



Committee: LICENSING ACT SUB-COMMITTEE

Date: TUESDAY, 4 APRIL 2017

Venue: LANCASTER TOWN HALL

Time: 2.30 P.M.

A G E N D A

1. **Mognies Restaurant & Takeaway, 66 Penny Street, Lancaster** (Pages 1 - 35)

Application for the Review of the Premise Licence

ADMINISTRATIVE ARRANGEMENTS

(i) Membership

Councillors Claire Cozler (Chairman), June Ashworth and Stuart Bateson

(ii) Queries regarding this Agenda

Please contact Jane Glenton, Democratic Services - telephone: (01524) 582068 or email jglenton@lancaster.gov.uk.

SUSAN PARSONAGE,
CHIEF EXECUTIVE,
TOWN HALL,
DALTON SQUARE,
LANCASTER, LA1 1PJ

Published on Tuesday, 28 March 2017.

LICENSING ACT SUB COMMITTEE

**Licensing Act 2003
Premise Licence Review – Mognies Restaurant
& Takeaway, 66 Penny Street, Lancaster
Determination of Application for the Review of the
Premise Licence
4th April 2017**

Report of Licensing Enforcement Officer

PURPOSE OF REPORT

To enable Members to determine an application for a review of a Premise Licence under Section 51 of the Licensing Act 2003 submitted by Police Constable Andrew Taylor on behalf of the Chief Constable of the Lancashire Constabulary.

The report is public

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Sub-Committee is requested to consider the application from Lancashire Constabulary for the review of the premise licence, and any submissions made by the premises licence holder.

In accordance with Section 52 (3) and (4) of the Licensing Act 2003, the Sub-Committee must take such of the following steps as it considers necessary for the promotion of the licensing objectives:

- (a) to modify the conditions of the licence,
- (b) to exclude a licensable activity from the scope of the licence,
- (c) to remove the designated premises supervisor
- (d) to suspend the licence for a period not exceeding three months,
- (e) to revoke the licence

The matter for decision, therefore, is which, if any, of these steps should be taken.

1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 The proceedings set out in the 2003 Act for reviewing premises licences and club premises certificates represent a key protection for the community where problems associated with the licensing objectives occur after the grant or variation of a premises licence or club premises certificate.

- 1.2 At any stage, following the grant of a premises licence or club premises certificate, a responsible authority, or any other person, may ask the licensing authority to review the licence or certificate because of a matter arising at the premises in connection with any of the four licensing objectives .
- 1.3 The Chief Constable of Lancashire Constabulary has submitted an application for review of a premises licence under Section 51 of the Licensing Act 2003. The application relates to Mognies Restaurant & Takeaway, 66 Penny Street, Lancaster. A copy of the application is at Appendix No 1. The grounds for submitting the review are based on two of the four licensing objectives, namely;
- The promotion of public safety;
 - The protection of children from harm.
- 1.4 A copy of the premises licence for Mognies Restaurant & Takeaway is attached at Appendix No.2. This licence was granted to the premises on 2nd September 2008.
- 1.5 In accordance with the relevant Regulations, the parties have been given Notice of the Hearing. A copy of the Notice of Hearing is attached for Members' attention at Appendix No. 3.

2.0 Legal Background to Review Application

- 2.1 Under Section 51 (1) of the Licensing Act 2003, a responsible authority or other person may apply to the licensing authority for the review of a licence.

The grounds for review must relate to one or more of the licensing objectives and as Members will be aware, these are:

- the prevention of crime and disorder;
 - public safety;
 - the prevention of public nuisance; and
 - the protection of children from harm.
- 2.2 An application for review must be copied to the premises licence holder and to the responsible authorities. Once such an application is received, the licensing authority must place a notice at the premises, and there is then a period of 28 days during which representations may be made to the licensing authority.
- 2.3 A copy of the notice which was displayed at the premises during the 28 day period is attached at Appendix No.4. Licensing Enforcement Officers made occasional checks throughout the 28 day period to satisfy that the notice was still in place.
- 2.4 Members are reminded that representations can either be in support of or against an application for review of a premises licence. The representation must relate to the likely impact of the grant of the licence in relation to one or more of the four licensing objectives, namely:
- Public Safety;
 - The prevention of crime and disorder;
 - The protection of children from harm;
 - Prevention of public nuisance.

During the 28 day statutory period for representations none were received in support of the application to review the premise licence nor opposing the application

3.0 **Background information provided by Licensing Authority**

On 15th February 2017 the licensing authority received an application for review of a premises licence under Section 51 of the Licensing Act 2003 from Police Constable Andrew Taylor (2338) on behalf of the Chief Constable of Lancashire Constabulary in respect of Mognies Restaurant & Takeaway, 66 Penny Street, Lancaster.

Following an investigation by Police into allegations made by a child of incidents that had occurred on 7th November 2014, the then licence holder of the premises, Mr Siraj Patel, was arrested five days later on suspicion of engaging in non-penetrative sexual activity with a girl 13-15 years of age. He was given Police bail to enable forensic enquiries to take place and once completed he was charged with the offences that he had been arrested for. Mr Patel subsequently stood trial at Preston Crown Court later that month and was found guilty of sexual offences against a child. On 16th December 2016 Mr Patel was sentenced to 4 years imprisonment and is currently serving that time.

