that had been agreed by the former DPS, she had not familiarised herself with the licensing conditions. in fact, she stated that she was unaware of personal licence holder condition and the Police Licensing Officer confirmed there had been no engagement with her or Mr Ward on the issues identified in the action plan;
    b. During the compliance visit on 2 April 2025, Ms Ashton had stated to Mr Ward that ensuring there was a personal licence holder on site at all times was nothing to do with her despite her being the DPS and this being a condition of the licence. At the hearing, the Applicant accepted that she had said this.
    c. Although the Applicant stated that the condition was unrealistic and wanted to have it removed from the licence, the condition remained live and therefore its non-compliance was an offence under section 136 of the Licensing Act 2003. The

fact that the Applicant, as DPS, did not seek to comply with that condition was concerning.

d. Despite the Applicant having over 50 years' experience in the pub trade, including around 30 years managing pubs, she did not come across as being knowledgeable about the Licensing Act or her duties and responsibilities as a DPS and had not received any recent training or any training during her 3 years working at the Premises.

3. The Sub-Committee noted the Police's concerns as to the suitability of the Applicant in light to the allegations that she had been [redacted] whilst on duty. Although this was hearsay and less weight was therefore attached to it, the Sub-Committee did consider there was some truth in the allegation given that Mr Longman had confirmed at the hearing that he had told officers on 7 June 2025 that Ms Aston had gone home [redacted]. This is further supported by the fact that [redacted] whilst on duty appeared to have been tolerated historically at the Premises and as Mr Ward had also noted the [redacted] on the Applicant at the time of his visit on 2 April 2025. The Sub-Committee therefore has concerns over the Applicant's ability to run the Premises in a safe and responsible manner.

4. The comments of Mr Longman, about moving forward and ensuring compliance have been noted and are welcomed. However, Mr Longman is not the PLH or the DPS and on the evidence before it, the Sub-Committee considers that granting the applications made by the Applicant would undermine the crime prevention objective.

Meeting ended at 12.51 p.m.

REGULATORY SUB COMMITTEE

At a meeting of the Regulatory Sub Committee on Thursday, 28 August 2025 at The Board Room - Municipal Building, Widnes

Present: Councillors Wallace (Chair), Abbott and Fry

Apologies for Absence: None.

Absence declared on Council business: None.

Officers present: E. Wilson-Lagan and C. Ward

Also in attendance: None

ITEM DEALT WITH
UNDER DUTIES
EXERCISABLE BY THE BOARD

REGS4 APPLICATION FOR A PREMISES LICENCE - CAVENDISH STORE, 6 BALFOUR STREET, RUNCORN, WA7 4PH

This is the formal notification of a decision made by Halton Borough Council's Regulatory Sub-Committee at a hearing held under the Licensing Act 2003 ("the Act") on 28 August 2025 in the Boardroom at Municipal Building at 10:30 am.

The hearing was held to hear an application made by Mr Abdullah Waris ("the Applicant") under section 17 of the Act for a premises licence at Cavendish Store, 6 Balfour Street, Runcorn, WA7 4PH ("the Premises"). The hearing was triggered by a representation from local residents, Mr Kenneth and Lisa Smith ("the Objectors"), on the grounds of public nuisance.

In attendance were:-

1. Members of the Regulatory Sub-Committee comprising Cllr Pamela Wallace ("Chair"), Cllr John Abbott and Cllr Mike Fry (collectively referred to as "the Sub-Committee");
2. Mr Tony Clarke ("agent for the Applicant")
3. Mr Craig Ward ("Licensing Enforcement Officer");
4. Elizabeth Wilson-Lagan ("Legal Adviser").

The Applicant was not in attendance, having

previously notified the Council that he would be represented at the hearing by his agent, Mr Tony Clake.

The Objectors failed to attend the hearing and the Sub-Committee heard evidence from Mr Craig Ward that notice of the hearing had been served on the Objectors by post on 25 July 2025. As no response had been received to that letter, a further letter attaching notice of the hearing was hand delivered by the Council's Licensing Manager, Kim Hesketh, on 8th August 2025. The Sub-Committee found that the Objectors had been served with adequate notice of the hearing and, in accordance with Regulation 20 of the Licensing Act 2003 (Hearings) Regulations 2005, determined to hold the hearing in the Objector's absence.

After the Chair had introduced the parties, the Legal Adviser outlined the procedure to be followed.

DETAILS OF THE APPLICATION

The application was for a premises licence for the supply of alcohol from Monday to Sunday between 7 am and 11 pm at the above Premises. A number of conditions were proposed which were detailed further in the operating schedule attached to the application (Appendix C to the Licensing Report).

THE HEARING

The Licensing Enforcement Officer summarised the contents of his report, referring to the appendices which included a map of the location of the Premises (Appendix A), the details of nearby licensed premises, including their licensed hours (Appendix B), the Application (Appendix C) and Objector's joint representation (Appendix D) and relevant sections of the Revised Guidance issued under section 182 of the Licensing Act 2003 (Appendix E)("the Statutory Guidance").

Mr Ward explained that the Premises, which was to become a general grocery store, had previously been occupied by the Runcorn Conservative Club who had held a premises licence for the supply of alcohol and regulated entertainment from 24 November 2005 until 30 November 2024. During this time, the licensable hours for the supply of alcohol were Sunday to Thursday 10 am to midnight and Friday and Saturday 10 am to 2 am. There were also a number of licensed premises within the vicinity, including another grocery store, namely the Co-Op, which was located further along on the same street and had similar licensable

hours to those proposed by the application. He went on to explain that none of the relevant authorities, including Environmental Health, had objected to the application and the only matter before the Sub-Committee was the representation received by the Objectors who objected to the application on the grounds of public nuisance. The crux of their objection was that a further licensed premises would increase noise, litter and loitering. They also mentioned issues with road congestion and parking as well as there being no need for another licensed premises.

Mr Clarke then presented the Applicant's case. He explained that the premises would be a general grocery store and part of a chain selling their own goods. He has known the Applicant for a while and confirms that he has industry knowledge and currently works for another client of his in another store. The Applicant now wants his own business and he is fully supported by his boss in this respect. He was financially committed and, whilst there were outstanding planning issues, he was taking the appropriate steps to obtain the relevant permission.

The application itself was, in his view, robust with appropriate conditions for promoting the licensing objectives. In terms of the licensable hours, he stated that these were respectful and ended earlier than the previous licence which went on until 2 am. There had been no objections from the Police or other responsible authorities. In relation to the resident objection, the conditions dealt with the potential for public nuisance. He explained the nature of the conditions and further emphasised that once people had left the vicinity of the premises, they were responsible for their own behaviour. The premises could only monitor people coming in and out of the premises, for which they also had CCTV in place and would be available to the Police. He also addressed some of the residents other concerns regarding the need for another licence premise and stated that this was a planning issue and not a licensing concept.

Mr Clarke addressed the Sub-Committee's further questions on the licensing hours and staff training.

Given that the Objector's were not in attendance, Mr Ward read out their representation in full.

Mr Clarke then summed up the Applicant's case, following which all parties withdrew from the room for the Sub-Committee to conduct deliberations on the matter.

THE DETERMINATION

The Sub-Committee considered the application, the residents' objection and the oral submissions heard from the Applicant's agent at the hearing.

In doing so, the Sub-Committee resolved to **GRANT** the application for a Premises Licence in respect of the above Premises subject to the hours set out below, the conditions set out in the Operating Schedule and the mandatory conditions:

- The supply of alcohol by retail

Days of Operation	**Hours of Operation**
Monday – Sunday	07:00 to 23:00

- Hours open to the public

Days of Operation	**Hours of Operation**
Monday – Sunday	07:00 to 23:00

REASONS FOR THE DETERMINATION

In reaching its decision, the Sub-Committee have taken into consideration the Licensing Objectives, the statutory guidance and the Council's own Statement of Licensing Policy.

The reasons for the decision were:-

1. Significant weight was placed on the fact that none of the responsible authorities had objected to the application;
2. The Sub-Committee considered that the Applicant was suitably qualified to run the premises in a responsible manner and in promotion of the licensing objectives;
3. In considering the residents' objection, the Sub-Committee noted that matters had been raised that were outside the control of the licensing regime and pertained to planning, such as the "need" for a further licensed premise, congestion and parking issues. These are matters for planning and highways and were not therefore taken into consideration;
4. In terms of the public nuisance element of the objection, the Sub-Committee considered there was a risk for noise, littering and loitering. However, condition 6 (which requires management and staff to use their best endeavours to prevent persons loitering outside the premises and to ensure that persons refused entry or ejected are asked to leave the

vicinity of the premises), condition 7 (which requires prominent, clear and legible notices must be displayed at all exists requesting that customers respect the needs of local residents and to leave the premises and area quietly and to properly dispose of litter), and condition 8 (requiring staff to monitor the area immediately outside the premises on a regular basis to check for, and to properly dispose of any litter from the premises) adequately dealt with those risks;

5. The Statutory Guidance makes it clear the actions of individuals beyond the immediate area surrounding the premises are matters for the personal responsibility of individuals under the law and not the licensed premises. As such, further conditions were not considered necessary or justifiable;
6. In terms of the opening and licensable hours, the Council's own Statement of Licensing Policy states that "with regards to shops, stores and supermarkets, the norm will be for such premises to be free to provide sales of alcohol for consumption off the premises at any times when the retail outlet is open for shopping unless there are very good reasons for restricting those hours". The Sub-Committee did not consider there were good reasons for restricting the hours, further noting that none of the responsible authorities had objected to the hours; and
7. On the whole, the Sub-Committee found the application promoted the licensing objectives.

The Sub-Committee recommended that the applicant and residents engage in dialogue should there be any concerns in future. In the event that the proposed operation of the premises does lead to issues, residents were strongly advised to report matters to the relevant responsible authorities.

There were powers to deal with premises if a licence leads to the licensing objectives being undermined. Not least was the power for residents or responsible authorities to bring review proceedings where steps could be taken to restrict the licence, impose further conditions or, in extreme circumstances, revoke the licence when evidence shows issues result from a licensable activity. Action could also be taken separately by environmental health in relation to statutory noise nuisance, if reported. The Sub-Committee hoped that this brought some reassurance to the residents.

Meeting ended at 12.05 p.m.

REPORT: Regulatory Sub-Committee

DATE: 13 November 2025

REPORTING OFFICER: Director – Legal and Democratic Services

PORTFOLIO: Resources

SUBJECT: Application to Review a Premises Licence – Todays Extra, 78 Albert Road, Widnes, WA8 6JT

WARDS: Appleton

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

To assist the Members of the Regulatory Sub-Committee in their consideration of an application brought by Home Office Immigration Enforcement to Review the Premises Licence for Todays Extra, 78 Albert Road, Widnes.

2. RECOMMENDATION that

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

3. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

3.1 An application has been made by Home Office Immigration Enforcement to Review the Premises Licence for Todays Extra, 78 Albert Road, Widnes.

3.2 The review was requested by Home Office Immigration Enforcement on the 20th August 2025 and pursuant to Section 51 of the Licensing Act 2003 on the grounds that the premises has undermined the licensing objective of the prevention of crime and disorder.

3.3 The premises licence was granted on the 18th January 2021 with Red Cherry Retail Limited being the Premises Licence Holder. On the 19th June 2025 the premises licence was transferred to the current licence holder, Diamond 8 Retail Limited.

4. THE APPLICATION

4.1 The application to review the premises licence for Todays Extra, 78 Albert Road, Widnes was submitted on the 20th August 2025, a copy of the application can be found at **Appendix A** of this report.

4.2 A copy of the current premises licence can be found at **Appendix B** of this report.

4.3 Officers have undertaken checks on Companies House, at the time of writing this report, and can confirm that both the previous premises licence holder (Red Cherry Retail Ltd) and the current Premises Licence Holder Diamond 8 Retail Limited are both active. The DPS is Dinesh Fernando and it is the Home Officer's case that he has connections to both of these companies.

5. REQUIREMENT FOR A HEARING

5.1 The review application was received on the 20th August and was sent to all the Responsible Authorities on the 21st August 2025 with the closing date for comments or representations of the 18th September 2025.

5.2 The required notices advertising the review were displayed on the Premises, Councils Website and at the Council Offices on the 21st August 2025.

5.3 The review application states as follows.

We have grounds to believe the license holder had failed to meet the licensing objectives of prevention of crime and disorder, as illegal working has been identified at this premises.

Section 36 and Schedule 4 of the Immigration Act 2016 (the 2016 Act) amended the Licensing Act 2003 (the 2003 Act) to introduce immigration safeguards in respect of the licensing applications made in England and Wales on or after the 6 April 2017. The intention is to prevent illegal working in premises licensed for the sale of alcohol or late-night refreshment.

The Home Secretary (in practice Home Office (Immigration Enforcement)) was added to the list of Responsible Authorities (RA) in the licensing regime, which requires the Home Office (Immigration Enforcement) to receive premises licence applications (except regulated entertainment only licences and applications to vary a Designated Premises Supervisor

(DPS)), and in some limited circumstances personal licence applications. In carrying out the role of responsible authority, Home Office (Immigration Enforcement) is permitted to make relevant representations and objections to the grant of a licence or request a review of an existing licence as a responsible authority where there is concern that a licence and related licensable activity is prejudicial to the prevent of immigration crime including illegal working.
Please refer to accompanies review pack for detailed information.

5.4 As part of the review submissions on the 20th August 2025, Home Office Immigration Enforcement provided the following supporting documents.

- A case summary,
- Licensed premises history,
- Enforcement visit dated 4th April 2024,
- Enforcement visit dated 18th July 2025,
- Reason for review,
- Outcome sought,
- Appendix – supporting evidence.

5.5 The case summary states that the Home Office Immigration Enforcement visited the premises on the 18th July 2025 for a second time where one illegal worker was encountered.

5.6 The case summary also states that the premises was also visited on the 4th April 2024 (three illegal workers). Illegal working has been a constant theme throughout the two visit, there have been a total of four illegal workers encountered at the premises.

5.7 The Case Summary outlines a civil penalty notice for the sum of £120,000 was issued to Red Cherry Retail Ltd on the 7th May 2024 for employing two individuals who had no right to work in the UK and for employing a third in breach of visa restrictions. Red Cherry Retail Ltd, objected to the penalty, the case has been reconsidered twice but the penalty remains at the same level.

5.8 A formal instalment plan has not been arranged, some payments have been made, the most recent payment being made on the 6th August 2025, the balance remains at £110,000.

5.9 Red Cherry Retail Ltd have applied to be compulsory struck off from Companies Houses on 24th September 2024, the Civil Penalties Team have objected to this and the application was suspended. Red Cherry Retail Ltd then applied to be struck

off again on the 1st July 2025 but again the Civil Penalties objected to this and this application has been suspended, this application was discontinued on the 19th July 2025

5.10 A copy of the review application can be found at **Appendix A** of your report.

5.11 A copy of the supporting documents provided by the Home Office Immigration Enforcement on the 20th August 2025 can be found at **Appendix C** of your report.

5.12 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.

5.13 The hearing is held to consider the application to review the premises licence and the relevant representations received.. These are the representations made by Cheshire Police, Cheshire Fire, and One Ward Councillor.

5.14 At the time of writing this report I have not received any indication from the Cheshire Police, Cheshire Fire, or the Ward Councillor, 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 Fire, Cheshire Police, and One Ward Councillor.

Cheshire Police

Cheshire Constabulary supports the Home Office Immigration Review application which seeks revocation of the premises licence. They advise that, in addition to the immigration offences, they identified breaches of the licence conditions regarding CCTV requirements during their compliance visit on 18 July 2025. This also undermines the prevention of crime and disorder objective.

Attached at **Appendix D** is a copy of the supporting documentation submitted on behalf of Cheshire Police.

Cheshire Fire

Relevant Representations have been received from Cheshire Fire on the grounds of Public Safety. In particular, there appears to be a prohibition notice issued against the premises and Cheshire Fire has concerns that this will be breached in light of the immigration findings. Public Safety objective has not been adequately addressed, attached at **Appendix E** is copy of the objection.

Ward Councillor

One representation was received from a Ward Councillor in support of the withdrawal of the premises licence on the grounds of crime and disorder, namely failing to act in accordance with the Licensing Act/not operating within the law on information from the Home Office.

Attached at **Appendix F** is a copy of the objection.

7. EVIDENCE

In accordance with the normal procedure, it is noted that the relevant representations do not amount to evidence. The objectors have been requested to supply the evidence they intend to rely on no later than 5 working days prior to the hearing. When received this will be forwarded to the applicant and members of the committee.

8. LEGAL AND POLICY FRAMEWORK

8.1. The Sub-Committee must determine the application with a view to promoting the licensing objectives which are:

- The prevention of crime and disorder;
- The prevention of public nuisance;
- Public Safety;
- The protection of children from harm.

8.2. In making its decision, the Sub-Committee must also have regard to the national guidance issued under section 182 of the Licensing Act 2003 (“the Guidance”) and the Council’s Statement of Licensing Policy (“Policy”).

8.3. Relevant sections from the Guidance can be found at **Appendix G**.

9. OPTIONS

9.1 The Sub-Committee has the following options under Section 52 of the Act;

(1) To modify the conditions of the premises licence,
(2) To exclude licensable activity from the scope of the licence,
(3) To remove the designated premises supervisor,
(4) To suspend the licence for a period not exceeding 3 months,
(5) To revoke the licence.

10. POLICY IMPLICATIONS

10.1 None

11. FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

11.1 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.

12. IMPLICATIONS FOR THE COUNCIL'S PRIORITIES

12.1 Improving Health, Promoting Wellbeing and Supporting Greater Independence

None

12.2 Building a Strong, Sustainable Local Economy

None

12.3 Supporting Children, Young People and Families

None

12.4 Tackling Inequality and Helping Those Who Are Most In Need

None

12.5 Working Towards a Greener Future

None

12.6 Valuing and Appreciating Halton and Our Community

None

13. RISK ANALYSIS

13.1. 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.

14. EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY ISSUES

14.1 There are no equality and diversity issues to highlight.

15. CLIMATE CHANGE IMPLICATIONS

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

16. 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

Licensing Authority: Halton Borough Council
By Email : legalservices@halton.gov.uk

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 Home Office Immigration Enforcement

apply for the review of a premises licence under section 51 / apply for the review of a club premises certificate under section 87 of the Licensing Act 2003 for the premises described in Part 1 below

Part 1 – Premises or club premises details

Todays Extra 78 Albert Road Widnes	
Post town Chesire	Post code WA8 6JT

Name of premises licence holder or club holding club premises certificate (if known)
Diamond 8 Retail Ltd

Number of premises licence or club premises certificate (if known)
LPA0436

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

Home Office Immigration Enforcement Alcohol Licensing Team 6th Floor, 2 Ruskin Square Dingwall Road Croydon CR0 2WF
Telephone number (if any)
E-mail address (optional) ie.licensing.reviews@homeoffice.gov.uk

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

	Please tick one or more boxes ✓
1) the prevention of crime and disorder	☒
2) public safety	☐
3) the prevention of public nuisance	☐
4) the protection of children from harm	☐

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

Grounds for review:
We have grounds to believe the license holder has failed to meet the licensing objectives of prevention of crime and disorder, as illegal working has been identified at this premises.

