



# **Alcohol and Entertainment Licensing Sub-Committee – Supplementary Agenda**

**Monday 14 July 2025 at 10.30 am**

Boardrooms 1&2 - Brent Civic Centre, Engineers Way,  
Wembley HA9 0FJ

**Please note that this meeting will be held in person with members of the Sub-Committee required to attend in person.**

## **Membership:**

### **Members**

Councillors:

Ahmed (Chair)  
Hylton  
L Smith

### **Substitute Members:**

Councillors:

Akram, Bajwa, Chohan, Clinton, Long,  
Mahmood, Rajan-Seelan

**For further information contact:** Devbai Bhanji, Governance Assistant  
Tel: 020 8937 6841; Email: [devbai.bhanji@brent.gov.uk](mailto:devbai.bhanji@brent.gov.uk)

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[Council meetings and decision making | Brent Council](#)

**Please note proceedings for this meeting are not being webcast. The press and public will, however, be welcome to attend the open parts of this meeting in person.**

### **Notes for Members - Declarations of Interest:**

If a Member is aware they have a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest\* in an item of business, they must declare its existence and nature at the start of the meeting or when it becomes apparent and must leave the room without participating in discussion of the item.

If a Member is aware they have a Personal Interest\*\* in an item of business, they must declare its existence and nature at the start of the meeting or when it becomes apparent.

If the Personal Interest is also significant enough to affect your judgement of a public interest and either it affects a financial position or relates to a regulatory matter then after disclosing the interest to the meeting the Member must leave the room without participating in discussion of the item, except that they may first make representations, answer questions or give evidence relating to the matter, provided that the public are allowed to attend the meeting for those purposes.

### **\*Disclosable Pecuniary Interests:**

- (a) **Employment, etc.** - Any employment, office, trade, profession or vocation carried on for profit gain.
- (b) **Sponsorship** - Any payment or other financial benefit in respect of expenses in carrying out duties as a member, or of election; including from a trade union.
- (c) **Contracts** - Any current contract for goods, services or works, between the Councillors or their partner (or a body in which one has a beneficial interest) and the council.
- (d) **Land** - Any beneficial interest in land which is within the council's area.
- (e) **Licences** - Any licence to occupy land in the council's area for a month or longer.
- (f) **Corporate tenancies** - Any tenancy between the council and a body in which the Councillor or their partner have a beneficial interest.
- (g) **Securities** - Any beneficial interest in securities of a body which has a place of business or land in the council's area, if the total nominal value of the securities exceeds £25,000 or one hundredth of the total issued share capital of that body or of any one class of its issued share capital.

### **\*\*Personal Interests:**

The business relates to or affects:

- (a) Anybody of which you are a member or in a position of general control or management, and:
  - To which you are appointed by the council;
  - which exercises functions of a public nature;
  - which is directed is to charitable purposes;
  - whose principal purposes include the influence of public opinion or policy (including a political party or trade union).
- (b) The interests of a person from whom you have received gifts or hospitality of at least £50 as a member in the municipal year;

or

A decision in relation to that business might reasonably be regarded as affecting the well-being or financial position of:

- You yourself;
- a member of your family or your friend or any person with whom you have a close association or any person or body who is the subject of a registrable personal interest.

# Supplementary Agenda

Item	Page
<b>3 Application for the Review a Premises Licence following a Closure Order by Metropolitan Police for the premises known as Essentials, 383 Church Lane, London, NW9 8JB, pursuant to the provisions of the Licensing Act 2003 – Additional supplementary representations</b>	<b>1 - 14</b>

The additional supplementary representations have been attached.

Members are reminded that part of the representations to be considered in relation to the above application will involve the disclosure of exempt information (as detailed in 4 below). The Sub Committee will therefore be asked to exclude the press and public from the meeting whilst these representations are considered.

## **4 Exclusion of the Press & Public**

The following items are not for publication as they relate to the category of exempt information set out below, as specified under Part 1, Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972:

Agenda Item 3: Application for the Review of a Premises Licence following a Closure Order by Metropolitan Police for the premises known as Essentials. 383 Church Lane, London, NW9 8JB – attachments 3.3 – 3.13 containing police representations.