On 1st February 2017 the licensing department received further documentation of a witness statement taken from the victim and this is attached at Appendix No 5.

Police contend there were reasonable grounds upon which to revoke the premises licence that had been in Mr Patel's possession with regard to the protection of children from harm and public safety licensing objectives.

However, Members are advised that following an application submitted by Mrs Savera Siraj Patel on 3rd February 2017 to transfer the premises licence for Mognies Restaurant & Takeaway and the subsequent representation by Police, a hearing took place on 15th March 2017 to determine the outcome. Members of the Sub-Committee believed there was no evidence that Mrs Patel was involved with her husband's criminal activity and accordingly no evidence to suggest that the transfer of the licence to her would undermine the crime and disorder licensing objective. It was therefore granted.

3.1 **Government Guidance under Section 182 of the Licensing Act 2003 in relation to a review hearing following a representation involving Crime and Disorder**

Where the licensing authority is conducting a review on the grounds that the premises have been used for criminal purposes, its role is solely to determine what steps should be taken in connection with the premises licence, for the promotion of the crime prevention objective. It is important to recognise that certain criminal activity or associated problems may be taking place or have taken place despite the best efforts of the licence holder and the staff working at the premises and despite full compliance with the conditions attached to the licence. In such circumstances, the licensing authority is still empowered to take any appropriate steps to remedy the problems. The licensing authority's duty is to take steps with a view to the promotion of the licensing objectives in the interests of the wider community and not those of the individual licence holder.

There is certain criminal activity that may arise in connection with licensed premises which should be treated particularly seriously. These are the use of the licensed premises:

for the sale and distribution of drugs controlled under the Misuse of Drugs Act 1971 and the laundering of the proceeds of drugs crime;

for the sale and distribution of illegal firearms;

for the evasion of copyright in respect of pirated or unlicensed films and music, which does considerable damage to the industries affected;

for prostitution or the sale of unlawful pornography;

by organised groups of paedophiles to groom children;

as the base for the organisation of criminal activity, particularly by gangs;

for the organisation of racist activity or the promotion of racist attacks;

for knowingly employing a person who is unlawfully in the UK or who cannot lawfully be employed as a result of a condition on that person's leave to enter;

for unlawful gambling; and

for the sale or storage of smuggled tobacco and alcohol.

It is envisaged that licensing authorities, the police and other law enforcement agencies, which are responsible authorities, will use the review procedures effectively to deter such activities and crime. Where reviews arise and the licensing authority determines 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.

- 3.2 Government Guidance under Section 182 of the Licensing Act 2003 in relation to Public Safety and the Protection of Children from Harm is attached at Appendix No. 6 to this report.
- 3.3 The relevant parts of the Council's Statement of Licensing Policy are set out at Appendix No. 7.
- 3.4 **Natural Justice and Human Rights**

Members are reminded that they must follow the rules of natural justice, and must also consider human rights implications.

In particular, in accordance with Article 6, all parties are entitled to a fair hearing.

Consideration also needs to be given to the right to respect for private and family life and home, contained within Article 8, although this is a qualified right, and interference is permitted where this is in accordance with the law, or is necessary in a democratic society in the interests of public safety or the prevention of crime and Protocol provides that every person is entitled to the peaceful enjoyment of his possessions, although again this right is qualified in the public interest.

4.0 Conclusion

Members should consider the application for review of the premises licence and any steps they consider necessary for the promotion of the licensing objectives.

CONCLUSION OF IMPACT ASSESSMENT (including Diversity, Human Rights, Community Safety, Sustainability and Rural Proofing)

None.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Financial Services have not been consulted as there are no financial implications.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

Legal implications are contained within the report, In accordance with Section 181 and Schedule 5 of the Licensing Act 2003, the parties have a right of appeal to the magistrates court within 21 days

BACKGROUND PAPERS

None

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Telephone: 01524 582387
E-mail: deglin@lancaster.gov.uk
Ref: DWE

Document is Restricted



Health and Housing
Licensing Section
Town Hall
Dalton Square
Lancaster
LA1 1PJ

LANCASTER
CITY COUNCIL

Tel: (01524) 582000
email: licensing@lancaster.gov.uk

Premises Licence

LAPLNA0090

Part 1 - Premises Details

POSTAL ADDRESS OF PREMISES, OR IF NONE, ORDNANCE SURVEY MAP REFERENCE OR DESCRIPTION

Mognies Restaurant & Takeaway

66 Penny Street, Lancaster, Lancashire, LA1 1XF.

Telephone 01524 843 400 or 01524 846 064 (Patel Home)

WHERE THE LICENCE IS TIME LIMITED THE DATES

Not applicable

LICENSABLE ACTIVITIES AUTHORISED BY THE LICENCE

- provision of late night refreshment

THE TIMES THE LICENCE AUTHORISES THE CARRYING OUT OF LICENSABLE ACTIVITIES

Activity (and Area if applicable)	Description	Time From	Time To
I. Late night refreshment (Indoors & Outdoors)	Monday - Sunday	23:00	05:00