Section 36 and Schedule 4 of the Immigration Act 2016 (the 2016 Act) amended the Licensing Act 2003 (the 2003 Act) to introduce immigration safeguards in respect of licensing applications made in England and Wales on or after 6 April 2017. The intention is to prevent illegal working in premises licensed for the sale of alcohol or late-night refreshment.

The Home Secretary (in practice Home Office (Immigration Enforcement)) was added to the list of Responsible Authorities (RA) in the licensing regime, which requires Home Office (Immigration Enforcement) to receive premises licence applications (except regulated entertainment only licences and applications to vary a Designated Premises Supervisor (DPS)), and in some limited circumstances personal licence applications. In carrying out the role of responsible authority, Home Office (Immigration Enforcement) is permitted to make relevant representations and objections to the grant of a licence or request a review of an existing licence as a responsible authority where there is concern that a licence and related licensable activity is prejudicial to the prevention of immigration crime including illegal working.

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

Please refer to accompanied review pack for detailed information

Please tick ✓

yes

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

If yes, please state the date of that application

Day		Month		Year			

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 **S Prashar**

……

Date **20 August 2025**

……

Capacity **Responsible Authority**

……

Contact name (where not previously given) and postal address for correspondence associated with this application (please read guidance note 6) **Alcohol Licensing Team** **2 Ruskin Square** **Dingwall Road**	
Post town **Croydon**	**Post Code** **CR0 2WF**
Telephone number (if any)	
If you would prefer us to correspond with you using an e-mail address your e-mail address (optional) ie.licensing.reviews@homeoffice.gov.uk	

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 B

HALTON BOROUGH COUNCIL

Licensing Act 2003

Premises Licence

LPA0436

Part 1 - Premises Details

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

Todays Extra

78 Albert Road, Wdnes, Cheshire, WA8 6JT.

WHERE THE LICENCE IS TIME LIMITED THE DATES

Not applicable

LICENSABLE ACTIVITIES AUTHORISED BY THE LICENCE

- provision of late night refreshment
- 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
L. Late night refreshment (Indoors)			
	Monday to Thursday	11:00pm	Midnight
	Friday and Saturday	11:00pm	1:00am
	Sunday	11:00pm	Midnight
M. The sale by retail of alcohol for consumption OFF the premises only			
	Monday to Thursday	6:00am	Midnight
	Friday and Saturday	6:00am	1:00am
	Sunday	6:00am	Midnight

THE OPENING HOURS OF THE PREMISES

Description	Time From	Time To
Monday to Thursday	6:00am	Midnight
Friday and Saturday	6:00am	1:00am
Sunday	6:00am	Midnight

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

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

Part 2

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

Diamond 8 Retail Ltd

16 Glenbank Close, Liverpool, L9 2NR.

HALTON BOROUGH COUNCIL

Licensing Act 2003

Premises Licence

LPA0436

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

Diamond 8 Retail Ltd 15732649

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

Dinesh FERNANDO [redacted]

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]

ANNEXES

Definitions:
"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
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 in the application dated 17 December 2020.
None

Conditions consistent with the Operating Schedule

Prevention of crime and disorder

A CCTV camera system capable of providing evidential quality images in all lighting conditions shall be used covering the interior and the immediate exterior (entrance) of the shop. Images will be retained for a period of at least 28 days and be made available to the Police upon request within a reasonable time

HALTON BOROUGH COUNCIL

Licensing Act 2003

Premises Licence

LPA0436

ANNEXES continued ...

period.

The CCTV recording equipment shall be kept in a secure environment under the control of the premises licence holder (PLH) and/or another named responsible individual.

A staff training scheme shall be used for all staff authorised to sell alcohol. The training will cover the importance of preventing under age sales and complying with licence conditions. Refresher training will be provided every 12 months, records will be kept and be made available to responsible authorities

All staff selling alcohol shall be authorised to sell alcohol in writing and a record of the authorisation will be kept in the shop for inspection.

The PLH and staff will be vigilant and monitor the area immediately outside the shop to check that youths do not cause annoyance by congregating.

Spirits will be kept behind the counter.

Any incidents of crime and disorder at or immediately outside the premises, witnessed by staff, will be recorded in an incident book kept at the premises. This book will be kept in the shop and available for inspection.

The premises shall operate an alcohol refusals policy - alcohol will not be sold to;

(1) Any person recognised or identified as a street drinker (regardless of their level of inebriation at the time);

(2) Any person found to be drinking alcohol in the street;

(3) Any person who is drunk or appears to be drunk;

(4) Any person suspected of trying to buy alcohol for another person who is drunk or appears to be drunk;

(5) Any person unable to provide valid ID when requested by staff;

(6) Any person who is verbally or physically abusive towards staff or customers.

(7) To any person suspected of trying to buy alcohol for another person(s) who may be under age.

A notice advising customers of the refusals policy shall be on display.

'Crimestoppers' promotional material will be on display to promote the initiative.

Public safety

HALTON BOROUGH COUNCIL

Licensing Act 2003

Premises Licence

LPA0436

ANNEXES continued ...

Appropriate fire safety equipment to be available, and the PLH shall comply with other legislative requirements to ensure that the shop is safe for customers and staff.

Prevention of public nuisance

Deliveries to the premises will be arranged so as not to cause will not lead to any public nuisance.

Notices shall be on display in the premises asking customers to leave the premises quietly.

Staff will monitor the area immediately outside the premises on a regular basis to check for, and to properly dispose of, any litter from the premises.

Protection of children from harm

Anyone who appears to be under 21 years old who attempts to purchase alcohol will be asked to prove their age by producing an acceptable form of photographic ID such as a passport, photo driving licence, military ID and PASS accredited proof of age cards.

Challenge 21 posters shall be on display in the shop.

A refusals register (for the sale of alcohol) will be kept and be available for inspection by responsible authorities.

Notices shall be displayed in the premises where they can be seen clearly to advise customers that it is unlawful for persons under 18 to purchase alcohol or for any persons to purchase alcohol on behalf of a person under 18 years of age.

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.

HALTON BOROUGH COUNCIL

Licensing Act 2003

Premises Licence

LPA0436

ANNEXES continued ...

E Mandatory Conditions

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.

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

2.-(1) The premises licence holder or club premises certificate holder shall ensure that an age verification policy applies to the premises in relation to the sale or supply of alcohol.

(2) 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 a holographic mark.

F Miscellaneous conditions

NONE

G Pre-existing conditions

N/a

H Plans

The Plan(s) submitted with the Application referenced PICT05 dated 04 November 2020 form part of this Licence

SEASONAL AND NON STANDARD TIMINGS

For the categories Late Night Refreshment, The Supply of Alcohol and Hours the premises are open to the public the hours shall be -

An extra hour on Bank Holidays, Christmas Eve, New Year's Eve and Sundays immediately preceding a Bank Holiday Monday

HALTON BOROUGH COUNCIL

Licensing Act 2003

Premises Licence

LPA0436

HALTON BOROUGH COUNCIL

Licensing Act 2003

Premises Licence Summary

LPA0436

Premises Details

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

Todays Extra

78 Albert Road, Wdnes, Cheshire, WA8 6JT.

WHERE THE LICENCE IS TIME LIMITED THE DATES

Not applicable

LICENSABLE ACTIVITIES AUTHORISED BY THE LICENCE

- provision of late night refreshment
- 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
L. Late night refreshment (Indoors)			
	Monday to Thursday	11:00pm	Midnight
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	Sunday	11:00pm	Midnight
M. The sale by retail of alcohol for consumption OFF the premises only			
	Monday to Thursday	6:00am	Midnight
	Friday and Saturday	6:00am	1:00am
	Sunday	6:00am	Midnight

THE OPENING HOURS OF THE PREMISES

Description	Time From	Time To
Monday to Thursday	6:00am	Midnight
Friday and Saturday	6:00am	1:00am
Sunday	6:00am	Midnight

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

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

NAME, (REGISTERED) ADDRESS OF HOLDER OF PREMISES LICENCE

Diamond 8 Retail Ltd — 16 Glenbank Close, Liverpool, L9 2NR.

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

Diamond 8 Retail Ltd — 15732649

HALTON BOROUGH COUNCIL

Licensing Act 2003

Premises Licence Summary

LPA0436

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

[redacted]

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

Not applicable

APPENDIX C

Home Office

Premises Licence Review

Todays Extra
78 Albert Road
Widnes
Cheshire
WA8 6JT

Contents

Case Summary

On 18 July 2025, officers from North West ICE visited Todays Extra, 78 Albert Road, Widnes, WA8 6JT for a second time where one illegal worker was encountered. This was a multi-agency visit, North West ICE were accompanied by the police and licensing officers from Halton Borough Council.

The premises was also visited on 04 April 2024 (three illegal workers). Illegal working has been a constant theme throughout the two visits, there have been a total of four illegal workers encountered at the premises.

Civil Penalty - 04 April 2024 Enforcement Visit

A £120,000 civil penalty was issued to Red Cherry Retail Ltd on 07 May 2024 for employing two individuals who had no right-to-work in the UK and for employing a third in breach of visa restrictions.

Red Cherry Retail Ltd objected to the penalty. The case was reconsidered, and on 23 July 2024 it was decided to maintain the penalty at £120,000. Red Cherry Retail Ltd then submitted further evidence. The case was reconsidered, and on 13 September 2024 the penalty was maintained at the same level.

Although a formal instalment plan has not been arranged, some payments have been made. The most recent payment was made on 06 August 2025. £110,000 of the civil penalty remains outstanding.

An application was made for Red Cherry Retail Ltd to be compulsory struck off from Companies House on 24 September 2024. The Civil Penalties Team objected to this, and the application was suspended. A new application was discontinued on 08 March 2025. A new application was made for Red Cherry Retail Ltd to be compulsory struck off from Companies House on 01 July 2025. Civil Penalties objected to this again and the application was suspended. The application was discontinued on 19 July 2025.

Civil Penalty - 18 July 2025 Enforcement Visit

A referral has been sent to Civil Penalty Compliance Team and is currently awaiting consideration.

Licensed Premises History

The premises licence number is LPA0436 issued by Halton Borough Council and is held by Diamond 8 Retail Ltd. Dinesh FERNANDO is listed as the DPS with personal licence number PA061929 issued by Liverpool Council.

The premises licence was originally issued on 18 January 2021, there has been a change of the premises licence holder from Red Cherry Retail Ltd to Diamond 8 Retail Ltd, the date of change was the 19 June 2025.

Todays Extra is listed on Companies House under the trading name Red Cherry Retail Ltd. The company registration number is 09119784. Companies House shows that Red Cherry Retail Ltd was incorporated on 07 July 2014, is currently active and Dinesh FERNANDO is listed as the director who was appointed on 01 January 2024.

Companies House records show that Diamond 8 Retail with company registration number 15732649 was incorporated on 21 May 2024. This is currently active with Warnakulasuriya Nicola Nancy FERNANDO listed as the company director. Records show that Dinesh FERNANDO was listed as a person with significant control, but these rights were ceased on 19 June 2024.

In summary, two limited companies have an interest in this premises. Dinesh FERNANDO has connections to both.

The premises is licensed for the sale of alcohol for consumption off the premises only between:

Monday to Thursday	6:00am – Midnight
Friday and Saturday	6:00am – 1:00am
Sunday	6:00am – Midnight

The premises is licensed for sale of late-night refreshments between:

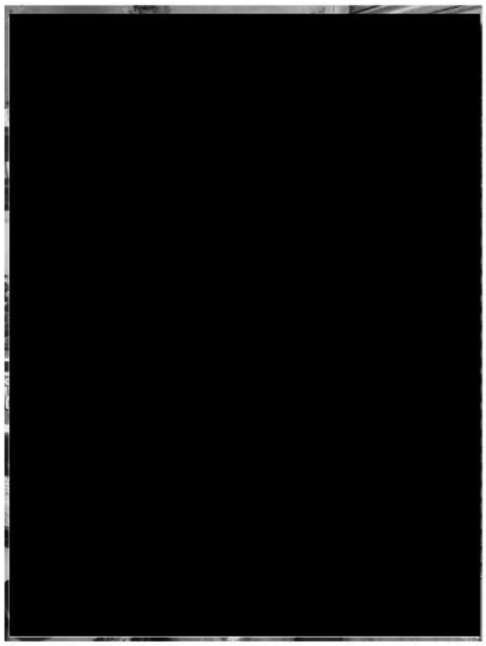
Monday to Thursday	11:00pm – Midnight
Friday and Saturday	11:00am – 1:00am
Sunday	11:00pm – Midnight

Enforcement Visit: 04 April 2024

Entry was gained to the premises at approximately 15:15 under Section 179 of the Licensing Act 2003. Upon entering, immigration officers encountered the following individuals, who were identified as working illegally and arrested,

[redacted]

As officers gained entry [redacted] was encountered working in the storage area, he was wearing a uniform at the time and attempted to evade officers by exiting via the rear shutter.



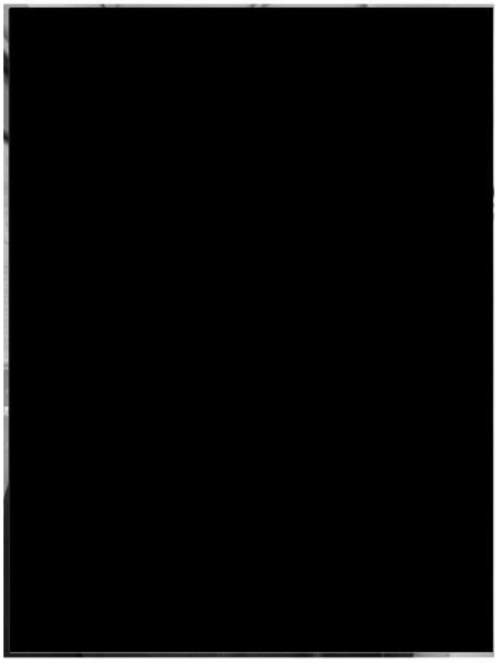
[redacted] encountered in uniform

An illegal working interview was conducted with the assistance of an interpreter. [redacted] stated he had worked at the premises for approximately four months, undertaking duties such as floor work and tasks in the storage room. [redacted] claimed he works four days per week, five hours each day, under instructions from manager, [redacted]. [redacted] stated he was paid in cash at a rate of £6.50 per hour. [redacted] confirmed that no checks were made regarding right-to-work or immigration status prior to employment. When questioned whether the employer was aware of his lack of work permission, [redacted] indicated that [redacted] had requested identification, which he was unable to provide.

Home Office checks showed [redacted] entered the UK in April 2022 and claimed for protection. His claim was withdrawn due to noncompliance in September 2023. No outstanding application at the time of the enforcement visit. [redacted] has never held the right to work in the UK.

[redacted]

Upon gaining entry, [redacted] was encountered working behind the till serving customers. It must be noted [redacted] was wearing a uniform when encountered.



[redacted] encountered in uniform.

An illegal working interview was conducted with [redacted]. He admitted working at the premises for nine months. His primary duties involved serving customers behind the till. [redacted] stated that he typically works Monday to Saturday, averaging seven to eight hours per day. [redacted] claimed his working schedule remained mostly consistent week to week, and that he is given occasional time off when needed.

When asked who provided him with the job, he identified Dinesh, the manager, as the person responsible. Dinesh also determined the days and hours required to work. Daily tasks and duties were assigned by any manager on shift. [redacted] stated he was paid in cash weekly, receiving £6.50 per hour.

Regarding right-to-work checks, [redacted] claimed to have shown his Application Registration Card (ARC) indicating that work is permitted under the Shortage Occupation List.

Home Office checks showed [redacted] entered the UK on a visit visa issued in July 2019. He then claimed for protection in October 2021, with an outcome pending at the time of the enforcement visit. [redacted] bail conditions did not permit him to work

outside of the Shortage occupation List. The Shortage Occupation List (SOL), replaced by the Immigration Salary List (ISL) in 2025, identifies jobs where there is a recognised shortage of skilled workers. Working as a shop assistant is not on this list. [redacted] was found working in breach of bail conditions.

[redacted]

As immigration officers gained entry [redacted] was encountered in a back storeroom located at the premises. It must be noted [redacted] was wearing a uniform at the time of the encounter.

Home Office checks showed prior to the enforcement visit date there was no record of [redacted] on any Home Office databases. During his arrest [redacted] claimed he entered the UK illegally via Ireland, after entering Ireland in 2023 on a seaman's visa. [redacted] was an illegal entrant in to the UK and did not hold any right to work.

Dinesh FERNANDO – Designated Premises Supervisor (DPS)

An illegal working interview was conducted with FERNANDO after he identified himself as the director of the premises. FERNANDO stated he has held the position of director since January 2024 and had been managing the business since its opening in 2022.

When asked about staff payments, FERNANDO confirmed that he pays all employees, and they are paid weekly in cash. FERNANDO was questioned in relation to all three illegal workers.

FERNANDO stated [redacted] had worked at the premises for approximately six months. He is paid £7.50 per hour, working six days a week for eight hours each day. FERNANDO stated that he requested identification from [redacted] and was shown a BRP card which indicated that work was permitted. However, no further right-to-work checks were conducted to verify conditions or authenticity of the BRP, FERNANDO also admitted he was unaware of the Shortage Occupation List.

FERNANDO stated [redacted] has also been working at the premises for around six months. He receives the same rate of pay—£7.50 per hour—and works the same schedule as [redacted]. His wages are paid weekly in cash. FERNANDO confirmed that [redacted] presented an Indian passport as proof of identity, and no further checks were conducted to confirm his right-to-work in the UK.

FERNANDO stated [redacted] had worked at the premises for approximately eight months. He is paid £7.50 per hour, working six days a week for eight hours a day, with payments made weekly in cash. FERNANDO stated that [redacted] provided an

Indian passport as identification. When asked whether he was aware that [redacted] and [redacted] are not permitted to work in the UK, FERNANDO responded that he had only checked their passports and did not conduct any right to work checks.

Enforcement Visit: 18 July 2025

Entry was gained to the premises at approximately 12:15 under fully informed consent. Upon entering, immigration officers encountered the following individual, who was identified as working illegally and arrested.

[redacted]

As immigration officers gained entry, [redacted] was observed working behind the counter serving customers.

An illegal working interview was conducted with [redacted]. She stated she had only worked at the premises for two weeks, working 2 days per week and being paid £7 per hour. She stated that no right to work checks were conducted prior to commencing work. [redacted] initially claimed to be working for her sponsor Nannyeze Ltd Monday to Thursday and earning £27,492 per year. However, when immigration officers requested proof of wages by her sponsored role she was unable to do so. Upon further questioning [redacted] admitted that she had never worked for her sponsor Nannyeze Ltd and had simply paid the company to provide her with a visa. [redacted] also stated that she entered the UK fully aware that she would not be working for her sponsor.

Home Office checks showed [redacted] entered the UK on a skilled worker visa valid March 2024 to March 2027. [redacted] skilled worker visa was sponsored by Nannyeze Ltd. A skilled worker visa entitles the holder to undertake supplementary work up to 20 hours a week in another job, as long as the holder is still working for the job they are sponsored for. As [redacted] had never worked for her sponsor, she was found working in breach of visa conditions.

Dinesh FERNANDO – Designated Premises Supervisor (DPS)

FERNANDO identified himself as the main person in charge of the shop. He confirmed that he offered [redacted] the opportunity to train there.

