

Licensing Sub-Committee
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Licensing Service

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Our Ref: 17/03880/LAREVI

Date: 10 October 2017

Dear Members of the Licensing Sub-Committee

**Re: Licensing Act 2003 - Application for the review of a premises licence
Painters Arms 18 Lake Road Portsmouth PO1 4HA**

I refer to the recent application by the Chief Officer of Police for the review of a premises licence in respect of the premises known as the Painters Arms and situated at 18 Lake Road, Portsmouth, PO1 4HA.

On behalf of the Licensing Authority, I would wish to make formal representations in relation to the application on the following grounds:

- Prevention of crime and disorder

The Licensing Authority has grave concerns relating to the lack of overall management and supervision of these premises by Ms Bernice Gofton, the current premises licence holder and designated premises supervisor which have, as a consequence, had a negative impact on the promotion of the licensing objectives relating to the prevention of crime and disorder.

Ms Gofton has been the designated premises supervisor at these premises since 2009 and subsequently took over these premises by way of transfer of the premises licence in September 2014. Prior to this the licence was held by Enterprise Inns.

The review application comprehensively sets out the number of incidents that have given rise to the application. It is quite apparent that there has been a deterioration in control by Ms Gofton, both in her role as premises licence holder and designated premises supervisor.

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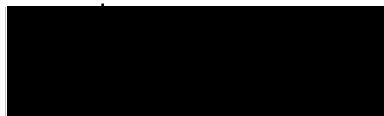
Reference is drawn to paragraph 24.10 of the Council's statement of licensing policy which states:

"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 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".

The review application clearly shows that the Police Licensing Team have engaged with Ms Gofton repeatedly since 2014 but, despite this, there has been no improvement in compliance with conditions on the licence relating to CCTV and incidences of selling alcohol beyond the authorised times. Of greater concern however, is the recent incidents of violence at the premises and the lack of control and supervision being exercised by the current licence holder and DPS.

Given the extent of the problems evidenced by the Police in the review application and the subsequent detrimental impact on the prevention of crime and disorder licensing objective, I would concur with the recommendation that the most appropriate course of action for the sub-committee to take would be to revoke the premises licence in respect of these premises.

Yours sincerely

A solid black rectangular box used to redact the signature of Nickii Humphreys.

Nickii Humphreys
Licensing Manager

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