THE OPENING HOURS OF THE PREMISES

Description	Time From	Time To
Monday-Saturday	11:00	05:00
Sunday	16:00	05:00

WHERE THE LICENCE AUTHORISES SUPPLIES OF ALCOHOL WHETHER THESE ARE ON AND / OR OFF SUPPLIES

Part 2

NAME, (REGISTERED) ADDRESS, TELEPHONE NUMBER AND EMAIL (WHERE RELEVANT) OF HOLDER OF PREMISES LICENCE

Siraj Patel

17 Dallas Road, Lancaster, Lancashire, LA1 1TP.
Telephone 01524 63763 (work) or 01524 846 314 (home)

REGISTERED NUMBER OF HOLDER, FOR EXAMPLE COMPANY NUMBER, CHARITY NUMBER (WHERE APPLICABLE)





Health and Housing
Licensing Section
Town Hall
Dalton Square
Lancaster
LA1 1PJ



Tel: (01524) 582000
email: licensing@lancaster.gov.uk

Premises Licence

LAPLNA0090

ANNEXES

Mandatory condition where Door Supervisors are provided

All individuals who carry out security activities must be licensed by the Security Industry Authority (SIA)

Conditions attached after a hearing by the Licensing Authority

A minimum number of [2] members of door staff registered with the SIA will be on duty from 1am until close on Saturday and Sunday mornings.

To install, maintain and operate a CCTV system, which complies with the minimum requirements, expected of the Lancashire Constabulary and shall record during all hours that a licensable activity takes place on the premises.

Premises licence holder is to register and use the community/network radio





Health and Housing
Licensing Section
Town Hall
Dalton Square
Lancaster
LA1 1PJ



Tel: (01524) 582000
email: licensing@lancaster.gov.uk

Premises Licence Summary

LAPLNA0090

Premises Details

POSTAL ADDRESS OF PREMISES, OR IF NONE, ORDNANCE SURVEY MAP REFERENCE OR DESCRIPTION	
Mognies Restaurant & Takeaway	
66 Penny Street, Lancaster, Lancashire, LA1 1XF.	Telephone 01524 843 400 or 01524 846 064 (Patel Home

WHERE THE LICENCE IS TIME LIMITED THE DATES
Not applicable

LICENSABLE ACTIVITIES AUTHORISED BY THE LICENCE
- provision of late night refreshment

THE TIMES THE LICENCE AUTHORISES THE CARRYING OUT OF LICENSABLE ACTIVITIES			
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	Description	Time From	Time To
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WHERE THE LICENCE AUTHORISES SUPPLIES OF ALCOHOL WHETHER THESE ARE ON AND / OR OFF SUPPLIES

NAME, (REGISTERED) ADDRESS OF HOLDER OF PREMISES LICENCE
Siraj Patel 17 Dallas Road, Lancaster, Lancashire, LA1 1TP.

REGISTERED NUMBER OF HOLDER, FOR EXAMPLE COMPANY NUMBER, CHARITY NUMBER (WHERE APPLICABLE)

STATE WHETHER ACCESS TO THE PREMISES BY CHILDREN IS RESTRICTED OR PROHIBITED



Appendix 3

LANCASTER CITY COUNCIL

**LICENSING ACT 2003 AND THE LICENSING ACT 2003 (HEARINGS)
REGULATIONS 2005**

AMENDED NOTICE OF HEARING

To: The Applicant: **Chief Constable of Lancashire Constabulary**

The Licence Holder: **Mrs Savera Siraj Patel**

Other Persons:

THE LANCASTER CITY COUNCIL, AS LICENSING AUTHORITY, HEREBY GIVES YOU NOTICE that a hearing before a Sub-Committee of the Licensing Act Committee to consider a request for a review of the licence under Section 51 of the Licensing Act 2003 in respect of premises known as **Mognies Restaurant and Takeaway, 66 Penny Street, Lancaster**, will take place on the **4th April 2017** at **Lancaster Town Hall**, commencing at **2.30pm**

AND TAKE NOTICE THAT each party as listed above is required to give to the Licensing Authority by no later than five working days before the day of the hearing a notice in writing stating whether that party intends to attend or be represented at the hearing, and whether he or she considers a hearing to be unnecessary.

AND TAKE NOTICE THAT if a party wishes any other person (other than the person he/she intends to represent him at the hearing) to appear at the hearing, the notice given by that party and referred to in the preceding paragraph must contain a request for permission for such other person to appear at the hearing, and must set out details of the name of that person and a brief description of the point or points on which that person may be able to assist in connection with the matter to be considered by the Sub-Committee.

GIVEN this day of 28th March 2017 by the Lancaster City Council as Licensing Authority.

INFORMATION TO ACCOMPANY NOTICE OF HEARING

1. Right of attendance, assistance and representation

A party may attend the hearing and may be assisted or be represented by any person, whether or not that person is legally qualified.

The hearing will generally take place in public. However, the Sub-Committee may exclude the public from all or part of a hearing where it considers that the public interest in so doing outweighs the public interest in the hearing, or that part of the hearing, taking part in public. In such circumstances, a party and any person assisting or representing a party may be treated as a member of the public. The Sub-Committee will exclude the public (and the parties and their representatives) during the decision making process.