During the employer interview FERNANDO claimed [redacted] was not working at the premises but was undergoing training. FERNANDO stated [redacted] was a working as a teacher and mentioned she was permitted to work 20 hours per week outside her primary teaching role. FERNANDO confirmed that [redacted] was not paid or received any form of remuneration for her work at the premises. Her work duties primarily involve working on the till and occasionally assisting on the shop floor. FERNANDO stated [redacted] attendance varies, typically ranging from four to five hours at a time. FERNANDO stated he had seen [redacted]s documentation, including her passport, visa and BRP card, which indicated she is allowed to work in a secondary role.

Reasons for Review

Section 36 and Schedule 4 of the Immigration Act 2016 amended the Licensing Act 2003 to introduce immigration safeguards in respect of licensing applications made in England and Wales on or after 06 April 2017. The intention is to prevent illegal working in premises licensed for the sale of alcohol or late-night refreshment.

There was a total of 4 illegal workers encountered at the premises over 2 enforcement visits. In this case the DPS confirmed that all four individuals were either working or training at the premises. If the employer had conducted a simple right to work check they could've easily established that all four workers did not hold the relevant right to work.

Whether by negligence or wilful blindness illegal workers were engaged in activity on the premises, yet it is a simple process for an employer to ascertain what documents they should check before a person can work. All employers are dutybound by law to conduct these checks, and guidance can be found on the GOV.UK website or by using a search engine. Additional information on how to conduct these checks is available online, this includes the Home Office's official YouTube page. It is an offence to work when a person is disqualified to do so, and such an offence can only be committed with the co-operation of a premises licence holder or its agents. It is also an offence to employ illegal workers where there is reason to believe this is the case.

It must be noted that the employer admitted paying workers £7.50 per hour, in cash. Which is below the minimum wage at the time, which was £11.44 per hour. It is also considered that no income tax or national insurance contributions were being made. Such practices not only exploit workers but also provide an unfair competitive advantage over businesses that adhere to wage regulations. The payment of below-minimum wages raises serious questions about the licence holder's commitment to lawful and ethical employment practices.

Section 182 guidance at point 11.27 states that certain activity should be treated particularly seriously, and this includes employing someone who is disqualified from that work by reason of their immigration status in the UK. 11.28 of the guidance states that it is expected that revocation of the licence – even in the first instance – should be seriously considered.

Immigration Enforcement submits that for commercial reasons those engaged in the management of the premises employed illegal workers and a warning or other activity falling short of a review is inappropriate; therefore, Immigration Enforcement has proceeded to review.

Outcome Sought

The objective of the Licensing Act 2003 (the Act) is to provide a clear, transparent framework for making decisions about applications by individuals or businesses wishing to sell or supply alcohol or provide certain types of regulated entertainment and late-night refreshment.

There are four licensing objectives which underpin the Act, and which need to be taken into account and promoted throughout the licensing process.

The licensing objectives are:

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

Todays Extra under the control of Diamond 8 Retail Ltd and FERNANDO has been found employing illegal workers. This business has clearly failed to meet the prevention of crime and disorder and public safety objectives. The licence holder/DPS would have been aware of his responsibilities to uphold the licensing objectives as they are clearly defined as part of the premises licence application.

Immigration Enforcement has submitted that the licence holder and its agents repeatedly failed to conduct right to work checks prior to commencing employment.

Immigration Enforcement asks that the premises licence is **revoked**.

Merely remedying the existing situation (for instance by the imposition of additional conditions or a suspension) is insufficient to act as a deterrent to the licence holder and other premises' licence holders from employing illegal workers and facilitating disqualified immigrants to work illegally.

This submission and appended documents provide the licensing subcommittee with background arguments and information pertinent to that contention. These provide the sub-committee with a sound and defensible rationale as to why it should **revoke** the licence.

Appendix – Supporting Evidence

[redacted]

Encounter

Details

Type of work	Visit
Visit reference	[redacted]
Created by	[redacted]
ProntoID	[redacted]
Time	15:26
Created at geolocation	**Easting** 351952 **Northing** 386125
Creation date	04-04-2024 15:34:53

Main Identity

Identity source/type	Biographic
Full name	[redacted]
Date of birth	[redacted]
Gender	[redacted]
Nationality	[redacted]
Country of birth	
Place of birth	

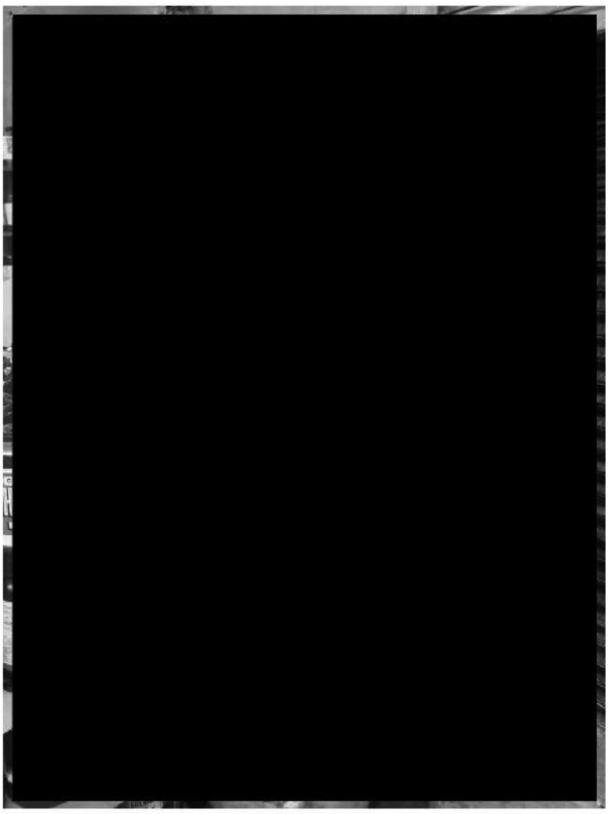
Languages

Languages spoken	Tamil
Interpreter used?	Yes
Interpreter details	[redacted]
Does the individual understand the interpreter?	Yes

Encounter

Encountering officer	[redacted]
Is this encounter related to a Small Boats event?	No
Is this person the subject of the visit?	No
Prior to Schedule 2 examination, did you suspect an Immigration Offence?	Yes
Why do you suspect the person of an immigration offence?	illegal working
Where was the person located?	Working in the storage area

Declared immigration status	Asylum	
How and when did the subject last enter the UK?	21 Apr 2022, seamen document	
CIDPID/CEPR	[redacted]	
Are there any vulnerabilities/ trafficking/safeguarding issues?	No	
Are you taking enforcement action?	Yes	
References (Person ID, HO Ref, Port Ref, BRP)		
Biographic search results	**Systems checked**	Person Check, Atlas
	Result of checks	Match, asylum seeker
	Does the person have an open absconder status on Atlas Person Alerts?	No
	Status returned by system checks	
Photo of Subject		
Do you want to take a photograph of the subject?	Yes	
Powers used	Paragraph 18(2) Schedule 2 Immigration Act 1971	

Photo of subject	 subject

Identity Documentation

Document 1	**Identity** **Document type** **Document reference** **Issuing authority** **Document issue date** **Document expiry date** **Country of issue (if different from nationality above)** **Is the person the rightful holder of the document?** **Is the document falsified?** **Is the document in the possession of the Home Office?** **Suspected fraudulent** **In transit details**

	Photos

Notes

No notes entered.

Management Checks Complete

Date management checks complete	08-04-2024 10:19:58
Reviewer(s)	[redacted]

Illegal Working - Employee

Details

Type of work	Visit
Visit reference	[redacted]
Created by	[redacted]
ProntoID	[redacted]
Subject CIDPID/CEPR	[redacted]
Subject name	[redacted]
Subject DOB	[redacted]
Subject gender	Male
Subject nationality	India
Time	15:56
Created at geolocation	**Easting** 351943 **Northing** 386178
Creation date	04-04-2024 15:56:30

Language of Interview

What language is the interview carried out in?	Tamil
Interpreter used?	Yes
Details of interpreter	[redacted]
Does the individual understand the interpreter?	Yes

Obligation

How long have you been working at this business?	4 months
What is your job role/ what are your duties?	Floor work, working in the storage room
What days/ hours do you work each week?	4 days a week, 5 hours each day

Control

Who tells you what tasks/ duties to do each day?	[redacted]

Remuneration

how much are you paid?	6.50
Who pays you?	The manager[redacted]

How are you paid (money, accommodation, food)?	Cash

Pre-employment Checks

Did the employer check your right to work or immigration status before they offered you the job?	No
Does your employer know you're not allowed to work in the UK?	He asked me for id but I have none, I'm not sure if he knows

Additional Questions

No details provided.

Photographs

No photographs.

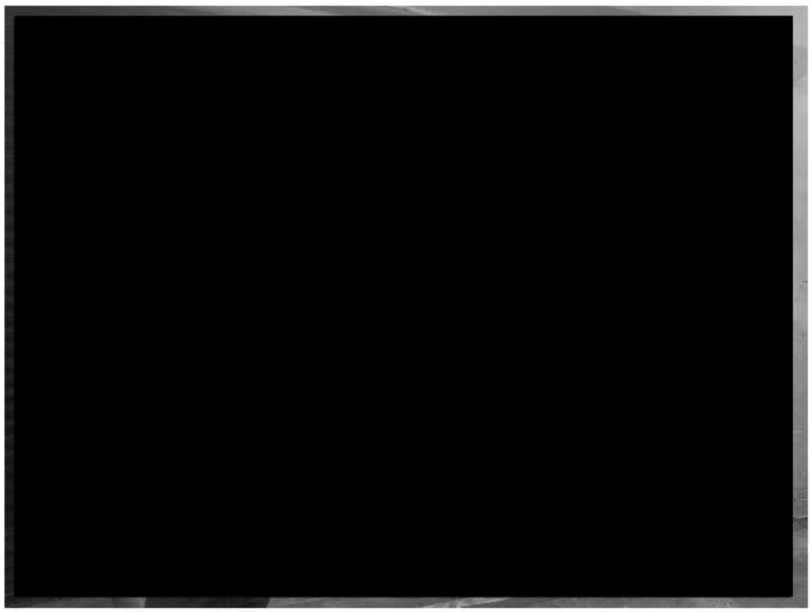
Declaration

I confirm that I have understood all the questions and that the details are true and correct.

Interviewee signature [redacted]	 04-04-2024 16:09:01

Observations

Observations	As member of immigration staff entered the storage area subject attempted to leave via the rear shutter. Subject wearing uniform of the shop stood with other workers
Do you suspect this person of illegal working?	Yes

Photo 1	
	Caption uniform and shutter attempted to escape from

Management Checks Complete

Date management checks complete	08-04-2024 10:22:40
Reviewer(s)	[redacted]

Encounter

Details

Type of work	Visit
Visit reference	[redacted]
Created by	[redacted]
ProntoID	[redacted] - Sri Lanka
Time	15:32
Created at geolocation	**Easting** 351929 **Northing** 386146
Creation date	04-04-2024 15:32:51

Main Identity

Identity source/type	Declared
Full name	[redacted]
Date of birth	[redacted]
Gender	Male
Nationality	Sri Lanka
Country of birth	
Place of birth	

Languages

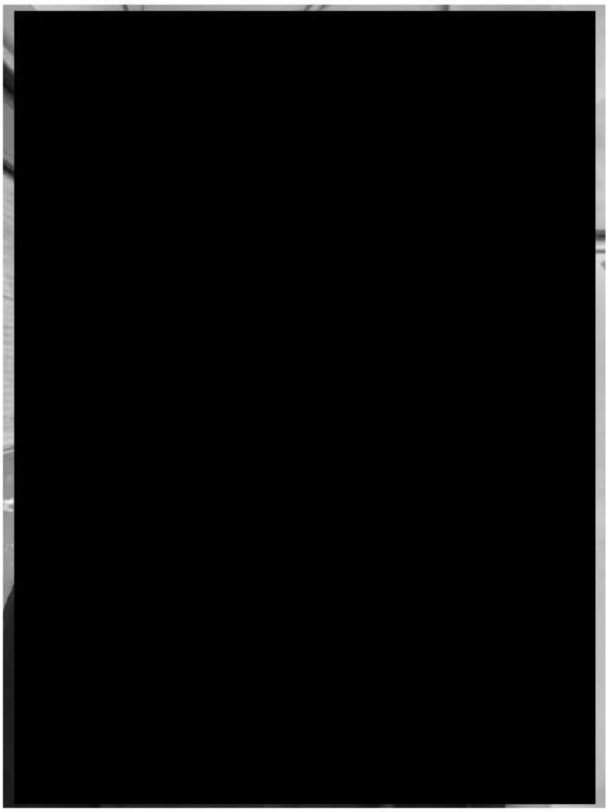
Languages spoken	English
Interpreter used?	No

Encounter

Encountering officer	[redacted]
Is this encounter related to a Small Boats event?	No
Is this person the subject of the visit?	Yes
Where was the person located?	Today extra
Declared immigration status	Asylum appeal
How and when did the subject last enter the UK?	29/11/2019 via plane
CIDPID/CEPR	[redacted]
Are there any vulnerabilities/ trafficking/safeguarding issues?	No
Are you taking enforcement action?	Yes

References (Person ID, HO Ref, Port Ref, BRP)	[redacted]
Biographic search results	**Systems checked** Person Check **Result of checks** **Does the person have an open absconder status on Atlas Person Alerts?** No **Status returned by system checks**

Photo of Subject

Do you want to take a photograph of the subject?	Yes
Powers used	Paragraph 18(2) Schedule 2 Immigration Act 1971
Photo of subject	 1

Identity Documentation

Document 1	**Identity** **Document type** **Document reference** **Issuing authority**

	Document issue date **Document expiry date** **Country of issue (if different from nationality above)** **Is the person the rightful holder of the document?** **Is the document falsified?** **Is the document in the possession of the Home Office?** **Suspected fraudulent** **In transit details** **Photos**

Notes

No notes entered.

Illegal Working - Employee

Details

Type of work	Visit
Visit reference	[redacted]
Created by	[redacted]
ProntoID	[redacted] - Sri Lanka
Subject CIDPID/CEPR	Unknown
Subject name	[redacted]
Subject DOB	[redacted]
Subject gender	Male
Subject nationality	Sri Lanka
Time	15:44
Created at geolocation	**Easting** 351927 **Northing** 386132
Creation date	04-04-2024 15:43:56

Language of Interview

What language is the interview carried out in?	English
Interpreter used?	No

Obligation

How long have you been working at this business?	July 2023- 9 months
What is your job role/ what are your duties?	Serving customers behind the till
What days/ hours do you work each week?	Monday to Saturday, 7-8 hours a day
Do you work the same hours/ days every week?	Yes, I'm given rime off when I need time off

Control

Who gave you this job (name and role in business)?	Denesh the manager
Who tells you what days/ hours to work?	Denesh the manager
Who tells you what tasks/ duties to do each day?	Any manager who is on shift influsong the female manager [redacted].

Remuneration

How are you paid (money, accommodation, food)?	Cash in hand
If money, how much and how do you receive it?	Paid weekly. Gates paid £6.50 per hour
Who pays you?	The managers, [redacted]
Do you pay income tax or have a National Insurance number?	No

Pre-employment Checks

Did the employer check your right to work or immigration status before they offered you the job?	I ahowm them my cars- work permitted- shortage occupants list.
Does your employer know you're not allowed to work in the UK?	Nobody have said anything to me so i don't know.
who gave you your uniform	[redacted].
are you forced to work here?	No
are you happy to work here and you are treated well?	Yes

Additional Questions

No details provided.

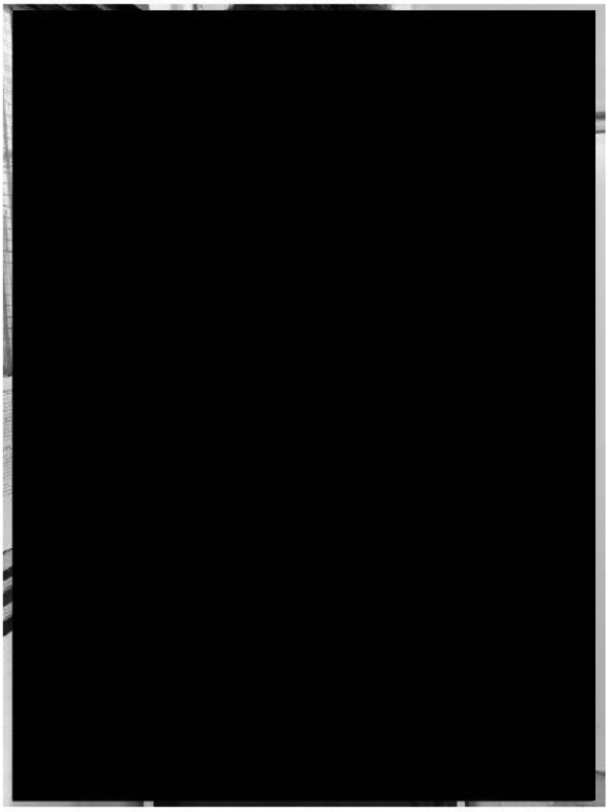
Photographs

No photographs.

Declaration

I confirm that I have understood all the questions and that the details are true and correct.

Interviewee signature ([redacted])	[redacted] 04-04-2024 15:57:19

Observations	
Observations	Was observed serving customers behind the country in entry.
Do you suspect this person of illegal working?	Yes
Photo 1	 **Caption** work uniform.

