

HALTON BOROUGH COUNCIL

APPENDIX D

Representation Form.

Responsible Authority.

POLICE

Your Name	Lesley Halliday
Job Title	Police Licensing Officer
Postal and email address	Warrington Police Station, Charles Stewart House, 55-57 Market Street, Warrington, WA1 1NF
Contact telephone number	

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

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

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

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

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

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

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compliance and poor management of the premises an objection was made by Cheshire Police and the application was later withdrawn.

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

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

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

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

Signed:

Lesley Halliday

Date: 18/06/2025