The Sub-Committee may require any person attending the hearing who in its opinion is behaving in a disruptive manner to leave the hearing, and may refuse to permit that person to return, or permit him to return only on such conditions as the Sub-Committee may specify. However, such a person may, before the end of the hearing, submit to the Sub-Committee in writing any information which he would have been entitled to give orally had he not been required to leave.

2. Representations and Supporting Information

At the hearing a party shall be entitled to:

- (a) Give further information as applicable in response to a point upon which notice has been given to that party that clarification is required. (Note – if such clarification is required from a party this will have been indicated in the Notice of Hearing).
- (b) Question any other party, but only if given permission by the Sub-Committee; and
- (c) Address the Sub-Committee

3. Failure of Parties to attend the Hearing

If a party has given notice that he does not intend to attend or be represented at a hearing, the hearing may proceed in his absence.

If a party who has not so indicated fails to attend or be represented at a hearing, the Sub-Committee may, where it considers it to be necessary in the public interest, adjourn the hearing to a specified date, or hold the hearing in the party's absence. If the hearing proceeds in a party's absence, the Sub-Committee will consider and give appropriate weight to the application, representation or notice given by that party in their absence.

4. Representations and Evidence

A party who wishes to rely on information or documentary evidence that has not been submitted in advance of the issue of the Notice of Hearing should ensure that such information or evidence, together with sufficient copies for all the parties, is submitted to the Licensing Manager at least **7 days before** the day of the hearing.

Parties are reminded that documentary or other information submitted on the day of the hearing may only be taken into account with the consent of all the other parties.

A party who wishes to produce audio/visual evidence should make such evidence available as soon as practical, and should give a minimum of two clear working days notice to the Licensing Manager to facilitate arrangements for the appropriate equipment to be available at the hearing.

5. Procedure

A summary of the procedure that will normally be followed at the hearing is enclosed.

It should be noted that this is a general procedure intended to cover matters that will normally be applicable at all hearings.

However, depending on the circumstances of each individual case, it is recognised that other issues may need to be considered as preliminary points at the hearing. These may include (but are not limited to):

- Whether to proceed in the absence of a party
- Whether to admit new documents/information submitted at the hearing
- Whether it is in the public interest to exclude members of the public from the hearing or any part of the hearing (other than the decision making process)
- Whether any party wished to withdraw representations previously submitted

6. Special Needs

Any person who intends to attend a hearing and who has special needs, for example in connection with access, language, hearing or vision, should inform the Licensing Manager as soon as practical prior to the day of the hearing, so that appropriate provision or arrangements may be made.

PROCEDURE TO BE FOLLOWED AT HEARINGS TO WHICH THE LICENSING ACT 2003 (HEARINGS) REGULATIONS 2005 APPLY

1. The Chairman will introduce the Members and the Legal Adviser and Democratic Support Officer.
2. The Chairman will ask the parties to introduce themselves and any persons with them.
3. The Chairman will confirm that there is no reason why any of the three sub-committee Members should not participate in this matter.
4. The Chairman will confirm that this is a discussion led by the authority that any questions should generally be put through the Chairman, and that cross-examination will only be permitted if the Sub-Committee considers that it is necessary.
5. The Chairman will ask the parties if they have any requests to cross-examine, and such requests will be considered by the Sub-Committee.
6. The Sub-Committee will consider any requests from the parties for permission for another person to appear at the hearing.
7. The Chairman will explain to the parties that the procedure to be followed will be the published one (unless the circumstances of the case require the normal procedures to be varied) – that is,
 - that the Licensing Manager (or his representative) will introduce the details of the application, the reason for the hearing, and the documentation,
 - that each party making representations will address the sub-committee in turn and will call other persons where permission has been given
 - that the applicant/licence holder will present his case and will call other persons where permission has been given
 - that Members may ask questions of all parties and persons
 - that questions from the parties must be directed through the Chairman unless cross-examination has been permitted under 4 above
 - that all parties will have the opportunity to make a closing statement, with the applicant/licence holder having the final word
 - that the Sub-Committee will withdraw to make its decision and formulate the reasons for the decision in private, and will ask its Legal Adviser and the Democratic Support Officer to join it in order to assist in documenting the decision and the reasons, or to provide clarification on any point. The decision will be announced in public and confirmed in writing. (In certain circumstances, the decision may not be made on the same day as the hearing). In the event that the Legal Adviser has been asked for clarification on any point then the point raised and the advice given will be declared to all parties.
8. The Chairman will indicate the maximum period of time each party will be allowed in which to present their case, and will seek comments from the parties before the Sub-Committee makes its final indication on this point.
9. The hearing will then proceed following the procedure in 7 above. The Chairman will arrange for reasonable comfort breaks throughout the hearing.

**NOTICE OF AN APPLICATION FOR A REVIEW OF
PREMISES LICENCE FOR MOGNIES RESTAURANT &
TAKEAWAY, 66 PENNY STREET, LANCASTER**

TAKE NOTICE THAT the Chief Constable of Lancashire Constabulary has applied to Lancaster City Council (The Licensing Authority), for a **Review of the Premises Licence** in respect of the above premises.

The grounds of the application for review as stated by the Chief Constable are offences under the Licensing Act 2003 and relates to the following licensing objectives:-

Public Safety and Protection of children from harm.