Arrest

Details

Type of work	Visit
Visit reference	[redacted]
Created by	[redacted]
Address	Today's Extra , 78, Albert Road, Widnes, WA8 6JT (Visit Address)
ProntoID	[redacted] - India
Subject CIDPID/CEPR	[redacted]
Subject name	[redacted]
Subject DOB	[redacted]
Subject gender	Male
Subject nationality	India
Created at geolocation	**Easting** 351935 **Northing** 386151
Creation date	04-04-2024 15:40:35

Arrest Details

Time of arrest	15:30
Power of arrest	Paragraph 17(1) Schedule 2 Immigration Act 1971
Arresting officer	[redacted]
Reason for arrest	Illegal entrant (EWOL)
Grounds for arrest explained to subject?	Yes
Caution administered	Administrative caution
Confirm subject understood caution?	Yes
Notes	

Search of Person

Subject searched	Yes
Did you search the subject?	Yes
Power used for search	Paragraph 25B Schedule 2 Immigration Act 1971
Justification	This male was located in a back stockroom and upon arrest he states he had a Stanley knife in his pocket a search was carried out to ensure he had no articles that could cause harm to myself or him or aid escape.
Items found	No

Outcome After Arrest	
Outcome	Bail
Details of bail restrictions, including address	No work must report 17.04 @ the capital. Home address is [redacted]
Bail authorised by	[redacted]
Notes	
No notes entered.	
Management Checks Complete	
Date management checks complete	07-05-2024 11:07:29
Reviewer(s)	[redacted]

Illegal Working - Employer

Details

Type of work	Visit
Visit reference	[redacted]
Created by	[redacted]
ProntoID	Dinesh Fernando - [redacted] - British Citizen
Subject CIDPID/CEPR	Unknown
Employer	Dinesh Fernando
Subject DOB	[redacted]
Subject gender	Male
Subject nationality	British Citizen
Time	15:55
Created at geolocation	**Easting** 351923 **Northing** 386148
Creation date	04-04-2024 15:55:24

Language of Interview

What language is the interview carried out in?	English
Interpreter used?	No

Employer Details

What is your position here at Todays Extra?	I am the director since January 2024
What is the name of the business?	It is named as Red Cherry Retail Ltd
How long have you worked here as a manager?	Since 2022 when it opended
Who pays the staff who work here?	They get paid every week in cash, I pay them
How long has [redacted] worked here at Todays Extra?	About 6 months
How did he get the job?	One of his friends asked me if he could have a job.
How much does [redacted] get paid?	£7.50 an hour. 6 days a week 8 hours a day
Did you ask [redacted] for any ID when he started?	Yes he showed me his BRP, it said work permitted.
Did you do any further checks on the ID provided?	No, I seen it said work permitted. I didn't realise there was shortage occupation list

How long has [redacted] worked at Todays Extra?	About 6 months
How did [redacted] get the job here?	Through a friend
How much does [redacted] get paid?	£7.50 an hour. 6 days a week. 8 hours a day
How often is [redacted] paid?	Every week in cash, I pay him
Did you ask [redacted] for any ID?	He just showed me his Indian Passport
How long has [redacted] worked here at Todays Extra?	About 7/8 months
How much is [redacted] paid?	£7.50 an hour. 6 days a week. 8 hours a day.
Did you ask [redacted] for any ID to prove he can work in the UK?	Just his Indian passport
Are you aware that [redacted] are not allowed to work?	I just checked their passport, that's it
How often is [redacted] paid?	At the end of every week I pay them in cash

Declaration by Employer

I confirm that I have understood all the questions and that the details are true and correct.

Signed by Dinesh Fernando	[redacted] 04-04-2024 16:10:14

Observations

Observations	

Management Checks Complete

Date management checks complete	08-04-2024 09:37:09
Reviewer(s)	[redacted]

Encounter

Details

Type of work	Visit
Visit reference	[redacted]
Created by	[redacted]
ProntoID	[redacted] - Sri Lanka
Time	10:15
Created at geolocation	**Easting** 351936 **Northing** 386146
Creation date	18-07-2025 10:43:51

Chosen Identity

Identity source/type	Declared
Name	[redacted]
DOB	[redacted]
Gender	Female
Nationality	Sri Lanka
Country of birth	Sri Lanka
Place of birth	

Languages

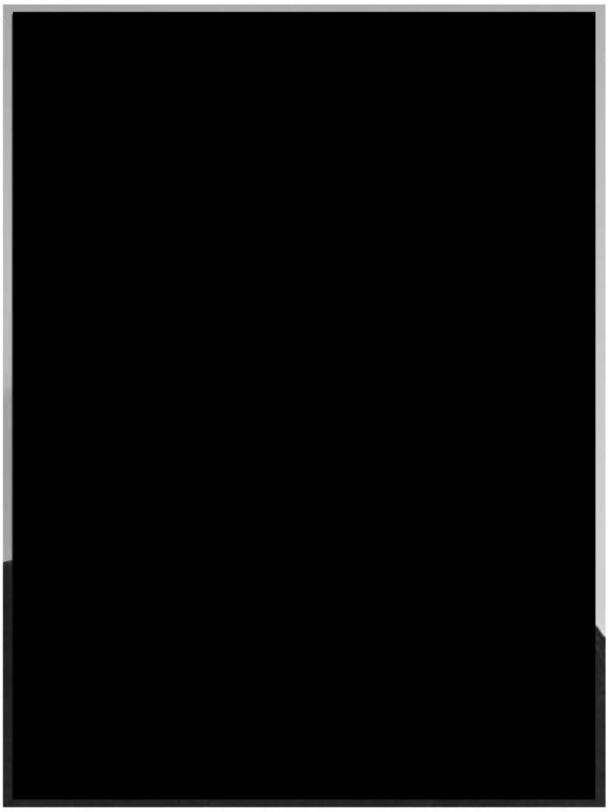
Languages spoken	English
Interpreter used?	No

Encounter

Encountering officer	[redacted]
Is this encounter related to a Small Boats event?	No
Is this person the subject of the visit?	No
Prior to Schedule 2 examination, did you suspect an Immigration Offence?	Yes
Why do you suspect the person of an immigration offence?	Female encountered in the kitchen area of the premises working, and due to Op with licensing and police, I was asked to carry out HO checks to ascertain immigration status as police intel suspects immigration offenders.
Where was the person located?	Working behind the counter
Declared immigration status	States she has skilled worker visa.
How and when did the subject last enter the UK?	April 2024

Are there any vulnerabilities/ trafficking/safeguarding issues?	No
Are you taking enforcement action?	Yes
References (Person ID, HO Ref, Port Ref, BRP)	
Biographic search results	**Systems checked** **Result of checks** **Does the person have an open absconder status on Atlas Person Alerts?** No **Status returned by system checks**

Photo of Subject

Do you want to take a photograph of the subject?	Yes
Powers used	Paragraph 18(2) Schedule 2 Immigration Act 1971
Photo of subject	 pic 1

Identity Documentation

No documentation provided.

Notes

HO checks confirm female is not worming for named sponsor and COS checks show that this has been stopped.

Illegal Working - Employee

Details

Type of work	Visit
Visit reference	[redacted]
Created by	[redacted]
ProntoID	[redacted] - Sri Lanka
Subject CIDPID/CEPR	Unknown
Subject name	[redacted]
Subject DOB	[redacted]
Subject gender	Female
Subject nationality	Sri Lanka
Subject country of birth	Sri Lanka
Time	10:48
Created at geolocation	**Easting** 351936 **Northing** 386144
Creation date	18-07-2025 10:48:42

Language of Interview

What language is the interview carried out in?	English
Interpreter used?	No

Obligation

When did your sponsor or license get revoked from Nanyeze?	It has been revoked.
Our systems show that it has been revoked.	As far as I am aware it hasn't.
How often to you work?	I work at Nanyeze Monday to Thursday, i travel to London every week to attend work
Checks carried out now confirm that you are not allowed to be working at this premises.	OK, I will drop out and not work here anymore.
How much do you get paid to work at Nanyeze?	£27,492 per year.
How much do you get paid to work at Today's Extra?	I have been paid £7 per hour as I am training.
How often do you go to this business premises?	I have worked here 2 weeks only and 2 days per week.

Control

Who tells you your duties at this shop?	[redacted] the manager.

Remuneration

Who pays you?	[redacted]

Pre-employment Checks

Did the employer check your right to work or immigration status before they offered you the job?	No she didn't.

Additional Questions

No details provided.

Photographs

No photographs.

Declaration

I confirm that I have understood all the questions and that the details are true and correct.

Interviewee signature ([redacted])	[redacted] 18-07-2025 10:59:20

Observations

Observations	Female encountered serving customers 6 claims to have worked at the shop for 2 weeks receive money of £7 per hour. Female states that she still works for Nanyeze in London but HO systems confirmed that this license is revoked.
Do you suspect this person of illegal working?	Yes

Q&A

Details

Type of work	Visit
Visit reference	[redacted]
Created by	[redacted]
ProntoID	[redacted] - Sri Lanka
Subject CIDPID/CEPR	Unknown
Subject name	[redacted]
Subject DOB	[redacted]
Subject gender	Female
Subject nationality	Sri Lanka
Subject country of birth	Sri Lanka
Time	11:09
Created at geolocation	**Easting** 351938 **Northing** 386143
Creation date	18-07-2025 11:09:46

Language of Interview

What language is the interview carried out in?	English
Interpreter used?	No

Q&A

Can you please show me proof of payments to your account for your wages?	Yes (opens her banking app to show [redacted]).
The acc shows no relevant amounts in relation to £1987.41 which toy state is your wage, being paid into this account, is this the account you get paid into?	Yes, (states blankly at her phone).
So it is safe to say that you have never worked at Nanyeze, given that there are no payments from them into your account since you came to the UK?	No I have never worked at Nanyeze.
So did you pay this company to set you up with a Visa?	Yes I did.

So how do you support yourself in the UK if you haven't been working for Nanyeze and, as you state, only been working at Today's Extra for 2 weeks.	My husband supports me.
Where does he work?	He works at Today's Extra with me.

Declaration

Interviewee signature ([redacted])	 18-07-2025 11:26:31

Q&A

Details

Type of work	Visit
Visit reference	[redacted]
Created by	[redacted]
ProntoID	[redacted] - Sri Lanka
Subject CIDPID/CEPR	Unknown
Subject name	[redacted]
Subject DOB	[redacted]
Subject gender	Female
Subject nationality	Sri Lanka
Subject country of birth	Sri Lanka
Time	11:15
Created at geolocation	**Easting** 351938 **Northing** 386144
Creation date	18-07-2025 12:03:00

Language of Interview

What language is the interview carried out in?	Eastern Frisian
Interpreter used?	No

Q&A

Did you enter the UK knowing that you would not be working for Nanyeze?	Yes I knew.

Declaration

Subject has refused to provide a signature.

Interviewee read the contents of the interview themselves	Yes
Contents read back in the language used during the interview	Yes

Illegal Working - Employer

Details

Type of work	Visit
Visit reference	[redacted]
Created by	[redacted]
ProntoID	Other
Subject CIDPID/CEPR	Unknown
Employer	Dinesh Fernando
Time	11:39
Created at geolocation	**Easting** 380396 **Northing** 397707
Creation date	18-07-2025 15:32:32

Language of Interview

What language is the interview carried out in?	English
Interpreter used?	No

Employer Details

how long has she been working here	[redacted] is not working she's just training. She said she is working somewhere else so just wants to train. She's working as a teacher but has said to she has experience from Tesco. I think she is legally to be working and allowed to work 20 hours outside of her role as a teacher
what's your role in this shop	I am the main manager
does [redacted] get paid for the training	No [redacted] does not get paid for the training
what hours does [redacted] work	[redacted] works maximum 20 hours. She's not working she is training
who gave [redacted] the job	I gave her the job
How many hours does [redacted] work	Sometimes she's here 4/5 hours but that changes
does she receive anything for this training, such as food or money	No she does not get money or food. Mostly she is on the till but sometimes on the shop floor
does she open the shop	No.
who opens thd shop.	The lady on the till
does she and her husband come in together	No he works in the afternoon
what does her husband do in the shop	Stock taking and filling shelves

did you check her paper work to see if she is allowed to work	Yes I did. Her paperwork said she can wwork as a teacher and additional 20 hours anywhere else
what does she teach	I don't know, I've not bothered to ask
what paper work did she specifically show you	Passport and I'm not sure if she brought in any other paperwork. I think she brought in her visa
did she bring in a paper visa	Yes she did and she also had the brp card
did you interview her	Just had a brief chat about her experience
did you thour0ughly checked through the docs she provided	I just checked the docs she provided.
would you like us to read through all the questions we have asked and your answers	No it's ok
are you OK for us to sign it as you are not here	Yes I am happy for you to sign it

Declaration by Employer

I confirm that I have understood all the questions and that the details are true and correct.	
Subject has refused to provide a signature.	
Employer read the contents of the interview themselves	No
Contents read back to the employer in the language used during the interview	No

Observations

Observations	Employer was asked whether he would like us to read or send him a copy of the interview as the intervoew was conducted over the phone. The employer advised no it is OK employer was asked, in that case is he happy for us to sign it on his behalf, to which he replied yes he is happy with that.

APPENDIX D

HALTON BOROUGH COUNCIL

Representation Form.

Responsible Authority.

POLICE

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 premises you are making a representation about.	Today's Extra
Address of the premises you are making a representation about.	78 Albert Road, Widnes, WA8 6JT

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		
To prevent Public Nuisance		
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:

COMMENTS:

On behalf of Cheshire Police, I am writing to support the review of the premises licence in respect of the premises known as Today's Extra, 76 Albert Road, Widnes, WA8 6JT.

Officers from Cheshire Constabulary were present during the visit on Friday 18th July 2025 as they were conducting a licensing compliance visit whilst home office immigration enforcement officers carried out their checks on the workers present and working at the premises.

Officers entered the premises under Section 179 of the licensing act 2003 which grants police and authorised persons to enter the premises to investigate licensable activities and potential offences under the act.

There were a number of compliance concerns identified during the visit all of which would constitute a Section 136 offences under the licensing act 2003, which also undermine the licensing objective of prevention of crime and disorder.

Conditions attached to a premises licence dictate how the premises can operate and as such they are legally binding.

The definition of a Section 136 offence under the licensing act 2003:

It is an offence to carry on or attempt to carry on a licensable activity on or from any premises other than under and in accordance with an authorisation. A person guilty of this offence is liable to be imprisoned for up to 6 months and/or an unlimited fine.

During the visit police officers spoke to the DPS Dinesh FERNANDO to request the password for the CCTV to allow them to review the footage to assist with immigration enforcement investigation. The DPS was obstructive and would/could not provide the password to allow the police officer to view the footage. Under Section 179 of the licensing act, it is an offence to intentionally obstruct a police officer or an authorised person from exercising their powers.

The Licensing Act 2003 sets out the licensing regime for the sale and supply of alcohol, the provision of entertainment and the provision of late-night refreshment in England & Wales. Section 36 of the act and Schedule 4 to the Immigration Act 2016 amends the 2003 Act and introduces immigration safeguards in respect of licensing applications made in England or Wales on or after the 6 April 2017. The intention is to prevent illegal working in premises licensed for the sale of alcohol or late-night refreshment.

The statutory prevention of crime objective in the 2003 Act includes the prevention of immigration crime and the prevention of illegal working in licensed premises.

There are further concerns regarding the workers who have been found to be working at the premises unlawfully as they have been paid below the minimum wage for staff employed in the United Kingdom and they have been paid in cash, so it is suspected that no tax or national insurance has been paid with regards to these people, who are potential victims of modern day slavery offences.

Given the number of illegal workers found to be working at the premises over the last 17 months and the breaches of the conditions on the premises licence and Mr Ferando's obstruction of officers from the police and immigration in their investigation of the offences relating to illegal workers this demonstrates a complete and utter disregard for any of the laws that Mr Fernando is bound by and it is therefore the view of the constabulary that this undermines the licensing objective of prevention of crime and disorder.

The Constabulary therefore supports the Home Office Immigration review application which seeks revocation of the premises licence.

We would concur that this is the only option to effectively deal with the issues identified as the addition of any new conditions on the licence would likely have little or no effect on how the business is operated due to the blatant disregard the premises licence holder and DPS has

already demonstrated for the various pieces of legislation that they are bound by when operating a licensed premises (Licensing Act 2003) and the lawful employment of staff.

The following documents are submitted to support this representation.

MG11 – PC Durkin
MG11 x 2 – Lesley Halliday Licensing Officer
Exhibits LH1, LH2, LH3 and LH4

Signed: Lesley Halliday Date: 12/09/2025

Restricted (when completed)

Cheshire Constabulary

WITNESS STATEMENT

Criminal Procedure Rules, 16.2; Criminal Justice Act 1967, s. 9; Magistrates' Courts Act 1980, s.5B

URN: 07

Page 1

Statement of:	HOLLIE DURKIN
Age if under 18 *(if over 18 insert 'over 18')*:	O18 **Occupation:** Police Constable

This statement (consisting of 4 page(s) each signed by me) is true to the best of my knowledge and belief and I make it knowing that, if it is tendered in evidence, I shall be liable to prosecution if I have wilfully stated in it anything which I know to be false, or do not believe to be true.

Signature: H.DURKIN **Date:** 22/08/25

Check box if witness evidence is visually recorded ☐

Witness personal details should be entered in appropriate section ONLY.

I am the above named officer and I am stationed at WARRINGTON POLICE STATION. I currently work on the Warrington Licensing Team and I am making this statement in relation to TODAY'S EXTRA, ALBERT ROAD, WIDNES, WA86JT.

At approximatley 12:15 hours on FRIDAY 18th JULY 2025 I attended TODAY'S EXTRA with Police Licensing Officer Lesley HALLIDAY in order to complete a licensing compliance visit. We also attended with Halton Borough Council and Immigration Enforcement Officers who were completing immigration checks.

On entering TODAY'S EXTRA we located three staff members. Immigration Officers completed relevant checks on the persons present and identified that staff member [redacted] was working behind the counter serving customers, which was in breach of her visa conditions. Immigration officers spoke to [redacted] in a private setting in the rear of store, where the stock was held. I was present during the interaction between Immigration Officers and [redacted]. Throughout the conversation it was clear that [redacted] was changing her answers or failing to answer questions.

In order to assist the Immigration Officers in identifying how long [redacted] had worked at TODAY'S EXTRA, I went to the counter and asked the serving staff member if I could view their CCTV. I would describe this staff member as White British female, average height and

Signature: **Signature Witnessed By:**

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2018 MG11

approximatley late 50's. This staff member explained that she did not know how to work the CCTV system in the store and she did not have access to this CCTV system but showed me a tablet device where I would be able to view CCTV if I could gain access. This staff member also explained that no one that was currently in the store could work or gain access to the CCTV system. I was informed the Designated Premises Supervisor (DPS) had access to the CCTV but he was not currently in the store.

Within the Premises Licence issued by HALTON BOROUGH COUNCIL for TODAY'S EXTRA it states 'A CCTV camera system capable of providing evidential quality images in all lighting conditions shall be used covering the interior and the immediate exterior (entrance) of the shop. Images will be retained for a period of at least 28 days and be made available to the Police upon request within a reasonable time period'. It goes on to state 'The CCTV recording equipment shall be kept in a secure environment under the control of the premises licence holder (PLH) and/or another named responsible individual'. Failure to comply with such conditions would be a breach of TODAY'S EXTRA'S Premises Licence.

I re-entered the rear of the store and an immigration officer was on the phone to DPS Dinesh FERNANDO.I took the phone form the officer and spoke to FERNANDO. I identified myself as a police officer and explained why I was speaking to him. I asked FERNANDO for the password to the CCTV. I explained the urgency and importance of what I believed was a reasonable request. FERNANDO was extremely defensive from the outset of our conversation and explained he could either not remember the password or did not know this. Again, I explained the urgency of this request and FERNANDO failed to assit with this. FERNANDO explained I needed to go upstairs where the hardrive was to access CCTV as he did not know the password to the tablet device.On entering a small room upstairs in TODAY'S EXTRA there was a large hardrive in the corner of the room with wires surrounding it. Despite this, there were no screens, no mouse or keyboard to view any CCTV footage. There was no reasonable way to access the CCTV footage in this room. FERNANDO had failed to provide me with CCTV upon my request and had been extremly defensive and difficult when asked simple questions. I believe

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Cheshire Constabulary

WITNESS STATEMENT

Criminal Procedure Rules, 16.2; Criminal Justice Act 1967, s. 9; Magistrates' Courts Act 1980, s.5B

URN: 07

FERNANDO was activley obstructing a constable from carrying out their duty.

Fortunatley, on returning downstairs my colleague from Halton Borough Council had gained access to the live CCTV in the shop using the tablet device . He did this without the assistance of FERNANDO or any other staff member.

Ultimatley there are four licensing objectives which underpin the Act, and which need to be taken into account and promoted throughout the licensing process.