These representations have been classified as exempt under Paragraph 7 of Part 1 Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, namely: "Information relating to any action taken or to be taken in connection with the prevention, investigation or prosecution of crime".

If identified as required during the review hearing being conducted under Agenda Item 3 above, the Sub Committee will be asked to consider the exclusion of the press and public from the meeting on the basis that detailed consideration of the application and supporting representations will also involve disclosure of the following category of exempt information as specified in Paragraph 7, Part 1 Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, namely:

"Information relating to any action taken or to be taken in connection with the prevention, investigation or prosecution of crime".

**Date of the next meeting:            Monday 14 July 2025 - @2.30pm**



- Please remember to ***SWITCH OFF*** your mobile phone during the meeting.
- The meeting room is accessible by lift and seats will be provided for members of the public.



Business Licence  
Regulatory Services  
Brent Council  
Engineers Way  
Wembley  
HA9 0FJ

10 July 2025

Ref: 35403

Dear Business Licence,

**Representation in support of the review for Essentials, 383 Church Lane, NW9 8JB  
(Premises licence number: 162470).**

The above-mentioned review has been made pursuant to section 167 of the Licensing Act 2003 following a closure order made under section 80 of the Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 which was obtained by Metropolitan Police Service at Willesden Magistrates Court on 2 July 2025.

As the delegated officer of the Licensing Authority, acting as a defined 'Responsible Authority' under the Licensing Act 2003, I confirm my representation in support of the review initiated by Metropolitan Police Service.

This representation is made on the grounds that the continued operation of this premises licence, without further intervention, could undermine one out of the four below licensing objectives:

- **The prevention of crime and disorder.**
- Public safety.
- The prevention of public nuisance.
- The protection of children from harm.

Licence History

The current premises licence is held by Mr Mahesh Hamraj Shah, who has been the premises licence holder in an individual capacity since November 2005. Mr Mahesh Hamraj Shah is also the designated premises supervisor.

Review History

The premises licence has been subject to two previous review hearings:

28 February 2017 – This review application was submitted by the Licensing Authority on the grounds that the licensing objectives of the prevention of crime and disorder and the protection of children from harm were being undermined. This followed an allegation that a 15-year-old child had been sold vodka. Subsequently, during the investigation of this allegation, several non-compliance issues surfaced, including Mr Shah failing to provide CCTV to the Licensing Authority upon request. As a consequence of the review hearing, the Licensing Sub-Committee imposed a number of conditions and curtailed the hours of licensable activity.

March 2011 – This review application was submitted by the Metropolitan Police Service on the grounds that the licensing objective of the prevention of crime and disorder was being undermined. This followed an allegation made by the Metropolitan Police Service that the premises was being used to sell controlled drugs. The Metropolitan Police Service asserted that the son of the premises licence holder and designated premises supervisor was responsible for this. Consequently, the Licensing Sub-Committee imposed further conditions on the premises licence, including one that was specifically intended to exclude the son of the premises licence holder from being on the premises.

### Complaints

27 January 2007 – During a joint test purchasing operation between Brent Council's Trading Standards and the Metropolitan Police Service, the premises failed a test purchase after a volunteer aged 14 purchased a bottle of Bacardi Breezer. Consequently, the company was convicted for an offence under section 149 of the Licensing Act 2003 and was fined £275 and ordered to pay £200 in costs.

### Summary

The Licensing Authority fully supports the Metropolitan Police Service's grounds for triggering a review of this premises licence.

This review has been made pursuant to section 167 of the Licensing Act 2003 following a closure order made under section 80 of the Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014. This closure order would have had to be signed off by a Justice of the Peace at Willesden Magistrates Court.

It should be pertinent to note that the evidence presented to the Magistrate must have been compelling enough to satisfy the statutory threshold to sign off on the closure order itself, which prohibits access to the premises to anyone for the maximum period of three months on the grounds that:

*“(a)that a person has engaged, or (if the order is not made) is likely to engage, in disorderly, offensive or criminal behaviour on the premises, or  
(b)that the use of the premises has resulted, or (if the order is not made) is likely to result, in serious nuisance to members of the public, or  
(c)that there has been, or (if the order is not made) is likely to be, disorder near those premises associated with the use of those premises,  
and that the order is necessary to prevent the behaviour, nuisance or disorder from continuing, recurring or occurring.”*

Given the above, the Licensing Authority has significant concerns that the licensing objective of the prevention of crime and disorder is being undermined to such an extent that the Metropolitan Police deemed it necessary to obtain a closure order for three months.