Any interested parties or responsible authorities may make representations on this application to the Licensing Authority, and any such representations should be submitted in writing by the **15th March 2017** to, **The Food and Safety Manager, Health and Housing, Licensing Department, Town Hall, Dalton Square, Lancaster, LA1 1PJ** or by email to licensing@lancaster.gov.uk.

The full application may be viewed at the **Town Hall Dalton Square Lancaster** between 10.00 – 12.00 and 14.00 and 16.00 Mon – Fri.

IT IS AN OFFENCE, to knowingly or recklessly make a false statement in connection with an application, and the maximum fine for which a person is liable on summary conviction for the offence is £5000.

Dated this 15th day of February 2017

Stephen Sylvester, Food and Safety Manager, Lancaster Town Hall

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2. The licensing objectives

Crime and disorder

- 2.1 Licensing authorities should look to the police as the main source of advice on crime and disorder. They should also seek to involve the local Community Safety Partnership (CSP).
- 2.2 In the exercise of their functions, licensing authorities should seek to co-operate with the Security Industry Authority ("SIA") as far as possible and consider adding relevant conditions to licences where appropriate. The SIA also plays an important role in preventing crime and disorder by ensuring that door supervisors are properly licensed and, in partnership with police and other agencies, that security companies are not being used as fronts for serious and organised criminal activity. This may include making specific enquiries or visiting premises through intelligence led operations in conjunction with the police, local authorities and other partner agencies. Similarly, the provision of requirements for door supervision may be appropriate to ensure that people who are drunk, drug dealers or people carrying firearms do not enter the premises and ensuring that the police are kept informed.
- 2.3 Conditions should be targeted on deterrence and preventing crime and disorder. For example, where there is good reason to suppose that disorder may take place, the presence of closed-circuit television (CCTV) cameras both inside and immediately outside the premises can actively deter disorder, nuisance, anti-social behaviour and crime generally. Some licence holders may wish to have cameras on their premises for the prevention of crime directed against the business itself, its staff, or its customers. But any condition may require a broader approach, and it may be appropriate to ensure that the precise location of cameras is set out on plans to ensure that certain areas are properly covered and there is no subsequent dispute over the terms of the condition.
- 2.4 The inclusion of radio links and ring-round phone systems should be considered an appropriate condition for public houses, bars and nightclubs operating in city and town centre leisure areas with a high density of licensed premises. These systems allow managers of licensed premises to communicate instantly with the police and facilitate a rapid response to any disorder which may be endangering the customers and staff on the premises.
- 2.5 Conditions relating to the management competency of designated premises supervisors should not normally be attached to premises licences. It will normally be the responsibility of the premises licence holder as an employer, and not the licensing authority, to ensure that the managers appointed at the premises are competent and appropriately trained. The designated premises supervisor is the key person who will usually be responsible for the day to day management of the premises by the premises licence holder, including the prevention of disorder. A condition of this kind may only be justified as appropriate in rare circumstances where it can be demonstrated that, in the circumstances associated with particular premises, poor management competency could give rise to issues of crime and disorder and public safety.

Public safety

- 2.6 Licence holders have a responsibility to ensure the safety of those using their premises, as a part of their duties under the 2003 Act. This concerns the safety of people using the relevant premises rather than public health which is addressed in other legislation. Physical safety includes the prevention of accidents and injuries and other immediate harms that can result from alcohol consumption such as unconsciousness or alcohol poisoning. Conditions relating to public safety may also promote the crime and disorder objective as noted above. There will of course be occasions when a public safety condition could incidentally benefit a person's health more generally, but it should not be the purpose of the condition as this would be outside the licensing authority's powers (be ultra vires) under the 2003 Act. Conditions should not be imposed on a premises licence or club premises certificate which relate to cleanliness or hygiene.
- 2.7 A number of matters should be considered in relation to public safety. These may include:
- Fire safety;
 - Ensuring appropriate access for emergency services such as ambulances;
 - Good communication with local authorities and emergency services, for example communications networks with the police and signing up for local incident alerts (see paragraph 2.4 above);
 - Ensuring the presence of trained first aiders on the premises and appropriate first aid kits;
 - Ensuring the safety of people when leaving the premises (for example, through the provision of information on late-night transportation);
 - Ensuring appropriate and frequent waste disposal, particularly of glass bottles;
 - Ensuring appropriate limits on the maximum capacity of the premises (see paragraphs 2.11-2.12, and Chapter 10; and
 - Considering the use of CCTV in and around the premises (as noted in paragraph 2.3 above, this may also assist with promoting the crime and disorder objective).
- 2.8 The measures that are appropriate to promote public safety will vary between premises and the matters listed above may not apply in all cases. As set out in Chapter 8 (8.33-8.41), applicants should consider when making their application which steps it is appropriate to take to promote the public safety objective and demonstrate how they achieve that.

Ensuring safe departure of those using the premises

- 2.9 Licence holders should make provision to ensure that premises users safely leave their premises. Measures that may assist include:
- Providing information on the premises of local taxi companies who can provide safe transportation home; and
 - Ensuring adequate lighting outside the premises, particularly on paths leading to and from the premises and in car parks.