The licensing objectives are:

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

On FRIDAY 18TH JULY 2025 TODAY'S EXTRA was found employing illegal workers, ultimatley failing to meet the prevention of cime and disorder and public safety objectives. Along with this DPS FERNANDO showed a blatant disregard to requests asked of him by a serving police constable. The four licencing objectives are detailed on the Premises Licence issued by HALTON BOROUGH COUNCIL and DPS FERNANDO has a responsibility to uphold these licensing objectives.

Due to the above, I support Immigration Enforcments application for the rewiew of the premises TODAY'S EXTRA, ALBERT ROAD, WIDENS, WA86JT.

Signature: | Signature Witnessed By:

CHESHIRE CONSTABULARY

RECORD OF VISIT TO LICENSED PREMISES – 'OFF LICENCE'

PREMISES:	TODAYS EXTRA.
Address:	76 ALBERT ROAD WIDNES.
E-Mail:	

Exhibit Ref:	
Name of Officer:	L. HALLIDAY
Signature:	[redacted]

Day: FRI	Date: 18/7/25	Time Commenced: 10/5 Concluded: 10 30.

Officers Attending:	Uniform: (Yes or No)
L. HALLIDAY	N
H. DUTTON	N

Representatives from Other Agencies	
Name: [redacted]	From: HBC

A **Management**

A1 Name of Designated Premises Supervisor..... Dinesh Fernando.

Present? [ ] Yes [✓] No. If no, name of person in charge ..[redacted].

Position ..... Shop Assist .....

A2 Who owns the premises? ..... Leased .....

A3 Is the Licence Summary on display and, if so, where..... Behind Counter

A4 Is a copy of the full licence available for inspection? ..... [✓] Yes [ ] No

B **Staff**

B1 How many staff on duty/Name ..... 3 .....

C **Drinks**

C1 Any drinks promotions at time of visit?

[✓] Yes [ ] No If Yes brief details..... one fridge of 24 for much

D **General Safety**

D1 Do Manager/staff wear uniform or wear ID badges? ..... [✓] Yes [ ] No

Please Send any completed forms to the appropriate area licensing mailbox

D2 Any crime prevention posters displayed? ..... [✓] Yes [ ] No

D3 Fire Safety issues identified? ..... [ ] Yes [✓] No

List: .....

.....

E **CCTV**

E1 Do you have a CCTV system? ..... [✓] Yes [ ] No

E2 Does it record images? ..... [✓] Yes [ ] No Digital [✓] Video [ ]

E3 Does it have an audio recording facility? ..... [✓] Yes [ ] No

E4 How many cameras do you have? ..... Approx 20 .....

E5 What is the retention period for the Footage? ..... 3-4 Wks .....

E6 Does Retention period comply with the requirements of the licence? [ ]Y [ ] N

F **Crime Prevention Measures**

F1 Is alcohol positioned in a vulnerable place on premises ie. Floor by entrance/exit. Single cans/bottles displayed ..... [ ] Yes [✓] No

F2 Is Challenge 21/25 apparent on premises? ..... [✓] Yes [ ] No

F3 Have staff been trained on the age verification policy? ..... [ ] Yes [ ] No

F4 Is the training documented and available for inspection? ..... [ ] Yes [ ] No

F5 When was refresher training last completed? ..... Approx 1 month ago.

F6 Is there a written authorisation to sell in place? ..... [ ] Yes [ ] No

F7 Do staff maintain a refusals Register? 14/6/25 [✓] Yes [ ] No
(Entry undated)

F8 Was the refusals register available for inspection? ..... [✓] Yes [ ] No

F9 Are there any other crime prevention methods in place ie, Perspex screens on shelves, please list? ..... No perspex screens but counter is deep .....

.....

Please Send any completed forms to the appropriate area licensing mailbox

G **General**

G1 **Any other comments (evidenced) including details of non-compliance with licensing conditions.**

Incident log in place last entry 2022
Deliveries after 10am in daytime

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Cheshire Constabulary

WITNESS STATEMENT

Criminal Procedure Rules, 16.2; Criminal Justice Act 1967, s. 9; Magistrates' Courts Act 1980, s.5B

URN:

Statement of: Lesley Halliday

Age if under 18 *(if over 18 insert 'over 18')*: Over 18 **Occupation:** Police Licensing Officer

This statement (consisting of 5 page(s) each signed by me) is true to the best of my knowledge and belief and I make it knowing that, if it is tendered in evidence, I shall be liable to prosecution if I have wilfully stated in it anything which I know to be false, or do not believe to be true.

Signature: L Halliday **Date:** 31/08/2025

Check box if witness evidence is visually recorded ☐

Witness personal details should be entered in appropriate section ONLY.

I am employed by Cheshire Police as a Licensing Officer, my role operates under the Chief Officers defigation of authority to deal with matters relating to licensing under the Licensing Act 2003.

My duties, amongst other things, include assisting the local police units in dealing with complaints and compliance issues relating to licensed premises, as well as applications from companies and person's who wish run a licensed premises.

I have attained the BIIAB Level 2 Award for Personal Licence Holders in May 2018 and the Institute of Licensing's Professional Licensing Practitioners Qualification in March 2019.

I am providing this statement in relation to the premises known as Today's Extra, 78 Albert Road, Widnes, WA8 6JT

The premises is situated on a main road (Albert Road) within Widnes Town Centre which has a number of licensed premises, inlcuding off-licences, speciality shops, late night refreshement premises and a number of public houses and bars. The premises is also situated close t[redacted]

[redacted] rovides housing related support for adults (including young adults 16 & 17 years old) who are homeless or at a risk of homelessness. It accommodates upto 39 people and offers tartgeted support for people with a wide range of needs including learning disabilities and/or

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WITNESS STATEMENT

Criminal Procedure Rules, 16.2; Criminal Justice Act 1967, s. 9; Magistrates' Courts Act 1980, s.5B

URN:

Statement of: Lesley Halliday

autistic spectrum conditions, people with substance misuse and people with a history of offending. It provides short term focussed support to support its residents to find sustainable long term accommodation within the local community.

Today's Extra was first granted a premises licence in January 2021 the application describes the premises as a modern and professional general convenience store, stating that the applicant would like to offer alcohol sales to allow the business to offer the complete all-round general convenience service. The focus of the shop will be as a general convenience store with the proposed alcohol sales just being a part of the overall business.

At the time of the application the premises licence holder was Red Cherry Retail Ltd - Registered No: 09119784 Registered to 80 White Lion Road, Amersham, Bucks, HP7 9JS. Checks on companies house showed that the company was incorporated on the 7th July 2014 and it had 1 director and person with significant control named [redacted], B. [redacted] resigned on the 1st January 2024 and Mr Dinesh FERNANDO, B. [redacted] was appointed as director and person with significant control.

On 4th June 2025 an application form was received to transfer the premises licence, the transfer was to a company called Diamond 8 Retail Ltd - Registered No: 15732649 Reigstered to [redacted]

Checks on companies house showed that this company was incorporated on 21st May 2024 and it has 1 director and person with significant control [redacted] FERNANDO, [redacted], it was also noted that Dinesh FERNANDO was named on the company as a director until 19th June 2024.

Mr Dinesh FERNANDO is the designated premises supervisor and it is noted that the companies registered address is the same as Mr FERNANDO's home address.

I visited the premises on Friday 18th July as part of a multi-agency visit in the company of Craig

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WITNESS STATEMENT

Criminal Procedure Rules, r. 16.2; Criminal Justice Act 1967, s. 9; Magistrates' Courts Act 1980, s.5B

URN:

Statement of: Lesley Halliday

Ward Halton Borough Council Licensing Enforcement officer and Home Office Immigration Enforcement Officers to carry out a licensing compliance check and immigration were conducting checks on the persons employed and working at the premises to ensure that they have the appropriate authority to work in the UK.

At the time of the visit on the 18th July 2025 Mr FERNANDO was not present at the premises. I went through the licensing questions with a shop assistant who identified herself to me as [redacted]

The premises licence summary was on display and a copy of the full licence was available for inspection. I was told that there were 3 members of staff on duty at the time of the visit.

[redacted] advised that there was a CCTV system in operation at the premises, they have a digital system with approximately 20 camera's, she was unaware of the retention period for the footage stating that its 3-4 weeks, but she didn't know exactly. The only person with full access to the CCTV is the Premises Licence Holder and Designated Premises Supervisor.

[redacted] advised that staff had been trained on Challenge 25 however the training was not documented or signed by staff and no documented training records were available at the premises for inspection. [redacted] claimed that refresher training had taken place within the last month but there was nothing available to evidence this.

The premises licence has a condition which states:
"A staff training scheme shall be used for all staff authorised to sell alcohol. The training will cover the importance of preventing under age sales and complying with licence conditions. Refresher training will be provided every 12 months, records will be kept and be made available to responsible authorities."

I asked [redacted] if there was a written authority to sell in place and she looked very blankly, so I described what information would be on a written authority to sell and she advised that she wasn't

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WITNESS STATEMENT

Criminal Procedure Rules, 16.2; Criminal Justice Act 1967, s. 9; Magistrates' Courts Act 1980, s.5B

URN:

Statement of: Lesley Halliday

aware of one.

The premises licence has a condition which states:
"All staff selling alcohol shall be authorised to sell alcohol in writing and a record of the authorisation will be kept in the shop for inspection."

The shop operated a refusals register and this was available for inspection with the last documented refusal being 14/06/2025, however not all entries were being completed correctly as there was at least 1 entry that was undated.

The premises licence requires that the shop have a refusals policy and this should be on display within the premises along with Crimestoppers promotional material to be on display to promote the initiative I do not recall seeing any such policy or promotional material at the premise during the visit.

The premises operate an incident log book, however the last entry in it was from 2022.

[redacted] confirmed that they were aware of the condition relating to deliveries to the premises and that all of these took place after 10am during the day so as not to cause public nuisance to local residents.

The premises licence requires notices to be on display in the premises asking for customers to leave the premises quietly, I do not recall seeing any such notices displayed at the premises.

The premises licence also has a condition that reads "Staff will monitor the area immediately outside the premises on a regular basis to check for, and to properly dispose of, any litter from the premises." There was litter outside of the premises in the form of empty vape cartons and food wrappers, so there was no evidence to suggest that this condition was being complied with.

There were a number of breaches of the premises licence specifically around the lack of

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WITNESS STATEMENT

Criminal Procedure Rules, 16.2; Criminal Justice Act 1967, s. 9; Magistrates' Courts Act 1980, s.5B

URN:

Statement of: Lesley Halliday

documented staff training and written authority to sell and a number of signs and policies that should be on display at the premises, these are all Section 136 offences under the licensing act 2003 and on summary conviction carry the penalty of a unlimited fine and/or upto 6 months in prison.

These licence breaches undermine the licensing objective of prevention of crime and disorder. A copy of the form completed as part of the compliance checks is exhibited as LH1.

I was shocked by the size of the premises, as given the description on the licence I expected a corner shop or small convenience store, this premises is more like an independent supermarket and the alcohol offering is vast and far greater than I would expect of a local convenience store. It included the draught beer machines and the kegs to use with them, there was also a magnum of Belvedere vodka (approx 1.50-1.75 litres) on sale, which is not your average offering. I refer to photo's exhibited as LH2.

The store does create some demand on the local police service mainly for shoplifting offences and anti-social behaviour. There have been approx 11 incidents recorded up to 31/08/2025 for 2025 and 19 incidents recorded throughout 2024 - refer exhibit LH 3 for a summary of the incidents.

Signature:	[redacted]
Signature witnessed by:	
Statement taken by (print name):	
Station:	

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WITNESS STATEMENT

Criminal Procedure Rules, 16.2; Criminal Justice Act 1967, s. 9; Magistrates' Courts Act 1980, s.5B

URN:

Statement of:	Lesley Halliday
Age if under 18 (if over 18 insert 'over 18'):	Over 18 Occupation: Police Licensing Officer

This statement (consisting of 3 page(s) each signed by me) is true to the best of my knowledge and belief and I make it knowing that, if it is tendered in evidence, I shall be liable to prosecution if I have wilfully stated in it anything which I know to be false, or do not believe to be true.

Signature: L Halliday Date: 12/09/2025

Check box if witness evidence is visually recorded ☐ Witness personal details should be entered in appropriate section ONLY.

I am employed by Cheshire Police as a Licensing Officer, my role operates under the Chief Officers deligation of authority to deal with matters relating to licensing under the Licensing Act 2003.

My duties, amongst other things, include assisting the local police units in dealing with complaints and compliance issues relating to licensed premises, as well as applications from companies and person's who wish run a licensed premises.

I have attained the BIIAB Level 2 Award for Personal Licence Holders in May 2018 and the Institute of Licensing's Professional Licensing Practitioners Qualification in March 2019.

I attended Today's Extra, 76 Albert Road, Widnes, WA8 6JT on Thursday 28th August 2025 at approximately 15:45 with Halton Borough Council Licensing Enforcement Officer [redacted].

The purpose of the visit was to ensure that the notices were still on display advising of the request to review the premises licence and to check whether any action had been taken to resolve the compliance issues identified on 18th July 2025.

At the time of the visit the DPS Dinesh FERNANDO was on site and there were approx 3 other members of staff seen working in the shop.

I asked Mr Fernando if the premises licence was available for inspection and he was able to

Cheshire Constabulary

WITNESS STATEMENT

Criminal Procedure Rules, 16.2; Criminal Justice Act 1967, s. 9; Magistrates' Courts Act 1980, s.5B

URN:

Statement of: Lesley Halliday

produce it and the summary was on display.

Mr Fernando provided a booklet that had been put in place, it contained a due diligence checklist of things to check at the premises, this was signed by Mr Fernando and dated 27th July 2025, then it had a Written Authority to Sell which Mr Fernando had signed on 17th August 2025 and the staff had signed on 19th August 2025 which it was noted was the day before the Home Office submitted the application for review of the licence.

There was indepth information for staff to read as part of their training and an age verification policy had been put in place, however this was signed by Mr Fernando on 17th August 2025 but none of the staff had signed it.

There was a refusals register in place and staff had started to use this again since the visit on 17th July 2025 and entries were seen from the beginning of August 2025.

Part of the licence condition regarding refusal of service requires "A notice advising customers of the refusal policy shall be on display. 'Crimestoppers' promotional material will be on display to support the initiative"

No evidence of the refusals policy or Crimestoppers information was seen on display.

The licence has a condition that states "Any incidents of crime and disorder at or immediately outside the premises, witnessed by staff, will be recorded in an incident book kept at the premises. This book will be kept in the shop and available for inspection"

There was an incident book in place however the last entry was made in 2022. I would expect this to contain any incidents that have occurred at the premises and in particular incidents of shoplifting which I can see from police records there have been a number of incidents reported in 2024 and 2025 and none of them are documented in the incident book.

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WITNESS STATEMENT

Criminal Procedure Rules, 16.2; Criminal Justice Act 1967, s. 9; Magistrates' Courts Act 1980, s.5B

URN:

Statement of: Lesley Halliday

I asked Mr Fernando about his CCTV and he advised that the retention period is more than 30 days, there is an iPad which is kept by the till where the staff can show officers any footage, however the only person with access to download and provide the footage to the police or other responsible authorities is Mr Fernando.

The premises licence conditions require that "Notices shall be on display in the premises asking customers to leave the premises quietly."

Initially the notice could not be located, it was stuck in the window but it was facing the outside of the store rather than inside where customers approaching the door were able to read it. I left Mr Fernando some more prominent posters requesting customers to leave quietly to assist with compliance of this condition.

When we arrived at the premises there was a male sat outside the premises, he was sat on top of a hoidail, he was still there when we left and there was also a female sat outside the premises on the opposite side to the male.

Exhibit LH 4 evidences the booklet viewed during the visit and pictures of the male and female sat outside the premises.

Signature:	[redacted]
Signature witnessed by:	
Statement taken by (print name):	
Station:	

Incidents at Today's Extra, 78 Albert Road, Widnes, WA8 6JT

25000715033 - 28/06/2025 23:35 - Police Generated Use SY on Closure if Wanted Arrest is Made

Original Incident Report: NZ29 - 2 very young males have just gone into Todays Extra - now heading down cooper street - no shoes on.

Closure Summary: EP GR219 - spoken with store assistant - these 2 males come in quite often, usually with parents - believe they live on Cooper Street but unsure what number. They bought some sweets then left; staff had no concerns.

25000646736 - Reported 06/06/2025 08:57 - Shoplifting

Original Incident Report: THEFT OF ALCOHOL - TODAYS EXTRA -- CASE OF CORONA £6.49 - SHOP HAS CCTV - REGULAR CUSTOMER POSS DONE IT BEFORE

Closure Summary: C52 TO BE TASKED TO AN OFFICER - RP WILL SEND IN CCTV FOOTAGE OF SUS

25000589166 - Reported 17/07/2025 15:09 – Personal / Nuisance and Environmental Anti-Social Behaviour

Original Incident Report: *REPEAT**VULNERABLE* **TODAYS EXTRA** CALLER REPORTING 3 ADULTS OUTSIDE INTIMIDATING CUSTOMERS AND ASKING FOR MONEY - AND TO BUY THEM THINGS

Closure Summary: BN CRU LOG ENTRY: B #CRU REVIEWED NO CRIME RECORDED #

GR163 - SEARCHED [redacted] WHO WAS OUTSIDE THE SHOP AND IT WAS NEG. SPOKEN TO STAFF AND TOLD PEOPLE OUTSIDE NOT TO INTIMIADATE ANYONE. CAN BE CLOSED

25000588842 – Reported 17/07/2025 13:56

Original Incident Report: todays extra - caller reporting ongoing issues with gangs of people outside the shop begging for money - they are asking people for money or to buy them a scratch card - she states they are now coming into the shop and asking people to buy their goods for them - callers asks them to leave and sometimes they do but sometimes they state they are doing no harm and will not leave - it is the same group of individuals and believes the majority of them are from Brennan lodge - caller has barred one of them - she states it is affecting her business and putting people off coming in

Closure Summary: BN CLOSNG TO BE BE TASKED TO LOCAL BEAT

CRU LOG ENTRY: B #CRU REVIEWED NO CRIME RECORDED #

25000581805 – Reported 15/07/2025 11:05 - Hate

Original Incident Report: *TODAYS EXTRA* "GANG OF PEOPLE OUTSIDE DRINKING" - SHOUTING AT THE RP AND MEMEBERS OF PUBLIC

Closure Summary: BN GR129- Spoken to rp, no complaints, said they werent shouting any sort of abuse, just shouting which was annoying. The audio on the cctv is not working. A passer said that there was some racial comments, however cannot say who it was and doesnt want to be involved. This can be closed

25000452822 – Reported 02/06/2025 14:35 - Fraud

Incidents at Today's Extra, 78 Albert Road, Widnes, WA8 6JT

Original Incident Report: "TODAYS EXTRA AND GOOD NEWS where is was declined for £45.00" Caller has had his card on Saturday night and has lost it. Last seen at Morrisons Daily. caller has cancelled the card. They have spent £45.00 at Today's Extra and £26.45 at Good News. Caller has been going in the shop looking for the CCTV and the shop have stated that he cannot view it but they do have it.

Closure Summary: C90 Fraudulent use of a bank card. £70.00 lost and caller has now cancelled the card, no further money can be spent.

