

Legislation and Policy Considerations

1. The following provisions of the Licensing Act 2003 apply to this application: S4 general duties of licensing authorities; s34 application to vary premises licence; s35 determination of application under section 34; s36 supplementary provision about determinations under section 35; and ss19, 20 and 21 mandatory conditions.
2. The following provisions of the Licensing Act 2003 (Premises Licences and Club Premises Certificates) Regulations 2005 apply to this application: Regulation 42, Part 2 (Premises licences) and Part 4 (General) relating to applications, notices and representations and advertisement of applications
3. The following provisions of the Secretary of State's guidance apply to this application: Chapter 2 the Licensing Objectives and Paragraphs 5.47 Steps to promote the licensing objectives; and 8.33 Variations.
4. The following paragraphs of the licensing authority's statement of licensing policy apply to this application: 3.2 Crime and Disorder; 4.1 Consultation on New Premises Applications, Club Premises Certificates, Variations and Provisional Statements; 4.2 General Principles for Determination of Applications; 5.0 Guidelines for Applicants; 7.0 Licensing Hours and Appendix D Pool Conditions.
5. The Committee is reminded of their duty under the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 to consider the crime and disorder implications of their decisions and the authority's responsibility to co-operate in the reduction of crime and disorder in the city.
6. The Committee is reminded that the Human Rights Act 1998 guarantees the right to a fair hearing for all parties in the determination of their civil rights. The Act also provides for the protection of property, which may include licences in existence, and the protection of private and family life.

NOTE FOR MEMBERS

Extracts from Revised Guidance issued under section 182 of the Licensing Act 2003 (in force 28 June 2007). The following amendments to paragraphs in the Guidance may have relevance at a hearing to determine an application for the grant, variation or review of a premises licence or club premises certificate.

Related Legislation and Strategies

1.26 Licensing law is not the primary mechanism for the general control of individuals once they are away from a licensed premises and therefore beyond the direct control of individual licensees or certificate holders. However, licensees and certificate holders should take reasonable steps to prevent the occurrence of crime and disorder and public nuisance immediately outside their premises, for example on the pavement, in a beer garden, or (once the smoking ban comes into force) in a smoking shelter, where and to the extent that these matters are within their control.

1.27 In addition, when considering a new premises licence or following reviews that have identified problems with a particular premises, licensing authorities may consider imposing conditions as appropriate, such as preventing customers from taking open containers outside the premises or installing CCTV. However, any conditions imposed must not be aspirational and must be within the control of the licensee. For example, a condition may require a premises to adopt a particular dispersal policy, but a licensee cannot force customers to abide by it.

Hours of Trading

10.19 In some town and city centre areas where the number, type and density of premises selling alcohol for consumption on the premises are unusual, serious problems of nuisance and disorder may arise outside or some distance from licensed premises. For example, concentrations of young drinkers can result in queues at fast food outlets and for public transport, which may in turn lead to conflict, disorder and anti-social behaviour. In some circumstances, flexible licensing hours may reduce this impact by allowing a more gradual dispersal of customers from premises.

10.20 However, there is no general presumption in favour of lengthening licensing hours and the four licensing objectives should be paramount considerations at all times. Where there are objections to an application and the committee believes that changing the licensing hours would undermine the licensing objectives, they may reject the application or grant it with appropriate conditions and/or different hours from those requested.

10.21 Shops, stores and supermarkets should normally 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 good reasons, based on the licensing objectives, for restricting those hours. For example, a limitation may be appropriate following police representations in the case of some shops known to be a focus of disorder and disturbance because youths gather there.