Maintenance and repair

- 2.10 Where there is a requirement in other legislation for premises open to the public or for employers to possess certificates attesting to the safety or satisfactory nature of certain equipment or fixtures on the premises, it would be inappropriate for a licensing condition to require possession of such a certificate. However, it would be permissible to require as a condition of a licence or certificate, if appropriate, checks on this equipment to be conducted at specified intervals and for evidence of these checks to be retained by the premises licence holder or club provided this does not duplicate or gold-plate a requirement in other legislation. Similarly, it would be permissible for licensing authorities, if they receive relevant representations from responsible authorities or any other persons, to attach conditions which require equipment of particular standards to be maintained on the premises. Responsible authorities – such as health and safety authorities – should therefore make their expectations clear in this respect to enable prospective licence holders or clubs to prepare effective operating schedules and club operating schedules.

Safe capacities

- 2.11 “Safe capacities” should only be imposed where appropriate for the promotion of public safety or the prevention of disorder on the relevant premises. For example, if a capacity has been imposed through other legislation, it would be inappropriate to reproduce it in a premises licence. Indeed, it would also be wrong to lay down conditions which conflict with other legal requirements. However, if no safe capacity has been imposed through other legislation, a responsible authority may consider it appropriate for a new capacity to be attached to the premises which would apply at any material time when the licensable activities are taking place and make representations to that effect. For example, in certain circumstances, capacity limits may be appropriate in preventing disorder, as overcrowded venues can increase the risks of crowds becoming frustrated and hostile.
- 2.12 The permitted capacity is a limit on the number of persons who may be on the premises at any time, following a recommendation by the relevant fire and rescue authority under the Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005. For any application for a premises licence or club premises certificate for premises without an existing permitted capacity where the applicant wishes to take advantage of the special provisions set out in section 177 of the 2003 Act¹, the applicant should conduct their own risk assessment as to the appropriate capacity of the premises. They should send their recommendation to the fire and rescue authority which will consider it and decide what the “permitted capacity” of those premises should be.
- 2.13 Public safety may include the safety of performers appearing at any premises, but does not extend to the prevention of injury from participation in a boxing or wrestling entertainment.

Public nuisance

- 2.14 The 2003 Act enables licensing authorities and responsible authorities, through representations, to consider what constitutes public nuisance and what is appropriate to prevent it in terms of conditions attached to specific premises licences and club premises certificates. It is therefore important that in considering the promotion of this licensing objective, licensing authorities and responsible authorities focus on the effect of the licensable activities at the specific premises on persons living and working (including those carrying on business) in the area around the premises which may be

¹ S 177 of the 2003 Act now only applies to performances of dance.

disproportionate and unreasonable. The issues will mainly concern noise nuisance, light pollution, noxious smells and litter.

- 2.15 Public nuisance is given a statutory meaning in many pieces of legislation. It is however not narrowly defined in the 2003 Act and retains its broad common law meaning. It may include in appropriate circumstances the reduction of the living and working amenity and environment of other persons living and working in the area of the licensed premises. Public nuisance may also arise as a result of the adverse effects of artificial light, dust, odour and insects or where its effect is prejudicial to health.
- 2.16 Conditions relating to noise nuisance will usually concern steps appropriate to control the levels of noise emanating from premises. This might be achieved by a simple measure such as ensuring that doors and windows are kept closed after a particular time, or persons are not permitted in garden areas of the premises after a certain time. More sophisticated measures like the installation of acoustic curtains or rubber speaker mounts to mitigate sound escape from the premises may be appropriate. However, conditions in relation to live or recorded music may not be enforceable in circumstances where the entertainment activity itself is not licensable (see chapter 15). Any conditions appropriate to promote the prevention of public nuisance should be tailored to the type, nature and characteristics of the specific premises and its licensable activities. Licensing authorities should avoid inappropriate or disproportionate measures that could deter events that are valuable to the community, such as live music. Noise limiters, for example, are expensive to purchase and install and are likely to be a considerable burden for smaller venues.
- 2.17 As with all conditions, those relating to noise nuisance may not be appropriate in certain circumstances where provisions in other legislation adequately protect those living in the area of the premises. But as stated earlier in this Guidance, the approach of licensing authorities and responsible authorities should be one of prevention and when their powers are engaged, licensing authorities should be aware of the fact that other legislation may not adequately cover concerns raised in relevant representations and additional conditions may be appropriate.
- 2.18 Where applications have given rise to representations, any appropriate conditions should normally focus on the most sensitive periods. For example, the most sensitive period for people being disturbed by unreasonably loud music is at night and into the early morning when residents in adjacent properties may be attempting to go to sleep or are sleeping. This is why there is still a need for a licence for performances of live music between 11 pm and 8 am. In certain circumstances, conditions relating to noise emanating from the premises may also be appropriate to address any disturbance anticipated as customers enter and leave.
- 2.19 Measures to control light pollution will also require careful thought. Bright lighting outside premises which is considered appropriate to prevent crime and disorder may itself give rise to light pollution for some neighbours. Applicants, licensing authorities and responsible authorities will need to balance these issues.
- 2.20 Beyond the immediate area surrounding the premises, these are matters for the personal responsibility of individuals under the law. An individual who engages in anti-social behaviour is accountable in their own right. However, it would be perfectly reasonable for a licensing authority to impose a condition, following relevant representations, that requires the licence holder or club to place signs at the exits from the building encouraging patrons to be quiet until they leave the area, or that, if they wish to smoke, to do so at designated places on the premises instead of outside, and to respect the rights of people living nearby to a peaceful night.