25000417689 – Reported 21/05/2025 07:48 – Shoplifting

Original Incident Report: *VULNERABLE LOCATION DUE TO REPEAT*

CALLER WISHING TO REPORT THE THEFT OF TWO BOTTLES OF BEER APPROX VALUE OF £6.

INCIDENT ON CCTV AND STORE WISHING TO MAKE A COMPLAINT.

Closure Summary: C52 G4 LOGGED FOR CRIMING

25000312570 – Reported 17/04/2025 09:01 – Suspicious Person/vehicle/activity

Original Incident Report: *VULNERABLE*

RP reporting male by name of [redacted] has been into the store " Todays Extra "eastern European supermarket on approx. 4 occasions this morning. He was acting very strangely (possible on drugs?). He has bought on two occasions he has been in Vodka shots to a total of £6 cash. He was carrying a see-through prisoner bag with "Altcourse" written on it. so possibly just been released from prison last seen at approx. 0821 Hrs heading into town centre

Closure Summary: SK1 OBS PASSED TO NZ29

25000281566 – Reported 27/03/2025 09:08 – Concern for Safety

Original Incident Report: *LOCATION TODAY EXTRA OPP WETHERSPOONS* RP CALLED IN TO WIHD AND WANTED TO STAY ANON, HAS JUST SEEN WHITE MALE IN 40'S WITH BEARD AND WHITE CHILD THINKS IS FEMALE 11-12 YRS OUTSIDE LOCATION WHO LOOK HOMELESS, BOTH LOOKED DISHEVELLED. RP HAS LEFT THEM SOME FOOD AND SAID THE STORE MENTIONED THEY HAD BEEN THERE SINCE 6AM THIS MORN.

Closure Summary: SD GP22 - THIS CAN BE CLOSED. BOTH ARE ADULTS AND IDENTIFY AS MALES

25000163260 – Reported 25/02/2025 12:23 – Shoplifting

Original Incident Report: *TODAY'S EXTRA* -CALLER REPORTING SHOPLIFTING - VALUE UNKNOWN - HE USED TO BE A REGULAR - NAME NOT KNOWN - DESC 5FT8, SLIM BUILD, WM, DARK HAIR, WEARS GLASSES, BLACK PANTS, BLACK HOODY, GREEN COAT, AND BLACK TRAINERS - CCTV IN STORE.

Closure Summary: C52 CLOSED FOR CRIMING AND SLOW TIME ENQ

25000101625 – Reported 08/02/2025 16:13 – Suspicious Person/vehicle/activity

Original Incident Report: **TODAYS EXTRA**CALLER REPORTING THAT THERE IS THREE YOUTHS AT THE CASHPOINT - IT APPEARS THAT THEY ARE ENTERING CODES INTO THE CASHPOINT & NOW THREE PEOPLES CARDS HAVE BEEN 'SWALLOWED' BY THE CASHPOINT

Incidents at Today's Extra, 78 Albert Road, Widnes, WA8 6JT

Closure Summary: SK1 FIS JH - Can we send RP a message that IML will be closed

24001066376 – Reported 20/12/2024 07:34 – Theft Other

Original Incident Report: WHEN OPENING THE SHOP TODAYS EXTRA- THE PAPERS WERE LEFT OUTSIDE WITH THE MAGAZINES - THE BOX HAS BEEN OPEN AND ALL THE MAGAZINES TAKEN. CAUGHT ON CCTV- WHITE MALE, TALL, THIN, BLACK TRAINERS, DARK BLUE JACKET AND BLUE PANTS. PAPERS WERE LEFT AT 0530 AND MALE OPENS THEM AT 0540. 44 MAGAZINES TAKEN- VALUE U/K. POSS RECOGNISES THE MALE AS A LOCAL NFD.

Closure Summary: C59 FOR CRIMING AND ASSESSMENT - SUSPECT SEEN TAKING THEM ON CCTV AND CALLER POSS RECOGNISES HIM AS A LOCAL BUT DOESNT KNOW HIS NAME

CCTV was never provided to the police for this incident

24000915095 – Reported 28/10/2024 07:40 - Shoplifting

Original Incident Report: Call from Todays EXTRA, around 1900 a group of around 3 males were outside. A girl got a shopping basket, filled it with cleaning products value of £64.69. She walked to the door and handed the basket to one of the males outside who then ran off with it. There is CCTV of this.

Closure Summary: C62 G4 logged for criming and allocation via NICHE

24000841172 – Reported 01/10/2024 23:57 - Robbery

Original Incident Report: Caller reporting 2-males have approach and started asking him money and attempted to grab him/ take things from pockets

Closure Summary: C40 2 MALES LODGED IN CUST - CON OBS HAS ENDED

24000766524 – Reported 06/09/2024 09:36 - Violence / Harassment / Threat To Life

Original Incident Report: *REPEAT**VULNERABLE* VAGRANT SITTING O/S BOUNCING A BALL AGAINST RP'S SHOP WINDOW AND WALL, BEGGING, DRINKING CAN OF ALCOHOL. NFD ON MALE. CUSTOMERS HAVE STATED THAT THE MALE IS BEING THREATENING (NFD ON THREATS). WHITE MALE, SHORT HAIR, BLACK TRACKSUIT, 30'S. MALE IS BANNED FROM COMING INTO SHOP AND KEEPS LOOKING IN THROUGH WINDOW AT RP, RP FEELS THIS IS PROVOCATION AND GOADING.

Closure Summary: C10 FIS (AE) - Currently 68 Open Incidents on The North (36UR). Can we put a call into RP and if vagrant has gone this will be suitable for close to Niche for allcation to beat officer to contact RP and problem solve.

I have spoken to RP, he said that the male left this morning after fighting with someone. Police took his details - IML-1912040 is linked I believe. Will close

. . . CRU LOG ENTRY: A

#CRU HAVE REVIEWED, CRIMED AND TASKED THIS INCIDENT #

This incident has been recorded and tasked following a Live Incident review.

CRU will NOT review this incident further.

Incidents at Today's Extra, 78 Albert Road, Widnes, WA8 6JT

If any further Crimes or victims are identified during the management of this incident or investigation, then the attending/assisting officer or OIC MUST submit a Crime report to the CRU before the end of their TOD.

This incident should NOT be passed to the OMU control area. The incident should be closed by the FCC and Qualifier 9 should not be changed from CRU CRIMED

24000670852 – Reported 02/08/2024 09:36 - Shoplifting

Original Incident Report: *REPEAT* REPEAT VICTIM/LOCATION OF SHOPLIFTING

VULNERABLE REPEAT VICTIM/LOCATION OF SHOPLIFTING

TODAYS EXTRA. CALLER REPORTING LAST NIGHT AT 23:55 A MALE (DESC: WEARING TRAINERS, WHITE BOTTOMS, BLACK PANTS WITH GREY UNDER ARMOUR T SHIRT WITH GREY CAP. 5 FT 4 STUBBLE, DARK BLONDE MUZZY, BLACK JACKET TIED AROUND HIS WAISTE. CAME ON FOOT) ENTERED THE SHOP AND STOLE 1 BOTTLE OF SAMBUCA £23.00 AND A CAN OF PEPSI. LEFT ON FOOT.

Closure Summary: C52 CLOSE FOR CRIMING

24000555817 – Reported 24/06/2024 12:22 - Shoplifting

Original Incident Report: TODAYS EXTRA - AT 1830HRS 23/06 THEFT OF A CRATE OF BEER WORTH £20 - CCTV FOOTAGE - DESC - WHITE MALE LATE 30S , BLACK SHORTS , BLUE TOP LONG SLEEVES , BLACK AND WHITE TRAINERS - THIN MALE - DARK BROWN --- CALLER HAS SEEN HIM BEFORE A WHILE AGO

Closure Summary: C52 TO BE TASKED TO AN OFFICER - CALLER SAID THE MANAGER WILL HAVE THE EMAIL TO SEND IN CCTV

24000510586 – Reported 08/06/2024 15:21 - Personal/Nuisance and Environmental Anti-Social Behaviour

Original Incident Report: *TODAYS EXTRA* CALLER REPORTING THAT - [redacted] (NFD) - HAS BEEN BANNED FROM THEIR STORE BUT HAS BEEN IN TODAY AT 15:10. CALLER STATES HE HAS BEEN BANNED FOR SHOPLIFTING PREVIOUSLY BUT HAS NOT SHOPLIFTED TODAY AS CALLER ESCORTED HIM OUT BEFORE HE HAD CHANCE. CALLER STATES HE IS COMING TO THE STORE EVERY OTHER DAY EVEN THOUGH HE IS AWARE HE IS BANNED.

Closure Summary: BP CAN BE CLOSED FOR TASKING TO LOCAL BEAT TEAM

24000495166 – Reported 03/06/2024 12:08 – Shoplifting

Original Incident Report: *REPEAT**VULNERABLE*

CALLER REPORTING A THEFT OF FROSTY JACK CIDER TO THE VALUE OF £6.29 - CALLER DOESNT KNOW TH NAME OF THE MALE BUT KNOWS HE LIVES ON BRENNAN LODGE - CCTV CAN REVIEWED

Closure Summary: C52 WILL CLOSE FOR CRIMING

24000476141 – Reported 27/05/2024 13:44 - Shoplifting

Incidents at Today's Extra, 78 Albert Road, Widnes, WA8 6JT

What has happened: A white male came into the shop and a blue bike which he parked outside and started shopping in a basket and run out with the while shopping and the basket. CCTV available.

Approximate vale £60.00- Washing liquid, sandwiches and the shopping basket.

Crimed as: 048/00/THEFT/48/048/00: Theft from shops and stalls.

24000431890 – Reported 12/05/2024 08:06 – Shoplifting

Original Incident Report: *REPEAT* REPEAT LOCATION FOR INCIDENTS

SHOP: TODAYS EXTRA: MALE STEALING - NOW LEFT THE SHOP - STOLEN CANDLES, WASHING LIQUID AND AIR FRESHNERS AND CLEANING PRODUCTS. MALE DESC: TALL, 40s BLONDE HAIR, BLACK T SHIRT, BLUE TRACKSUIT BOTTOMS, BLACK TRAINERS, WHITE DECATHLON BAG, ON A PUSH BIKE. CALLER DOENT RECONGNISE HIM.

Closure Summary: C52 CLOSE FOR CRIMING. CCTV WILL BE EMAILED INTO US

24000415112 – Reported 06/05/2024 16:38 Personal/Nuisance And Environmental Anti-Social Behaviour

Original Incident Report: *VULNERABLE*REPEAT*

RP WANTING TO HAVE PEOPLE BEGGING OUTSIDE STORE MOVED ON. THERE HAVE BEEN 2 PEOPLE OUTSIDE TODAY, NOT BEING AGGRESSIVE, BUT BEING A NUISANCE TO STORE AND CUSTOMERS AS SITTING IN FRONT OF ATM ETC.

Closure Summary: BN CLOSING TO PASS TO LPU

24000411583 – Reported 05/05/2024 11:20 - Violence / Harassment / Threat To Life

Original Incident Report: CALLER REPORTING LAST NIGHT THERE WAS A FIGHT OUTSIDE THE SHOP AT 23:35 BETWEEN 2 MALES WHICH CALLER STATED POLICE DID NOT ATTEND TO- ONE MALE HIT THE OTHER AND STOLE THEIR PHONE DURING THE FIGHT- THE MALE WHO STOLE THE PHONE IS CURRENTLY OUTSIDE THE SHOP SLEEPING AND HAS BEEN "BEGGING FOR MONEY"- CALLER HAS CCTV FOOTAGE.

Closure Summary: C10 GJ22 - [redacted] HAS BEN SEARCHED, NOTHING FOUND - NO PHONE WAS FOUND - THERE IS NO VICTIM IDENTIFIED SO THIS CAN BE CLOSED WITH NO VICTIM IDENTIFIED

24000306749 - 03/04/2024 14:55 - Assistance To Other Agencies / Utilities

Original Incident Report: PLEASE SEE ATTACHED EMAIL FOR DETAILS

Closure Summary: EN NJ66 - I have reviewed this request - Immigration visits at 3 business addresses in Widnes, no specific request for Police assistance with these visits, request just asks for log numbers to be provided.

24000223278 - Reported 03/03/2024 18:08 - Violence / Harassment / Threat to Life

Original Incident Report: vulnerable - caller reporting whilst in a shop at location, he bumped into a female by mistake didnt think anything of it, carried on with shopping then moments later a male started shouting at caller saying that he is going to slash his face lots of verbal abuse, checked out, the male started to follow behind him and started gesturing that he had a knife in

Incidents at Today's Extra, 78 Albert Road, Widnes, WA8 6JT

his joggers. caller ran off and the male stopped but stated that people came out of different shop to see what was going on.

Closure Summary: C10 For allocating to an officer through niche

24000178119 – Reported 16/02/2024 10:07 – Shoplifting

Original Incident Report: 12/02 2036HRS -- MALE CAME IN DRUNK STOLE ITEMS - HE WAS WITH 2 YOUNG FEMALES - CALLER TOLD THE MALE HE IS BARRED SO TO PAY BACK THE MONEY BUT HE HAS NOT - HE TOOK £16 WORTH OF SNACKS CHOCOLATE AND CRISPS - ALL CAUGHT-ON CCTV

Closure Summary: C51 for criming

24000142362 – Reported 03/02/2024 09:35 – Shoplifting

Original Incident Report: TODAY EXTRA STORE - Infmt reporting a shoplifting which happened yesterday at 2030. Female was refused sale of alcohol due to being too intox, she then returned and stole a crate of beer worth £14.99. Colleagues chased after her once she left the store and they manged to retrieve the crate and it can be re sold. They have CCTV. Desc - White female, early 40s, tall, possible around 14 stones, long black hair which was tied up, dark trousers, blue and white blouse, carrying a black coat, on foot

Closure Summary: C52 For criming

24000124850 – Reported 28/01/2024 08:21 - Violence / Harassment / Threat To Life

Original Incident Report: caller reporting an aggressive male standing in the shop door way kicking off, shouting and screaming about the caller aving his shoes. male sounds calm in the background,

Closure Summary: C10 GR125 - MALE UNDER ARREST 4A PUBLIC ORDER

CRU 23001 I have reviewed this incident from the awaiting closure tab on Safe.

The circumstances of this case are as follows The suspect in this case has been shouting at the aggrieved as they walked past in the street and waving their shoes at them. The aggrieved was so alarmed thy called the police. On the attendance of the officers the suspect was arrested for a public order offence.

I have recorded this as a S4A POA and I will task this to the OIC for progression as the offender was in custody and charged

24000118048 – Reported 25/01/2024 21:14 - Violence / Harassment / Threat To Life

Original Incident Report: **CALLER VULN AS REPEAT VICTIM / SUSP VULN DUE TO MH**

CALLING FROM A SHOP CALLED TODAYS EXTRA - WANTING TO REPORT A MALE CALLED [redacted] WHO THEY HAVE A LOT OF TROUBLE WITH - HE IS EITHER STEALING OR - HE IS THERE NOW AND HARASSING CUSTOMERS AND HE IS REFUSING TO LEAVE

Closure Summary: C10 GR135 I have advised the informant to contact back IF male begins to cause violence or crime, he is outside hiding out from the rain as he is homeless.

24000037150 – Reported 07/01/2024 14:37 - Personal / Nuisance And Environmental Anti-Social Behaviour

Incidents at Today's Extra, 78 Albert Road, Widnes, WA8 6JT

Original Incident Report: CALLER REPORTING THE SAME MALE WHO ALWAYS SITS AT THE SHOP BEGGING AND HARRASING CUSTOMERS IS BACK SAT OUTSIDE THE SHOP AGAIN DOING THE SAME THING. HE IS KNOWN TO STEAL FROM THE SHOP AND THIS IS ONGOING.

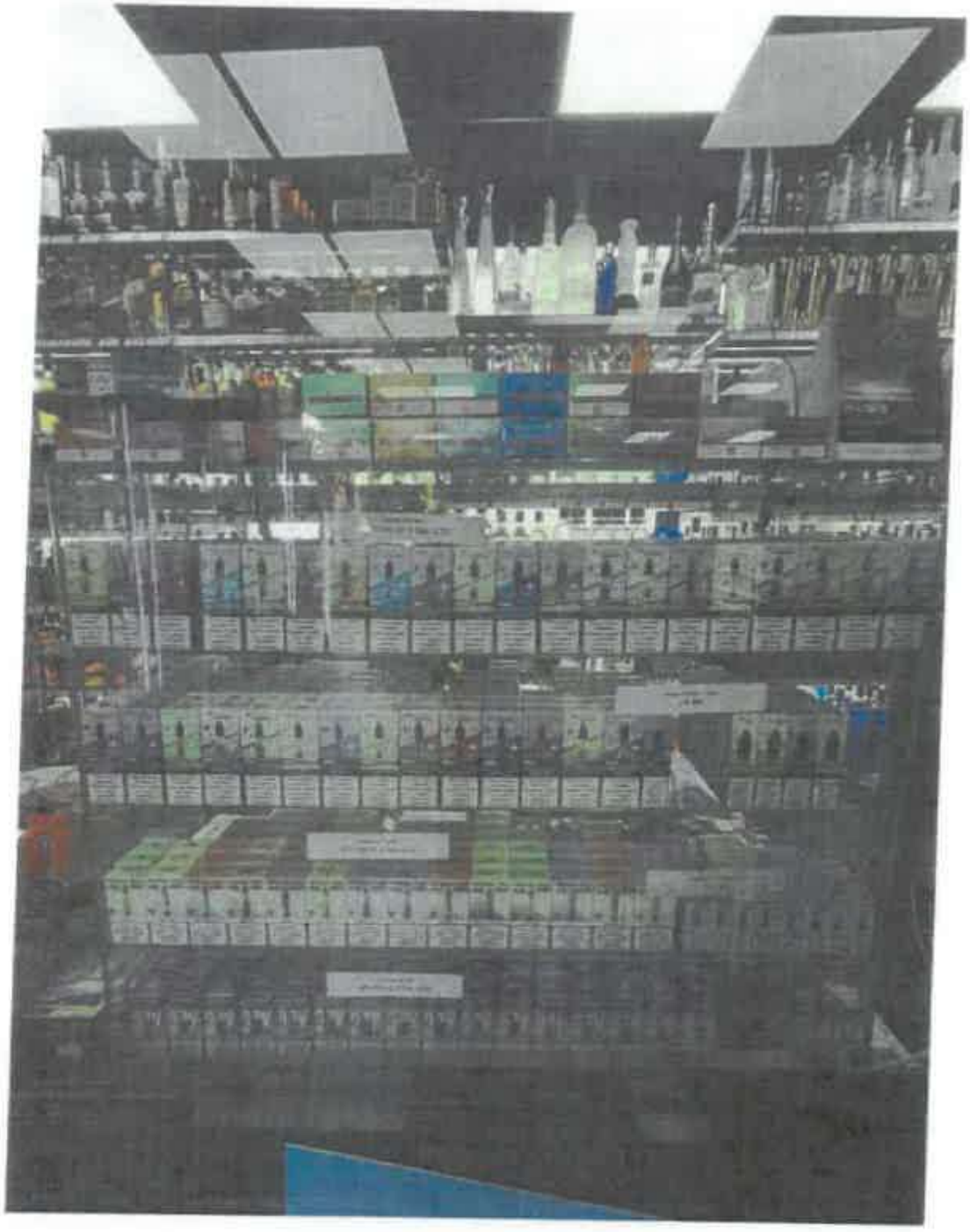
Closure Summary: BN GJ16 [redacted] has been moved on. He was not causing any issues just sat there but have updated staff that he's been moved on

CRU

INFORMANT REPORTS ONGOING ISSUES WITH MALE BEGGING OUTSIDE OF STORE

BEAT OFFICER ATTENDED & MOVED MALE ON. STAFF HAVE NOT PROVIDED ANY NEW OFFENCES OF THEFT TO ATTENDING PATROL.

