

Licensing Panel

Thursday, 28 August 2014

10.00 am

Present:

Cllr John Loughlin (Chair)

Councillors: Richard Smith
Michael Wenban

Martin Goodman	Corporate Lawyer
Christina Hills	Senior Licensing Officer
Carlie Plowman	Committee Services Officer

Also in attendance:

PC Christopher Hill	North Kent Police
Mr Nimit Bhupendrabhai Patel	Premises Licence Holder
Mr Stewart Gibson	Representative of the Premises Licence Holder

33. Declarations of Interest

No declarations of interest were made.

34. Licence GM/PRE/10/0005 - Londis, 140-143 Milton Road, Gravesend

The Panel considered an application by North Kent Police for the review of the Premises Licence granted under the Licensing Act 2003 in respect of Londis, 140-143 Milton Road, Gravesend - Licence GM/PRE/10/0005.

The ground for applying for the review was in relation to the licensing objective of:-

- Prevention of crime and disorder.

Londis was visited in a joint operation between Kent Police Licensing and officers from HM Revenue & Customs (HMRC) on 1 July 2014. During the visit, 126.1 litres of non-duty paid alcohol was seized by HMRC.

The following remedial action was requested by North Kent Police:-

- Revocation of the premises licence.
- If the above was not the decision of the Licensing Panel, North Kent Police would request:-
 - Suspension of the premises licence for a period of 3 months to allow the venue to reset; and
 - Removal of the Designated Premises Supervisor – Mr Amandeep Singh.

The Senior Licensing Officer advised that Mr Nimit Bhupendrabhai Patel was now the Designated Premises Supervisor.

PC Christopher Hill (North Kent Police) and Mr Stewart Gibson (Representative of the Premises Licence Holder) addressed the Panel.

The Panel adjourned to consider its decision.

Determination

Having considered the information provided in the written report compiled by the Senior Licensing Officer and presented to the Licensing Panel; the representations of PC Christopher Hill and Mr Stewart Gibson; the Council's Statement of Licensing Policy; the statutory guidance of the Secretary of State; and the licensing objectives, the Panel decided to the:-

1. Suspension of the premises licence for a period of 3 months, to allow the venue to reset; and
2. No beers, lager or cider to be sold above 6.5% ABV as supported by the Premises Licence Holder and in line with Gravesham Borough Council's "Reducing the Strength" campaign.

Advice

The Panel also suggested that the Premises Licence Holder:-

1. Ensures that there is adequate staffing levels to cover the opening hours of the premises, staff absence etc. as the current conditions state that there must be at least 2 members of staff working in the shop at all times whilst trading; and
2. Ensures that the refusal/incident book is kept maintained at all times and made available for inspection when required.

The Senior Licensing Officer informed the Premises Licence Holder of his right of appeal against the determination.

Close of meeting

The meeting ended at 11.29 am