Protection of children from harm

- 2.21 The protection of children from harm includes the protection of children from moral, psychological and physical harm. This includes not only protecting children from the harms associated directly with alcohol consumption but also wider harms such as exposure to strong language and sexual expletives (for example, in the context of exposure to certain films or adult entertainment). Licensing authorities must also consider the need to protect children from sexual exploitation when undertaking licensing functions.
- 2.22 The Government believes that it is completely unacceptable to sell alcohol to children. Conditions relating to the access of children where alcohol is sold and which are appropriate to protect them from harm should be carefully considered. Moreover, conditions restricting the access of children to premises should be strongly considered in circumstances where:
- adult entertainment is provided;
 - a member or members of the current management have been convicted for serving alcohol to minors or with a reputation for allowing underage drinking (other than in the context of the exemption in the 2003 Act relating to 16 and 17 year olds consuming beer, wine and cider when accompanied by an adult during a table meal);
 - it is known that unaccompanied children have been allowed access;
 - there is a known association with drug taking or dealing; or
 - in some cases, the premises are used exclusively or primarily for the sale of alcohol for consumption on the premises.
- 2.23 It is also possible that activities, such as adult entertainment, may take place at certain times on premises but not at other times. For example, premises may operate as a café bar during the day providing meals for families but also provide entertainment with a sexual content after 8.00pm. It is not possible to give an exhaustive list of what amounts to entertainment or services of an adult or sexual nature. Applicants, responsible authorities and licensing authorities will need to consider this point carefully. This would broadly include topless bar staff, striptease, lap-, table- or pole-dancing, performances involving feigned violence or horrific incidents, feigned or actual sexual acts or fetishism, or entertainment involving strong and offensive language.
- 2.24 Applicants must be clear in their operating schedules about the activities and times at which the events would take place to help determine when it is not appropriate for children to enter the premises. Consideration should also be given to the proximity of premises to schools and youth clubs so that applicants take appropriate steps to ensure that advertising relating to their premises, or relating to events at their premises, is not displayed at a time when children are likely to be near the premises.
- 2.25 Licensing authorities and responsible authorities should expect applicants, when preparing an operating schedule or club operating schedule, to set out the steps to be taken to protect children from harm when on the premises.
- 2.26 Conditions, where they are appropriate, should reflect the licensable activities taking place on the premises. In addition to the mandatory condition regarding age verification, other conditions relating to the protection of children from harm can include:
- restrictions on the hours when children may be present;
 - restrictions or exclusions on the presence of children under certain ages when particular specified activities are taking place;

Appendix 7

12.0 Protection of Children

- 12.1 The Licensing Authority recognises the great variety of premises for which licences may be sought. These will include theatres, cinemas, restaurants, pubs, nightclubs, cafes, takeaways, community halls and schools. Access by children to all types of premises will not be limited in any way unless it is considered appropriate to do so in order to protect them from physical, moral or psychological harm. Equally, no premises will be obliged to allow access by children.
- 12.2 If relevant representations are received in relation to limiting access to children, the Licensing Authority will judge each application on its own individual merits. Examples which may give rise to concern in respect of children would include premises:-
- where entertainment of an adult or sexual nature is provided
 - where there is a strong element of gambling taking place (but not, for example, the simple presence of a small number of cash prize gaming machines)
 - with a known association with drug taking or dealing
 - where there have been convictions of current members of staff for serving alcohol to those under 18
 - with a reputation for under age drinking
- 12.3 In the case of premises which are used for film exhibitions, conditions will be imposed restricting access only to those who meet the required age limit in line with any certificate granted by the British Board of Film Classification or, in specific cases, a certificate given to the film by the Licensing Authority itself.
- 12.4 The options available for limiting access by children would include:-
- a limit on the hours when children may be present
 - a limitation or exclusion when certain activities are taking place
 - the requirement to be accompanied by an adult
 - access may be limited to parts of the premises but not the whole
 - an age limitation (for under 18s)
- 12.5 The Licensing Authority will not impose any condition which specifically requires access for children to be provided at any premises. Where no restriction or limitation is imposed the issue of access will remain a matter for the discretion of the individual licensee or club.
- 12.6 Under the Act, certain “responsible authorities” must be notified of and are entitled to make representations about applications for premises licences or club premises certificates or major variations of such licences or certificates, or to ask the licensing authority to review a licence or certificate. Applicants for premises licences and club premises certificates are required to send details of their applications to these bodies. In connection with the protection of children the Licensing Authority considers the local Area Child Protection Committee to be the responsible body to which applications should be copied.
- 12.7 Where a large number of children are likely to be present on any licensed premises, for example a children’s show or disco, the applicant may wish to consider including in the operating schedule arrangements for the presence of an appropriate number of adult staff to ensure public safety and the protection of the children from harm. The

applicant should also consider whether employees working at the premises for such events and having unsupervised contact with children should have an enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service check.