This isle on both sides contains alcohol and continues all the way to the door with spirits behind the counter.



Pictured here are the spirits that are behind the counter including an expensive magnum sized bottle of Belvedere Vodka. In front of them is a vape display.

Alcohol in the upstairs stock room

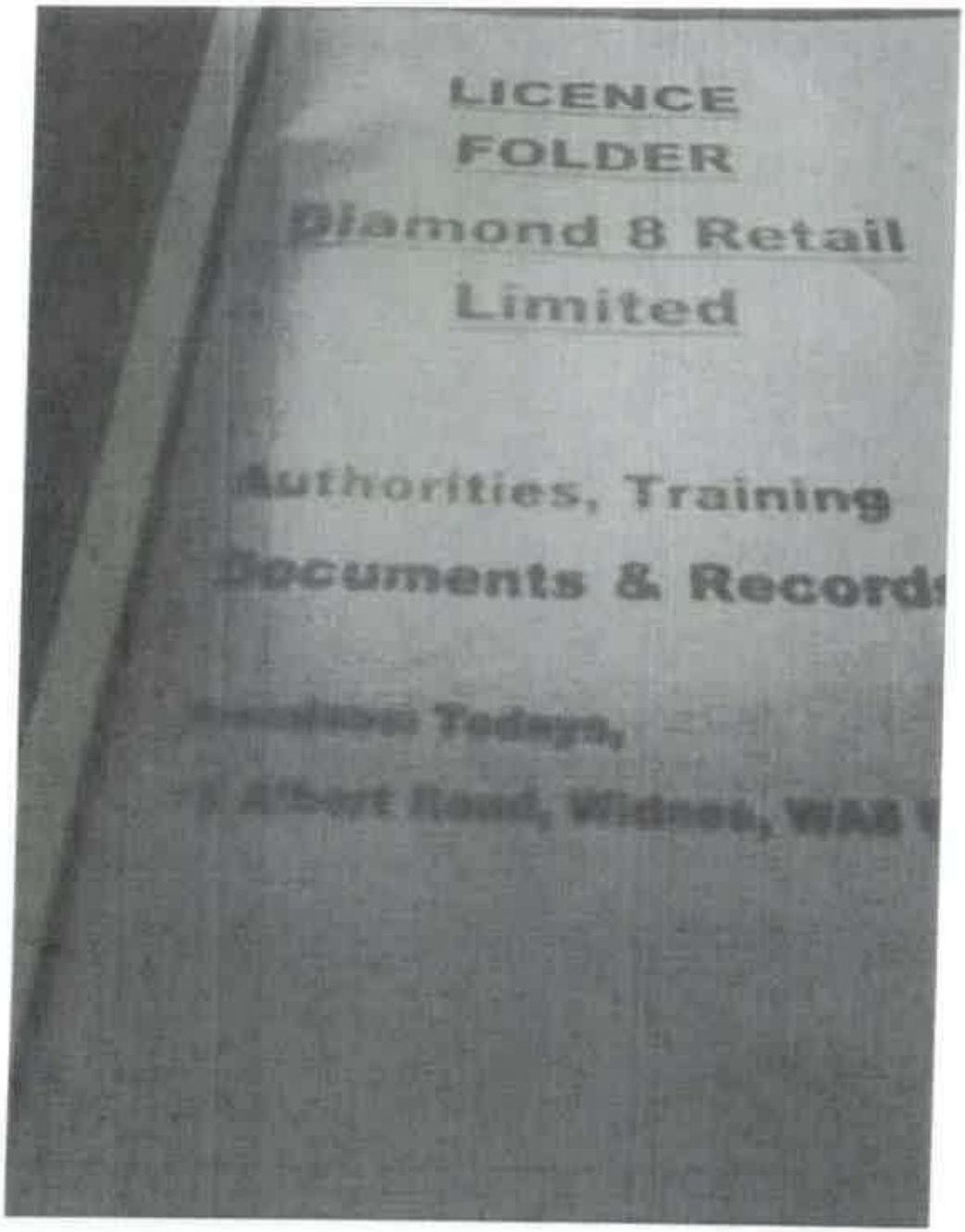
Alcohol in the upstairs stock room

Alcohol in the rear warehouse including additional stock of the beer dispenser machines.

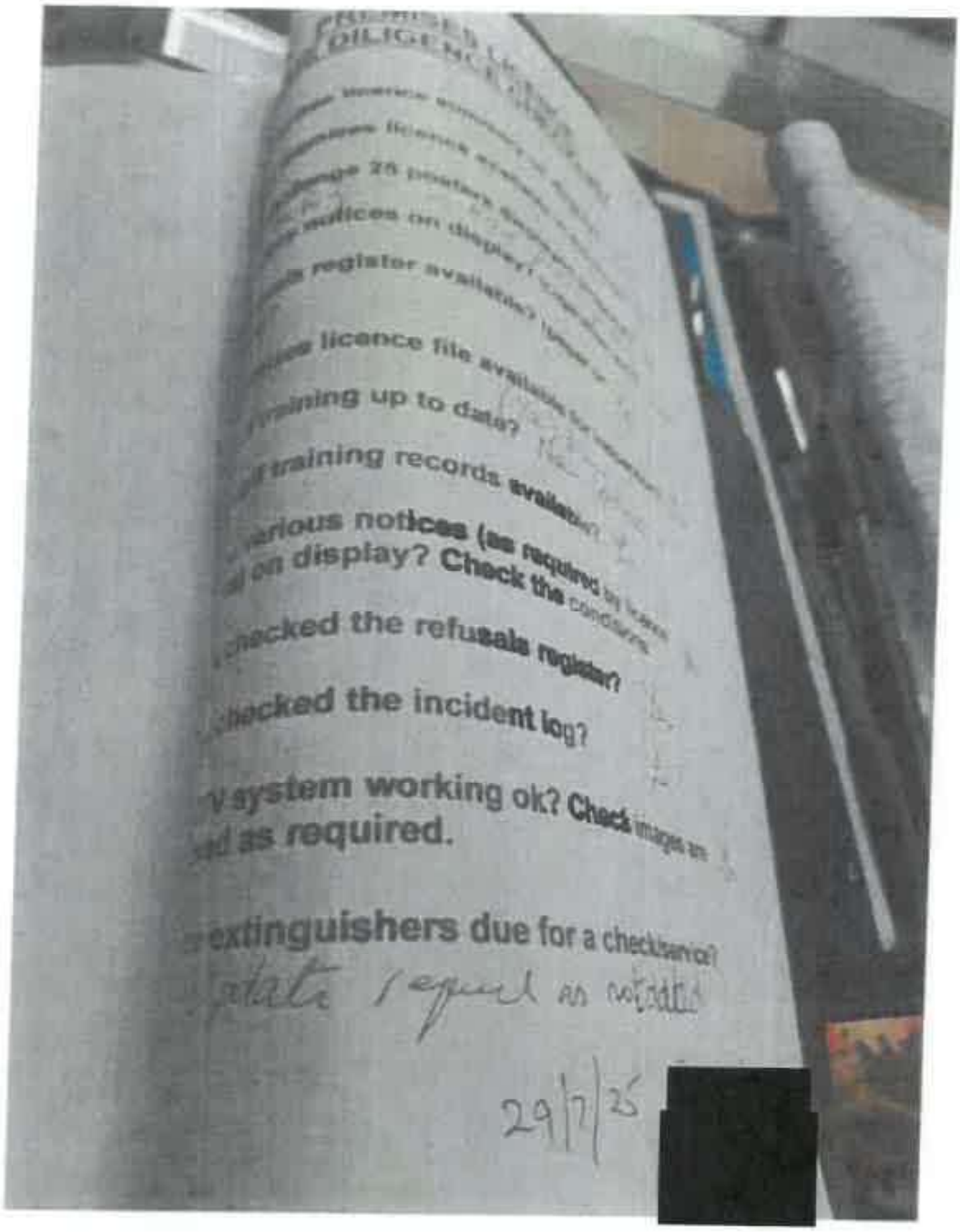
Further stocks of wine and beers in the rear warehouse of the premises.

Stocks of beer in the rear warehouse including high strength beer from Carlsberg.

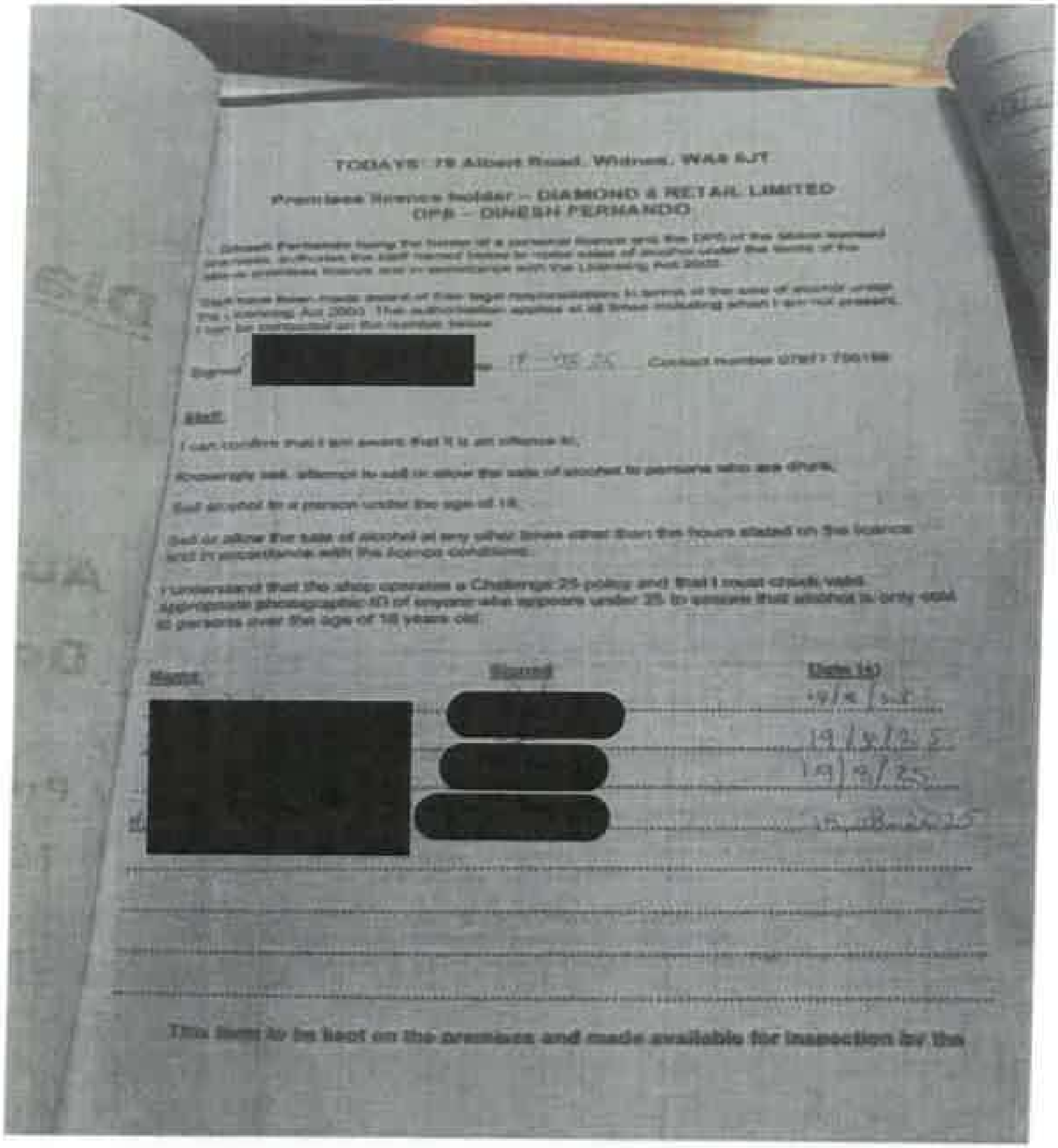
Further stock of Beer in the rear warehouse.



Staff training document put in place since the initial visit, some parts are incomplete.



Checklist that forms part of the book. Due Diligence checks signed off as being completed on 29/07/2025



TODAYS – 79 Albert Road, Widnes, WA8 6JT

Premises licence holder – DIAMOND & RETAIL LIMITED
DPS – DINESH FERNANDO

I, Dinesh Fernando being the holder of a personal licence and the DPS of the above licensed premises, authorise the staff named below to make sales of alcohol under the terms of the above premises licence and in accordance with the Licensing Act 2003.

Staff have been made aware of their legal responsibilities in terms of the sale of alcohol under the Licensing Act 2003. This authorisation applies at all times including when I am not present. I can be contacted on the number below.

Signed [redacted] Date 17-08-25 Contact number [illegible]

Staff

I can confirm that I am aware that it is an offence to;

Knowingly sell, attempt to sell or allow the sale of alcohol to persons who are drunk.

Sell alcohol to a person under the age of 18.

Sell or allow the sale of alcohol at any other times other than the hours stated on the licence and in accordance with the licence conditions.

I understand that the shop operates a Challenge 25 policy and that I must check valid appropriate photographic ID of anyone who appears under 25 to ensure that alcohol is only sold to persons over the age of 18 years old.

Name	Signed	Date (s)
[redacted]	[redacted]	19/8/25
	[redacted]	19/8/25
	[redacted]	19/8/25
		19.08.2025

This form to be kept on the premises and made available for inspection by the

Written Authority to Sell – Signed by the DPS on 17/08/2025 and by the Staff on 19/08/2025

Training information that staff are asked to read.

Age Verification Policy

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

This age verification policy applies in relation to the sale of alcohol on the above premises. [illegible]

It is the policy of the business to implement and maintain an Age Verification Policy.

We will comply with this by:

- Ensuring that all staff selling alcohol are trained, and a record is kept of their training.
- Ensuring that, whenever a customer appears to a member of staff to be under the age of [illegible] [illegible] to produce acceptable proof of [illegible]
- Ensuring that we only accept the following as acceptable proof of ID:
  - a UK photocard driving licence issued by DVLA
  - Passport
  - a PASS accredited proof of age card showing the PASS hologram [illegible]
- Ensuring that we check the details, including photograph and date of birth, [illegible] and verify these against the appearance of the customer
- Ensuring that we make a record of all refusals to sell following an age check
- Ensuring that we have clearly displayed warning notices as a deterrent to under aged customers.

For the purposes of this policy, all staff will be authorised in writing by the DPS to sell alcohol once they have been suitably trained and they are considered competent to sell alcohol.

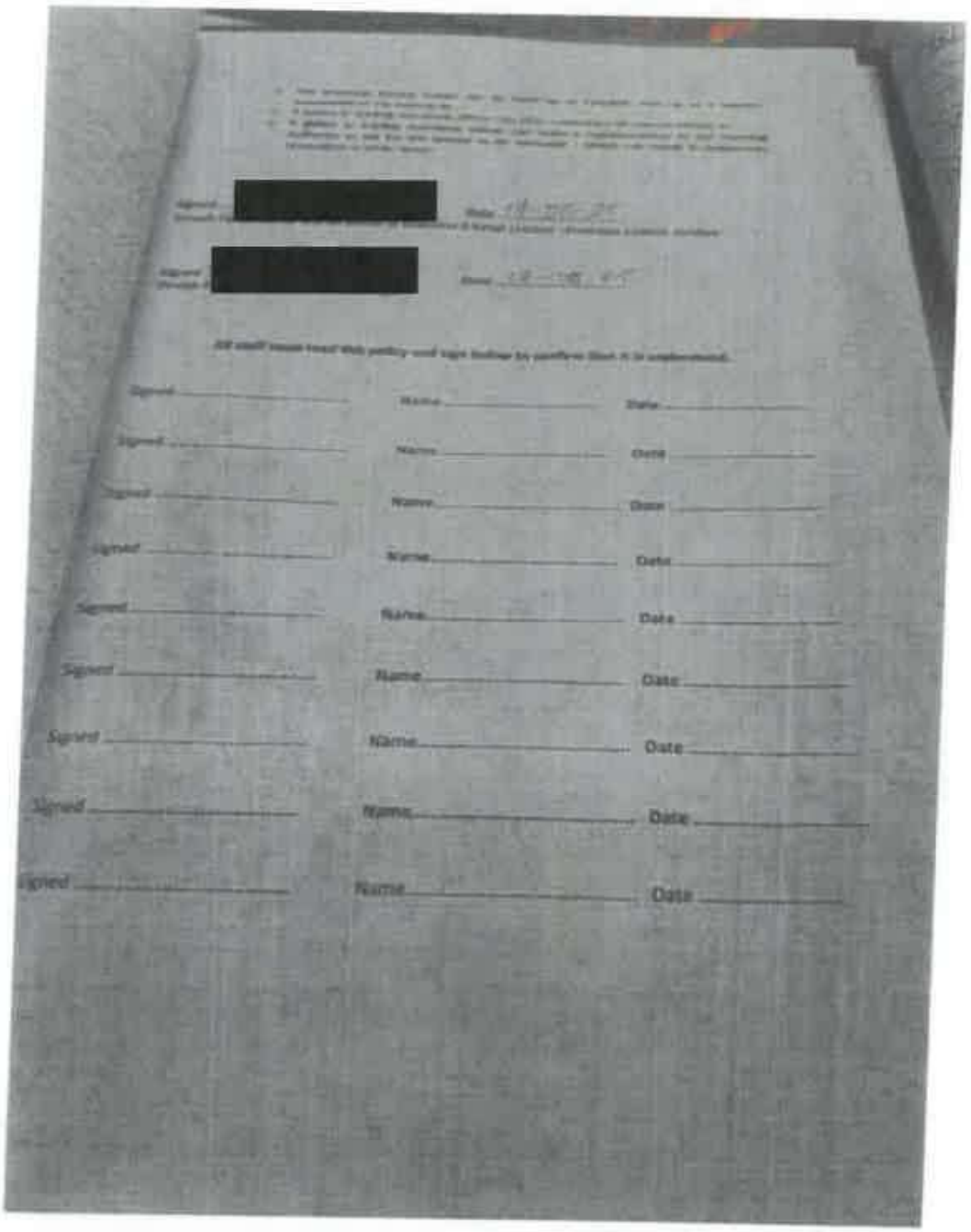
With effect from 1st October 2010, it became a mandatory condition on our licence to sell alcohol that:

"The premises licence holder shall ensure that an age verification policy applies to the premises in relation to the sale or supply of alcohol. 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 a holographic mark".

Failure to have an Age Verification Policy in place would mean that we risk a fine of up to £20,000 and/or 6 months imprisonment.