The Licensing Authority refers the Licensing Sub-Committee to paragraphs 11.27 and 11.28 of the Section 182 Guidance. Paragraph 11.27 sets out that certain criminal activities connected with licensed premises should be treated particularly seriously. Furthermore, paragraph 11.28 states that where reviews arise and it is determined that the crime prevention objective is being undermined through the premises being used to further crimes, it is expected that revocation of the licence, even in the first instance, should be seriously considered.

Therefore, the Licensing Authority requests that the Licensing Sub-Committee take the above paragraphs into consideration when making its determination.

Other factors to consider include the two historical review hearings over the years, including one involving very similar circumstances, and whether the premises licence holder has taken every possible step to go above and beyond to ensure that the four licensing objectives are being actively promoted at all times.

In addition to this, the Licensing Authority also requests that the Sub-Committee consider the reasoning and context as to why the Metropolitan Police felt obliged to obtain a closure order to mitigate against the current issues associated with the premises.

As such, the Licensing Authority would support any decision to revoke the premises licence, if the Licensing Sub-Committee deems this appropriate based on the evidence provided both in advance and on the day of the hearing.

Yours sincerely,



Edwin Maldoom  
Licensing Enforcement Officer

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 05 July 2025 17:50  
**To:** Business Licence <business.licence@brent.gov.uk>  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** PLEASE FIND ATTACHED

Please consider the following

**Business Licence Review – Essentials, 383 Church Lane, NW9 8JB Statement of Observations – Licensing Act 2003, Section 187**

I recently saw the public notice regarding Brent Council's review of the premises licence for Essentials, located at 383 Church Lane, NW9 8JB. As a [REDACTED] living [REDACTED] [REDACTED] from the shop, I wish to formally submit the following observations based on my experiences and ongoing concerns:

**1. Personal Safety and Public Atmosphere** The presence of the shop contributes to a degraded and sometimes hostile environment. Small groups regularly gather outside, which can feel intimidating—particularly for older residents. Living in [REDACTED] [REDACTED], I often feel personally unsafe.

**2. Street Drinking and Littering** Customers are frequently seen consuming alcohol outside the premises and leaving behind bottles and cans. This behaviour creates litter and undermines the visual appeal and cleanliness of the area.

**3. Suspected Substance Use** There is a persistent strong smoke odour in the vicinity of the shop. While I cannot confirm the substance involved, it clearly differs from ordinary cigarette smoke and may suggest marijuana or another form of drug use. This contributes to an unsettling atmosphere.

**4. Aggressive and Uncontrolled Dogs** Dogs associated with the shop are frequently left unsupervised. They bark loudly and have been seen wandering into private gardens. At times, their behaviour has been aggressive or even vicious, causing distress to nearby residents and heightening safety concerns.

I respectfully ask that these points be taken into account during the licence review process.

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this address for the past 3 years and noticed that the shop Essentials has been closed.

I have known mr Shah and his son richi, from the very first day i moved here. I introduced my self to all the local shops and i instantly took a liking to Mr shah as he was very polite, welcoming and respectful. He made me and my mum feel very comfortable, unlike alot of other shops in the area, which is why i always use this shop.

The prices are good, has a good selection of drinks, which are always cold and everyday essentials as well as a gas/electric topup which made it so convenient for us.

The shop is always clean as i see Mr shah moping and hovering most mornings when i come in.

Both shop keepers are very helpful, always happy to help, even when i dont have any money Its nice to have a local corner shop that values its customers and treat people with respect.

From coming to Mr shah shop i have made alot more friends in the area, by introducing me to many of the local people that i didnt previously know.

Its a shame that this shop is now closed. Means i have to go to the other shop that charges more, with rude owners.