12.8 Children may also be present at an event as entertainers, and where they are not accompanied by a parent or guardian, the applicant may wish to consider nominating an adult responsible for such child performers at such performances. The applicant should also consider whether a nominated adult should have had an enhanced DBS check.

12.9 Applicants may wish to include in their operating schedules arrangements to ensure that children will be restricted from viewing age-restricted films classified according to the recommendations of the British Board of Film Classification or the Licensing Authority itself. The Act provides that it is mandatory for a condition to be included in all premises licences and club premises certificates authorising the exhibition of films for the admission of children to the exhibition of any film to be restricted in accordance with the recommendations given to films either by the British Board of Film Classification or by the licensing authority itself.

12.10 The following matters will also be considered in relation to the protection of children from harm:

- Whether access of children to cigarette machines is restricted
- Whether access of children to any gaming machines is restricted
- Where appropriate, the procedures for ensuring that any customer coming onto the premises is over the age of 18
- The steps taken to ensure that, where appropriate, all staff involved in the management of the premises have the capability, responsibility and training to supervise other staff and to ensure that the premises are operated in such a manner as to protect children from harm

12.11 Applicants may wish to indicate in the operating schedule how the protection of children from harm will be addressed. The above items are not intended to be exhaustive, and the applicant should have considered all relevant aspects of the protection of children from harm applicable to the particular premises.

12.12 It is the view of the Licensing Authority that children should not be exposed to entertainments of a sexual nature or to strong language at a too early an age. Conditions may be imposed, if representations are received, aimed at preventing such exposure either intentionally or accidentally. In some premises entertainment of an adult nature may be occasional or restricted to certain times of the day. In these cases, any restrictive conditions to protect children will apply only at these times. When submitting an application, if no reference is made to the provision of adult entertainment or services within an operating schedule at "Box N", then the Authority will interpret this to mean that such entertainment will not be provided and a condition to this effect will be applied to the licence

15.0 The promotion of public safety

15.1 The Act complements but does not seek to duplicate the statutory requirements of other legislation, which affect those who have responsibility for the conduct of licensed premises such as the Health and Safety at Work Etc. Act 1974.

- 15.2 One of the things which the licensing system can provide is agreement in advance on a standard layout for furniture, location of stage, placing of linked seats etc. so that licensees can be confident about their practical arrangements, provided that they stick to that way of doing things. With other legislative controls, there may be no official inspection of the arrangements made, unless there is an investigation when something has gone wrong.
- 15.3 As a consequence of the many common features of leisure businesses, such as the operation of door policies, competition for taxis and the interaction with people on the street late at night, individual premises necessarily function as part of a network of businesses, sharing information on crime and disorder issues which affect them all.
- 15.4 The Licensing Authority recognises that participation in forums such as Pub Watch and the proper use of network radios are key to the safe operation of the majority of leisure businesses. It may be appropriate for an operating schedule to include these practical matters.
- 15.5 Fire safety requirements are determined principally by specific fire safety legislation. The overall standard of fire safety is an important consideration in determining the suitability of premises for licensable activities.
- 15.6 The Licensing Authority will not use the licensing process to secure routine compliance with fire safety requirements, which arise from other legislation. Nevertheless in circumstances where fire safety inadequacies indicate that premises pose a risk to the health and safety to those who enter them and where specific fire safety enforcement does not provide a sufficient or sufficiently rapid remedy, the Licensing Authority will take appropriate steps to ensure that the risk is removed including, where appropriate, and where a review of the licence is requested, revocation of the licence.
- 15.7 In addition the Licensing Authority will also consider and deal with the introduction of further hazards to public safety as part of an event and the exercise of controls over occupancy, so that premises can be cleared safely and efficiently, in the event of an emergency.
- 15.8 Where an applicant identifies an issue with regard to public safety (including fire safety) which is not covered by existing legislation, the applicant should indicate in the operating schedule the steps which will be taken to ensure public safety. Depending on the location, size and likely clientele of the premises, and the type of entertainment (if any) to be provided, the following issues may be of relevance:
- The maximum capacity of the premises, and the arrangements for ensuring that a capacity limit is not exceeded and for monitoring capacity. This applies to the premises as a whole and to different rooms or levels within the premises.
 - Steps taken to ensure that all staff involved in the management of the premises have the capability, responsibility and training to supervise other staff and to ensure that the premises are operated in such a manner as to ensure the safety of the public
 - The design of the premises and in particular the capability of the structure to bear the likely loads to be imposed at maximum occupancy.
 - The structural condition of the premises and state of repair.
 - The condition of the electrical and gas services, and arrangements for temporary electrical installations.
 - The lighting, heating and ventilation systems.
 - The fire resisting and fire separation properties of the premises.

- The means of escape from the premises.
- The adequacy of the sanitary arrangements.
- The use of flame retardant materials on fixtures and fittings.
- The protection and safety of the audience, particularly at any indoor sporting event or boxing or wrestling entertainment.
- The availability of qualified first aiders when the premises are open.
- The protection and safety of performers of entertainment.

The Licensing Authority will expect the applicant to have carried out a risk assessment on these matters in producing the operating schedule. The above list is not intended to be exhaustive, and the Licensing Authority will expect the applicant to have considered all relevant aspects of the safety and suitability of the premises which are not dealt with under other legislation, and which are within the control of the applicant.