We have implemented this Age Verification Policy and brought it to the attention of all staff. They have signed below to indicate their understanding of the policy. They each understand that failure to comply with the policy may constitute a disciplinary matter which could result in action being taken which may include dismissal. In particular, we have pointed out that:

- By selling alcohol to a person who is under 18, they personally, as well as the premises licence holder, commit an offence, for which they could be fined.
- If two or more sales of alcohol to a person who is under 18 take place within a three month period.



Signed [redacted] Date

Signed [redacted] Date

All staff must read this policy and sign below to confirm that it is understood.

Signed _____ Name _____ Date _____

Signed _____ Name _____ Date _____

Signed _____ Name _____ Date _____

Signed _____ Name _____ Date _____

Signed _____ Name _____ Date _____

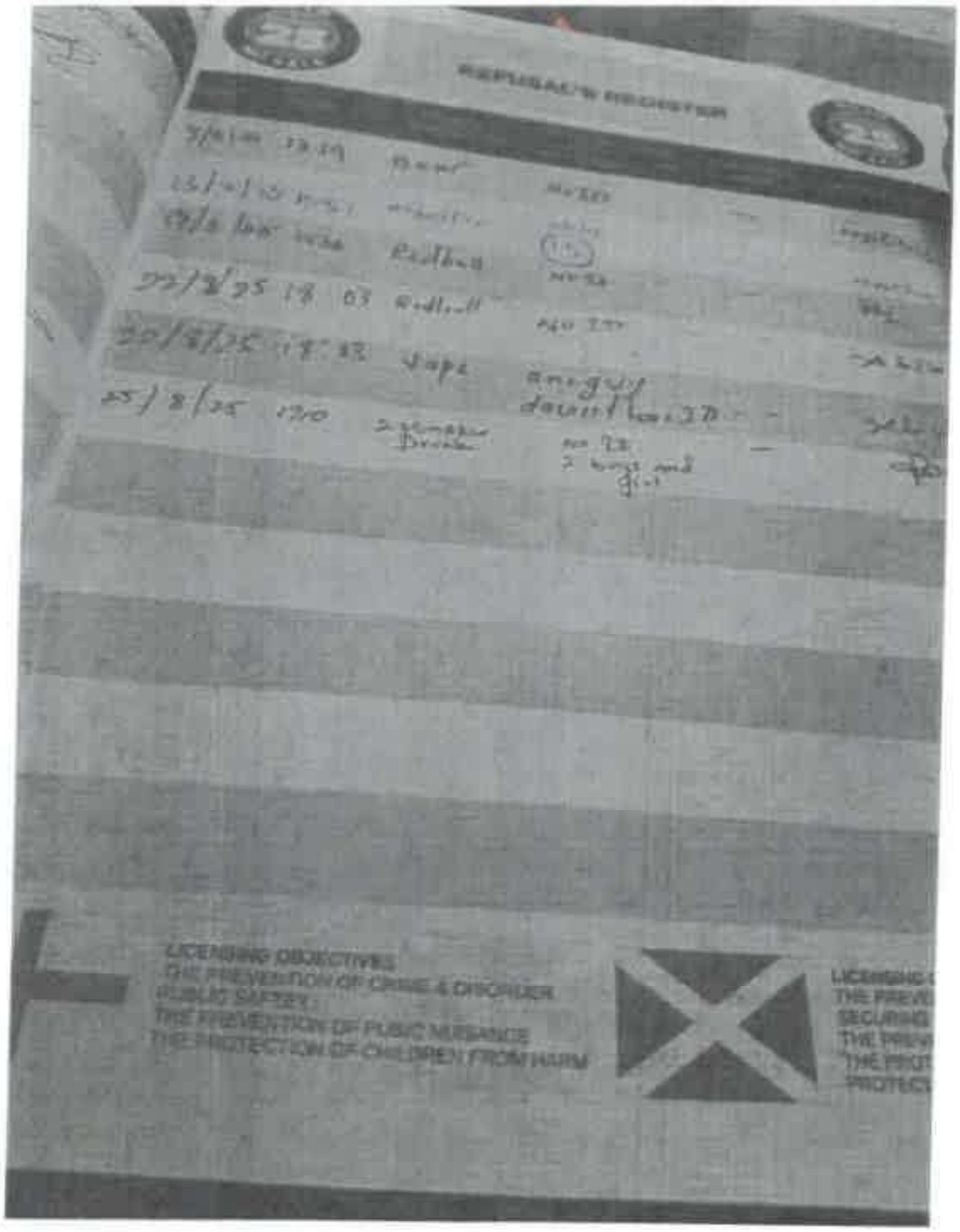
Signed _____ Name _____ Date _____

Signed _____ Name _____ Date _____

Signed _____ Name _____ Date _____

Signed _____ Name _____ Date _____

Age Verification policy put in place on 17th August – Not signed by any Staff Members only the DPS.



Refusals Register in place and being used.

Male sitting outside the shop

Female sat outside the shop.

Cheshire
Fire & Rescue Service

APPENDIX E

Kim Hesketh
Licensing Manager
Halton Borough council

Sent via email

Please ask for: Kathryn Harkin
Address: Cheshire Fire & Rescue Service
Winwick Road
Warrington
WA2 8HH
Telephone [redacted]
Email: [redacted]
Ref: H0400148
Website: https://www.cheshirefire.gov.uk/fire-protection/

Date: 02 September 2025

To Whom It May Concern,

LICENSING ACT 2003 – MAKING REPRESENTATION
PREMISES: 78 ALBERT ROAD, WIDNES, WA8 6JT

The information supplied in support of an application for a premises licence dated 21 August 2025 has been examined by the Cheshire Fire Authority. We wish to make a representation to the Licensing Authority because we are of the opinion that the public safety objective has not been adequately addressed.

The area(s) of concern are as follows:
In light of the immigrations findings we are concerned the prohibition notice that is place at this premises will be breached.

Please would you advise us, at your earliest convenience, the date and time of the Licensing Committee hearing.

If the relevant areas of concern are addressed and adequate notice is given to the Authority the representation may be withdrawn.
This letter is without prejudice to any enforcement action that Cheshire Fire Authority may take under fire safety legislation.

Please contact the inspecting officer named above should you wish to discuss this matter.

Yours faithfully,

[redacted]
Kathryn Harkin
for CHESHIRE FIRE AUTHORITY

APPENDIX F

Kim Hesketh nee Fisher

From: Ged Philbin
Sent: 16 September 2025 16:21
To: Pamela Wallace; Kim Hesketh nee Fisher
Subject: Licensed Premises .

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Cllr Wallace
Can I place on record my support for the withdrawal of the Premises license /number LPA0436 personal licence number PA061929
Today's extra
On the grounds of breaking the licensing act /not to be operating within the law on information from the Home Office .
Regards.

Sent from Outlook for iOS

APPENDIX G

Licensing objectives and aims

1.2 The legislation provides a clear focus on the promotion of four statutory objectives which must be addressed when licensing functions are undertaken.

1.3 The licensing objectives are:

• The prevention of crime and disorder;
• Public safety;
• The prevention of public nuisance; and
• The protection of children from harm.

1.4 Each objective is of equal importance. There are no other statutory licensing objectives, so that the promotion of the four objectives is a paramount consideration at all times.

1.5 However, the legislation also supports a number of other key aims and purposes. These are vitally important and should be principal aims for everyone involved in licensing work. They include:

• protecting the public and local residents from crime, anti-social behaviour and noise nuisance caused by irresponsible licensed premises;
• giving the police and licensing authorities the powers they need to effectively manage and police the night-time economy and take action against those premises that are causing problems;
• recognising the important role which pubs and other licensed premises play in our local communities by minimising the regulatory burden on business, encouraging innovation and supporting responsible premises;
• providing a regulatory framework for alcohol which reflects the needs of local communities and empowers local authorities to make and enforce decisions about the most appropriate licensing strategies for their local area; and
• encouraging greater community involvement in licensing decisions and giving local residents the opportunity to have their say regarding licensing decisions that may affect them.

Licence conditions – general principles

1.16 Conditions on a premises licence or club premises certificate are important in setting the parameters within which premises can lawfully operate. The use of wording such as “must”, “shall” and “will” is encouraged. Licence conditions:

• must be appropriate for the promotion of the licensing objectives;
• must be precise and enforceable;
• must be unambiguous and clear in what they intend to achieve;
• should not duplicate other statutory requirements or other duties or responsibilities placed on the employer by other legislation;
• must be tailored to the individual type, location and characteristics of the premises and events concerned;
• should not be standardised and may be unlawful when it cannot be demonstrated that they are appropriate for the promotion of the licensing objectives in an individual case;
• should not replicate offences set out in the 2003 Act or other legislation;
• should be proportionate, justifiable and be capable of being met, (for example, whilst beer glasses may be available in toughened glass, wine glasses may not);
• cannot seek to manage the behaviour of customers once they are beyond the direct management of the licence holder and their staff, but may impact on the behaviour of customers in the immediate vicinity of the premises or as they enter or leave; and • should be written in a prescriptive format.

Crime and disorder

2.6 The prevention of crime includes the prevention of immigration crime including the prevention of illegal working in licensed premises. Licensing authorities should work with Home Office Immigration Enforcement, as well as the police, in respect of these matters. Licence conditions that are considered appropriate for the prevention of illegal working in licensed premises might include requiring a premises licence holder to undertake right to work checks on all staff employed at the licensed premises or requiring that evidence of a right to work check, either physical or digital (e.g. a copy of any document checked as part of a right to work check or a clear copy of the online right to work check) are retained at the licensed premises.

9. Determining applications

9.12 Each responsible authority will be an expert in their respective field, and in some cases it is likely that a particular responsible authority will be the licensing authority's main source of advice in relation to a particular licensing objective. For example, the police have a key role in managing the night-time economy and should have good working relationships with those operating in their local area[footnote 5]. The police should usually therefore be the licensing authority's main source of advice on matters relating to the promotion of the crime and disorder licensing objective. However, any responsible authority under the 2003 Act may make representations with regard to any of the licensing objectives if they have evidence to support such representations. Licensing authorities must therefore consider all relevant representations from responsible authorities carefully, even where the reason for a particular responsible authority's interest or expertise in the promotion of a particular objective may not be immediately apparent. However, it remains incumbent on all responsible authorities to ensure that their representations can withstand the scrutiny to which they would be subject at a hearing.

Home Office Immigration Enforcement acting as a responsible authority

9.25 The Immigration Act 2016 made the Secretary of State a responsible authority in respect of premises licensed to sell alcohol or late night refreshment with effect from 6 April 2017. In effect this conveys the role of responsible authority to Home Office Immigration Enforcement who exercises the powers on the Secretary of State's behalf. When Immigration Enforcement exercises its powers as a responsible authority it will do so in respect of the prevention of crime and disorder licensing objective because it is concerned with the prevention of illegal working or immigration offences more broadly.

Determining actions that are appropriate for the promotion of the licensing objectives

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

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

9.44 Determination of whether an action or step is appropriate for the promotion of the licensing objectives requires an assessment of what action or step would be suitable to achieve that end. While this does not therefore require a licensing authority to decide that no lesser step will achieve the aim, the authority should aim to consider the potential burden that any condition would impose on the premises licence holder (such as the financial burden due to restrictions on licensable activities) as well as the potential benefit in terms of the promotion of the licensing objectives. However, it is imperative that the authority ensures that the factors which form the basis of its determination are limited to consideration of the promotion of the objectives and nothing outside those parameters. As with the consideration of licence variations, the licensing authority should consider wider issues such

as other conditions already in place to mitigate potential negative impact on the promotion of the licensing objectives and the track record of the business. Further advice on determining what is appropriate when imposing conditions on a licence or certificate is provided in Chapter 10. The licensing authority is expected to come to its determination based on an assessment of the evidence on both the risks and benefits either for or against making the determination.

11. Reviews

The review process

11.1 The proceedings set out in the 2003 Act for reviewing premises licences and club premises certificates represent a key protection for the community where problems associated with the licensing objectives occur after the grant or variation of a premises licence or club premises certificate.

11.2 At any stage, following the grant of a premises licence or club premises certificate, a responsible authority, or any other person, may ask the licensing authority to review the licence or certificate because of a matter arising at the premises in connection with any of the four licensing objectives.

11.3 An application for review may be made electronically, provided that the licensing authority agrees and the applicant submits a subsequent hardcopy of the application, if the licensing authority requires one. The licensing authority may also agree in advance that the application need not be given in hard copy. However, these applications are outside the formal electronic application process and may not be submitted via GOV.UK or the licensing authority's electronic facility. The applicant must give notice of the review application to the responsible authorities and holder of the licence or certificate. The licensing authority is required to advertise a review application.

11.4 In addition, the licensing authority must review a licence if the premises to which it relates was made the subject of a closure order by the police based on nuisance or disorder and the magistrates' court has sent the authority the relevant notice of its determination, or if the police have made an application for summary review on the basis that premises are associated with serious crime and/or disorder.

11.5 Any responsible authority under the 2003 Act may apply for a review of a premises licence or club premises certificate. Therefore, the relevant licensing authority may apply for a review if it is concerned about licensed activities at premises and wants to intervene early without waiting for representations from other persons. However, it is not expected that licensing authorities should normally act as responsible authorities in applying for reviews on behalf of other persons, such as local residents or community groups. These individuals or groups are entitled to apply for a review for a licence or certificate in their own right if they have grounds to do so. It is also reasonable for licensing authorities to expect other responsible authorities to intervene where the basis for the intervention falls within their remit of that other authority. For example, the police should take appropriate steps where the basis for the review is concern about crime and disorder or the sexual exploitation of children. Likewise, where there are concerns about noise nuisance, it is reasonable to expect the local authority exercising environmental health functions for the area in which the premises are situated to make the application for review.

11.9 Responsible authorities and other persons may make representations in respect of an application to review a premises licence or club premises certificate. They must be relevant (i.e., relate to one or more of the licensing objectives) and, in the case of other persons, must not be frivolous or vexatious. Representations must be made in writing and may be amplified at the subsequent hearing or may stand in their own right. Additional representations which do not amount to an amplification of the original representation may not be made at the hearing. Representations may be made electronically,

provided the licensing authority agrees and the applicant submits a subsequent hard copy, unless the licensing authority waives this requirement.

11.10 Where authorised persons and responsible authorities have concerns about problems identified at premises, it is good practice for them to give licence holders early warning of their concerns and the need for improvement, and where possible they should advise the licence or certificate holder of the steps they need to take to address those concerns. A failure by the holder to respond to such warnings is expected to lead to a decision to apply for a review. Co-operation at a local level in promoting the licensing objectives should be encouraged and reviews should not be used to undermine this co- operation.

Powers of a licensing authority on the determination of a review

11.16 The 2003 Act provides a range of powers for the licensing authority which it may exercise on determining a review where it considers them appropriate for the promotion of the licensing objectives.

11.17 The licensing authority may decide that the review does not require it to take any further steps appropriate to promoting the licensing objectives. In addition, there is nothing to prevent a licensing authority issuing an informal warning to the licence holder and/or to recommend improvement within a particular period of time. It is expected that licensing authorities will regard such informal warnings as an important mechanism for ensuring that the licensing objectives are effectively promoted and that warnings should be issued in writing to the licence holder.

11.18 However, where responsible authorities such as the police or environmental health officers have already issued warnings requiring improvement – either orally or in writing – that have failed as part of their own stepped approach to address concerns, licensing authorities should not merely repeat that approach and should take this into account when considering what further action is appropriate. Similarly, licensing authorities may take into account any civil immigration penalties which a licence holder has been required to pay for employing an illegal worker.

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)[footnote 10];

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.

11.21 For example, licensing authorities should be alive to the possibility that the removal and replacement of the designated premises supervisor may be sufficient to remedy a problem where the cause of the identified problem directly relates to poor management decisions made by that individual.

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, 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

Reviews arising in connection with crime

11.24 A number of reviews may arise in connection with crime that is not directly connected with licensable activities. For example, reviews may arise because of drugs problems at the premises, money laundering by criminal gangs, the sale of contraband or stolen goods, the sale of firearms, or the sexual exploitation of children. Licensing authorities do not have the power to judge the criminality or otherwise of any issue. This is a matter for the courts. The licensing authority's role when determining such a review is not therefore to establish the guilt or innocence of any individual but to ensure the promotion of the crime prevention objective.

11.25 Reviews are part of the regulatory process introduced by the 2003 Act and they are not part of criminal law and procedure. There is, therefore, no reason why representations giving rise to a review of a premises licence need be delayed pending the outcome of any criminal proceedings. Some reviews will arise after the conviction in the criminal courts of certain individuals, but not all. In any case, it is for the licensing authority to attempt to go beyond any findings by the courts, which should be treated as a matter of undisputed evidence before them

11.26 Where the licensing authority is conducting a review on the grounds that the premises have been used for criminal purposes, its role is solely to determine what steps should be taken in connection with the premises licence, for the promotion of the crime prevention objective. It is important to recognise that certain criminal activity or associated problems may be taking place or

have taken place despite the best efforts of the licence holder and the staff working at the premises and despite full compliance with the conditions attached to the licence. In such circumstances, the licensing authority is still empowered to take any appropriate steps to remedy the problems. The licensing authority's duty is to take steps with a view to the promotion of the licensing objectives and the prevention of illegal working in the interests of the wider community and not those of the individual licence holder.

11.27 There is certain criminal activity that may arise in connection with licensed premises which should be treated particularly seriously. These are the use of the licensed premises:

for the sale and distribution of drugs controlled under the Misuse of Drugs Act 1971 and the laundering of the proceeds of drugs crime;

for the sale and distribution of illegal firearms;

for the evasion of copyright in respect of pirated or unlicensed films and music, which does considerable damage to the industries affected;

for the illegal purchase and consumption of alcohol by minors which impacts on the health, educational attainment, employment prospects and propensity for crime of young people;

for prostitution or the sale of unlawful pornography;

by organised groups of paedophiles to groom children;

as the base for the organisation of criminal activity, particularly by gangs;

for the organisation of racist activity or the promotion of racist attacks;
for employing a person who is disqualified from that work by reason of their immigration status in the UK;

for unlawful gambling; and

for the sale or storage of smuggled tobacco and alcohol

11.28 It is envisaged that licensing authorities, the police, the Home Office(Immigration Enforcement) and other law enforcement agencies, which are responsible authorities, will use the review procedures effectively to deter such activities and crime. Where reviews arise and the licensing authority determines that the crime prevention objective is being undermined through the premises being used to further crimes, it is expected that revocation of the licence – even in the first instance – should be seriously considered.

Review of a premises licence following closure order or illegal working compliance order

11.29 Licensing authorities are subject to certain timescales, set out in the legislation, for the review of a premises licence following a closure order under section 80 of the Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014or an illegal working compliance order under section 38 of and Schedule 6to the Immigration Act 2016. The relevant time periods run concurrently and are as follows:

when the licensing authority receives notice that a magistrates' court has made a closure order it has 28 days to determine the licence review – the determination must be made before the expiry of the 28th day after the day on which the notice is received;

the hearing must be held within ten working days, the first of which is the day after the day the notice from the magistrates' court is received;

notice of the hearing must be given no later than five working days before the first hearing day (there must be five clear working days between the giving of the notice and the start of the hearing).