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I have used Mr Shah shop from day 1, he and his son have always been very helpful and respectful from day one. I try to use Mr shahs shop for most of my day to day needs as I live next door and it's so pleasant to talk to them as I shop. Most of the time there is always a great conversation to listen to or be involved with with other customers and the shop keepers. I have never felt anything bad about the shop nor have I seen anything criminal going on. I see many familys and children use the shop all day and in the evenings everyone I always so relaxed and easy to talk to. The local community loves Mr Shah, he is the nicest man and ready to help anyone, definitely the purest heart I have met in ages and I miss our talks in the morning which really did help me improve. I don't agree that Mr Shah or his son deserve these accusations and I have not seen any nuisances or crime from the shop. Please have Mr Shah open as soon as possible, many people not just me have struggled as they also help me and others when my pay doesn't last, for food and drink to keep me going until I can pay it back. No other man has shown me that trust in London and I'm sure I'm not the only one. Please help

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Me and my family have known Mr shah and his wife and sons for a few years now.

Mr shahs off-licence is a fantastic local shop. Always well stocked, clean and friendly staff. They also sell many of our favourite indian snacks, which saves me going all the way to wembley on the bus.

What makes essentials even more special is the owners them selves.

Very friendly, polite and extremely helpful and knowledgeable.

I first started coming to buy milk and bread and over time, Mr shah is seen like a father to me and my family.

I like coming here because the family can speak to me in my mother tongue 'gujrati' and explain everything correctly, which makes it very comfortable for me to understand.

He more than happy to help in any way he can not only to me but to many of the people that come into his shop.

My daughter loves coming to the shop after school with her friends and spending time with both rishi and mahesh as they take the time to speak to everyone nicely

Because of this i always tell all the other indian people to shop at his store and support this buiness, as their prices are very fair, they dont cheat their customers and the shop keepers are very nice people.

I stand outside mr shah shop for a few hours in the morning with my little son, who loves coming here and spending time with the family and his dogs who he loves. I also help then offload their stock, when their other son brings, which im more than happy to help with as i have alot of respect for their family.

Whenever i have friends coming to meet me i tell them to wait for me by the side of the shop, as its a safe/ trouble free area to wait, with pleanty of friendly locals to talk to.

Its sad to here that a well respected man and his established business has had to close for no fault of his own.

We need more shops and polite shop keepers like this, as its definitely helps our indian community, to feel alot safer and comfortable. I have met many other people from different backgrounds, whom i have become good friends with over time.

Thank you



I am writing with deep sadness and concern regarding the recent closure of MR Shahs beloved off-licence in our community.

It is heartbreaking to see such a longstanding and cherished local business temporarily closed. MR Shah and his son Rishi, have not only been reliable shopkeepers, but also a kind and familiar face to many of us for years.

I have been shopping at their store for the past 20 years. MR Shah and his son are two of the nicest shopkeepers you will meet, very welcoming and polite, and it is the local's shop, a safe and welcoming space for people of all ages, backgrounds and disabilities.

MR SHAH always greets customers with warmth, remembers people by name and really helps everyone where he can. Being an elderly single woman with disabilities, they are more than happy to give credit and deliver my products to my house, which is a rare occurrence, as many shops don't provide this service, which has really affected me, and some of my neighbours as now we have to go without certain products when we really need.

I walk past the shop every morning & evening on my way home and very happy to stop and say hello and spend 5/10 min talking to all the polite / respectable people entering the shop as well as MR Shah himself.

He has built an Establish business through hard work and being honest to his customers, reason for why me and so many of my elderly friends support his business.

The shop is always kept clean, well lit and enough room for me to walk around their shop, with my walking frame.

Even the customers inside are always very friendly and helpful, which makes it ~~very~~ comfortable and easy for me to shop.

My favorite part of visiting the shop is speaking to Mr Shah & dogs. Such lovely boys. Just like the family that own them

It's a shame the closure of shop has really affected a lot of people like myself, it was a place not only to shop, but also a place to meet lovely people and get us out of my flat ~~to~~ without feeling unsafe. Now we have to just wait for the shop to re-open, so we can start getting our essentials again without the rip-off prices, like some of the other shops around here

19th July 2025.