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Brent Police Licensing Unit

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Date: 31st August 2017

Police representation to the Premises Licence application for 'Lloyds grocery

I certify that I have considered the application shown above and **I 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: Michael Sullivan
Licensing Constable

An officer of the Metropolitan Police, 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 a Premise licence under section 17 of the act.

The Police representations are primarily concerned with **crime and disorder, prevention of public nuisance, and the Protection of Children from Harm.**

Lloyds groceries is applying for a New premise Licence under section 17 of the licensing Act,2003, they have applied to sell alcohol from 08.00 to 23.00 hours Monday to Sunday.

The premises is a small Grocers shop on Craven Park NW10, the premises has and still is a focus for drug dealing and drug use, along with a considerable amount of Anti-Social Behaviour.

There is a constant crowd that gather in and around the shop on a daily basis, most are known street drinkers and can be seen drinking from cans of beer or plastic cups.

The shop has previously been advised to apply for a licence after being found to be selling alcohol and have ignored this advice for many years.
The shop was recently subject to a police raid under section 23 Misuse of drugs Act warrant where drugs were found inside the premises.
Also found during the search was a large amount of alcohol located around the shop for sale.

I have looked at the last two years history of the premises in relation to recorded crimes, and worryingly there are numerous crimes, mainly drugs offences and assaults.

Most recently as mentioned above a section 23 Misuse of drugs Act warrant was executed at the premises, during the search the owners son who was working in the shop at the time was arrested for possession of cannabis, money laundering and licensing offences.

A large quantity of alcohol was found on the premises for sale.

On the 5/7/2017 were called to outside the shop to a person being assaulted and receiving injuries consistent with a Grievous Bodily Harm.

On the 6/6/17 a female alleged that she had been assaulted after being accused of trying to steal fruit from the front of the shop

02/06/2017 Drugs Warrant executed and member of staff (owners son) arrested for numerous offences.

02/06/2017 as above warrant executed another male found inside the shop in possession of drugs.

26/01/2017 another Grievous Bodily Harm where the owner's son is believed to be the suspect.

27/12/2016 report of a male having his wallet stolen whilst queuing inside the shop.

24/08/2016 the victim is hit with a bottle whilst outside the shop by a male offering to sell him drugs, he is then attacked by three males; main suspect was drinking alcohol from a glass bottle.

23/02/2016 A drugs warrant is executed on the premises, where a male is seen coming out of the shop toilet and discards 22 wraps of cannabis, he is further searched and found in possession of more drugs.

On the 04/10/2016 I visited the premises, below are my notes from my visit

Alcohol on sale, the shop does not have a premises licence

Spoke to a male serving behind the counter who was reluctant to talk, eventually spoke to the owner Mr Lloyd TATE

It was explained to him that he was not allowed to sell alcohol as there was not a premise licence for the shop.

Mr TATE said he had applied for a licence but the application was refused as he had not filled out the application correctly, he then went on to say that he was unable to attend the hearing as he was away at the time.

I explained again to him that if he wanted to sell alcohol that he would need to apply for a licence and that all alcohol needed to be removed from the shelves, I advised him to put in an application and whilst the consultation period was in place to apply for a TEN to allow him to sell

*He then started to remove the alcohol from the shelves.
I asked him who would be the DPS for the shop, he did not know what a DPS was.
He does not hold a personal licence neither does any of his staff
Later in the day I received a call from a female who stated that she was Mr TATES niece and that she would be dealing with the application however she didn't seem to know much about licensed premises.
I gave her some basic advise and suggested that she speak with a licensing agent.
Also noted during my visit that there were several large knives around the shop I told Mr TATE that they needed to be removed, he stated that they use them to cut fruit and vegetables, but reluctantly removed them, only to re-appear as I was leaving.
There was a large bottle opener tied to a piece of string on the counter which Mr TATE said was for opening peoples drink when they stand out the front, again I explained that this was unacceptable and must stop.
He seemed unfazed by what I was saying and I am not sure much of what I had said will be implemented.
I explained to him that selling alcohol without a licence was an offence again he did not seem that bothered and I believe will continue selling without a licence.*

Attached is a statement from the Harlesden Safer Neighbourhoods Office, PC Jenkins, which outlines the problems the area suffers from street drinkers associated with this premises and details of offence found during the execution of a recent drugs warrant.

On the 25/08/2017 I visited the premise to discuss the application, on entering the venue I observed a male inside the shop drinking from an open bottle of alcohol, during my visit a large amount of alcohol was found on the shelves being displayed for sale, Mr Lloyd TATE was asked about this under caution and stated that he knew it was an offence to sell alcohol without a licence, he stated that he did not know the items contained alcohol, he was asked about the licensing objectives and age verification policy but did not know what they were, with all of the above I have serious concerns that the premises will not uphold the licensing objectives, Mr Lloyd TATE has disregarded all advice given to him over the years and continued selling alcohol without a licence, drugs have been found on the premises on two occasions that a drugs warrant has been executed, and there is violence associated with the premises.

I ask that this application be refused, as it is clear from the above evidence that the shop will be unable to uphold the licensing objectives, there has been no training of staff on licensing matters.

Yours Sincerely,

PC Michael Sullivan 68QK
Licensing Constable Brent Police