
Mr Manpreet S Kapoor
Personal Licence Courses Ltd
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Newport
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11th September 2017

Your Ref 223728230

Licensing Representation to the Initial Application for the Premises Licence for Who's Next Food and Wine, 6 Library Parade, Craven Park Road, NW10 8SG

I certify that I have considered the application shown above and wish to make representations that the likely effect of the grant of the application is detrimental to the Licensing Objectives for the reasons indicated below.

Officer: Esther Chan – Licensing Inspector

An officer of the Licensing Authority, in whose area the premises are situated, who is authorised for the purposes of exercising its statutory function as a 'Responsible Authority' under the Licensing Act 2003.

The application has been made for a new Premises Licence under section 17 of the Act. The Licensing Authority representations are primarily concerned with the four licensing objectives;

- the prevention of crime and disorder;
- public safety;
- the prevention of public nuisance; and
- the protection of children from harm.

Representation

The previous Premises Licence 843550 at the above named address was revoked by committee on 5th April 2017. At the time of writing this representation licence no 843550 is still within the appeal period.

Following the receipt of this application for a new premise licence received on 16th August 2017, which was submitted by an agent on the behalf of the applicant, I conducted a visit to the premises on Monday 4th September 2017.

The premise was open to the public and alcoholic beverages were exposed for sale in the premises. Mr Mukesh Kumar Popley, a personal licence holder, who I recall meeting from my previous visits to the premises was working behind the counter.

During my visit, I asked Mr Popley to confirm who was in charge of the premise and he stated the new applicant, Mr Kulbir Khaneja was the owner and he pays his wages on a weekly basis.

I then asked Mr Popley to show me the refusal and incident records, which he was unable to provide. I asked him if he knew the conditions embedded on premise licence and he said he knew nothing.

Subsequent to my visit, I called the applicant Mr Kulbir Khaneja on Friday 8th September 2017 to discuss his new premise licence application.

Mr Khaneja confirmed that he has not purchased the shop, however his solicitors are dealing with the paperwork and subject to the grant of this application, he is intending to sign a 10 years lease. Mr Khaneja knew about the sale of this shop via a friend known as Gurmit Singh and is aware of the issues with the current premise licence holder. He believes the premises licence was removed due to unpaid duty items.

Currently, Mr Khaneja visits the premises three to four times a week to observe the clientele. Mr Khaneja stated that the area has improved compared to a few years ago. In terms of anti-social behaviour, street drinking has gone down in his opinion.

Mr Khaneja stated that he had a shop in Egham, Surrey and has 10 years of experience. In relation to training his staff, it would only be himself and his son working at the shop. His son will apply for a personal licence.

I asked Mr Khaneja if he had intentions to employ any current staff members including Mr Popley, which his response was 'no' as he wanted a family run business. I asked Mr Khaneja if he was paying Mr Popley. Mr Khaneja initially stated that he and the current owner are both paying Mr Popley's wages but when I asked him to confirm if he employed Mr Popley, he then stated Mr Popley was only borrowing the money.

With regards to the business operation, I asked Mr Khaneja to confirm his proposed trading hours. Mr Khaneja confirmed that he would like to open from 6am – 12am, 7 days a week, which includes the sale of alcohol from 6am onwards.

According to the application form, the proposed hours for the supply of alcohol is Monday to Sunday from 8am – 12am.

Mr Khaneja confirmed that he would like to supply single cans of high strength beers namely, Kestrel Special (9% abv), K-Cider (8.4% abv), Tennent's Super (9% abv), Ace White (7.5% abv) and imported Guinness, at a price of £1.29 to £1.99 per can.

According to the application form, under the prevention and crime objective, the agent has stipulated 'no sale of strong beers, lagers and ciders above 6.5%' and 'no single cans of beers, lagers and ciders to be sold.'

Towards the end of our telephone conversation, I asked Mr Khaneja if he was aware of what his agent has applied for on the application form for a new premise licence. Mr Khaneja stated that he requested a standard application with not too many conditions. He wants to keep his licence 'open' and not restrict his customers

Summary

This premises falls within a high crime hot spot area and in terms of the actual premises location, it tends to attract various anti social behaviour including street drinking.

It would appear Mr Khaneja has intentions to supply single cans as well as high strength beers, ciders and lagers which contradict the intended steps to be taken in order to promote the licensing objectives as stipulated on his application .

Based on my visit and my telephone conversation with the applicant, it is apparent that Mr Khaneja is not fully aware of the issues connected to the existing premise licence and the implications of this new application.

As a result, I have no other option other than to refuse this application on the ground that I do not believe the applicant will be able to promote the licensing objectives.

Yours faithfully



Esther Chan
Licensing Inspector
Planning, Transportation & Licensing



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