

# H A M P S H I R E C o n s t a b u l a r y

Chief Constable Paul R. Kernaghan QPM LL.B MA DPM MCIPD

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17 January 2005

Dear Nickii,

**RE: LICENSING ACT 2003-POLICE REPRESENTATION FOR SPECIAL SATURATION POLICIES- GUILDHALL AND SOUTH PARADE AREAS**

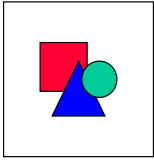
On behalf of the Chief Officer of Police, as the police officer with the direct responsibility for licensing matters in Portsmouth, I write to make a representation to the Licensing Committee to adopt special policies addressing cumulative impact in the above named areas. It is our assertion that the promotion of the licensing objectives, in particular Prevention of Crime and Disorder, Prevention of Public Nuisance and Public Safety cannot be effectively achieved in these areas unless special policies are adopted.

As you will know there has been a steady and significant increase in violent crime in these entertainment areas coupled with growing public concern. The Hampshire Constabulary has been working very closely with a range of partners to tackle the problems resulting from large volumes of people emerging from the high numbers of licensed premises located within these areas.

Many actions have been taken over a number of years in an attempt to reduce violent crime and disorder but still the result of many thousands of alcohol consuming customers in and around the clubs and pubs of Guildhall Walk and South Parade and their adjoining roads has continued to frustrate any attempt.

Over successive strategy phases, The Safer Portsmouth Partnership (Portsmouth's statutory Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership) has had a priority to reduce violent crime in the entertainment areas. This involves a multi-agency group with specific delivery plans to move on issues such as increased High Visibility Policing, Pub and Club Watch and improvements in transport and environment. Despite this, crime and disorder, and in particular violent offences, continues to rise unabated.

Whilst we can point to certain initiatives targeting individual areas and premises having some effect on reducing problems, we are of the opinion that the increase in licensed premises, particularly those of a type described as Night Clubs and High Volume Vertical Drinking Establishments and Take Away premises in Guildhall and South Parade areas has reached saturation point. We believe that any further increase in the number or capacity of such premises will add to the cumulative effect of Crime and Disorder we are now experiencing.



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We agree strongly with the findings of the British Crime Survey which states that;

- almost half of all violent crime is alcohol related (47%)
- stranger violence and acquaintance violence are the most likely to be committed by someone under the influence of alcohol (58% and 52% respectively)
- One in 5 violent incidents occur in or around pubs or clubs(21%)
- A quarter of the population perceive drunk and rowdy behaviour to be a 'very' or 'fairly' big problem.

Please find enclosed with this representation, supporting analytical data which highlights Crime and Disorder problems associated with licensed premises in the Guildhall and South Parade areas. The data, presented in three consecutive reports, was extracted between 1<sup>st</sup> February 2004 to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2004. I must stress that this data only represents crime and incidents which have been recorded by police. It does not include other incidents which are not reported or recorded by police.

I have also included maps with the proposed areas for the Committees consideration.

## **GUILDHALL**

The area proposed for Guildhall is defined by the shaded area namely;

Isambard Brunel Road from the southern side of the railway lines and going east and then south at the roundabout. Turn west into Alec Rose Lane and across the western end of the Law Courts to Winston Churchill Avenue and into King Richard Road. North across the car park to the west of St Michael's Building and into White Swan Road. Then North into Exchange Road, across King Henry 1<sup>st</sup> Street and behind the Guildhall to the railway lines, then east to Isambard Brunel Road.

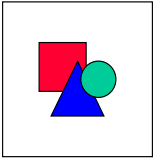
## **SOUTH PARADE**

The area proposed for South parade includes the residential roads in the immediate vicinity which are known as feeder routes to the late night venues for both vehicles and pedestrians. The area is defined by the shaded area, namely;

All roads including and lying within the boundary of Granada Road including The Strand at the junction with Clarendon Road, eastwards to the junction with St Helen's Parade, then southwest along South Parade, including South Parade Pier, to the junction with Eastern Villas Road. Then north to the junction with Clarendon Road. Then Northwest to the junction with The Strand and Granada Road.

The wider benefits of entertainment venues being developed as part of Portsmouth's economic and cultural strategy are to be encouraged. The Evening and Late Night Economy Partnership is promoting this philosophy. I am pleased to say that Hampshire Constabulary has been actively involved in the establishment of the Partnership and it's subgroups. It fully supports these developments where they lead to the promotion of the Licensing Objectives.

I look forward to working with you in the near future.



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Yours Sincerely

Richard Taylor  
Inspector  
Community Safety Unit  
Portsmouth BCU