

Ref: 'Centre Cafe' – 187a Lincoln Road / License Application

Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> April 2014

Darren Dolby  
Licensing Officer  
Peterborough City Council  
Bayard Place  
Broadway  
Peterborough  
PE1 1HZ



Creating a safer  
**Cambridgeshire**

Dear Darren,

Re: Premises License Application – ‘Centre Café’ – 187a Lincoln Rd, Peterborough

On 27<sup>th</sup> March 2014 Cambridgeshire Constabulary Licensing Department (Peterborough District) received e-mail notification from Peterborough City Council Licensing Authority of an application for a new Premises License at 187a Lincoln Road, Peterborough, PE1 2PN. The application has been submitted by Mr. Langford Smith who is acting on behalf of the applicant and proposed Designated Premises Supervisor – Mr. Usman Abu Bakar Iftikhar, 43 Thistlewood Road, Peterborough, PE1 3HR. Mr. Iftikhar holds an Alcohol Personal License issued by PCC Licensing Authority reference: 062387.

This application seeks to install a new premises license at newly named ‘Centre Café’ with the supply of alcohol ‘On Premises’ between 12:00pm and 22:30pm daily, whilst the premises is open daily between 12:00pm and 23:00pm. No other licensable activity has been applied for.

‘Centre Café’ is located centrally within the CAN-DO Operational area, on Lincoln Road and ultimately within the Cumulative Impact Area (Special Policy) drawn up and adopted on 18<sup>th</sup> April 2013. It has been positively identified that there is a significant concentration of licensed premises within the CAN-DO area. This premises is an annexed corner to Bargain Booze – one of the largest Off-Licenses within the CAN\_DO area, and there is sufficient evidence of a negative impact within the CAN-DO area on the statutory objectives. Peterborough City Council’s ‘Statement of Licensing Policy’, ‘Special Policy on Cumulative Effect’ - Paragraph 11.6 states:

*“This special policy creates a rebuttable presumption that applications within the Op Can Do area for **new premises** or club premises certificates or variations that are likely to add to the existing cumulative impact will normally be refused, if relevant representations are received about the cumulative impact on the licensing objectives, unless the applicant can demonstrate why the operation of the premises involved will not add to the cumulative impact already being experienced”.*

Para 11.7 states:

*“Applications will need to address the special policy issues in their operating schedules in order to rebut such a presumption”.*

In my professional opinion as the Cambridgeshire Constabulary Licensing Officer for Peterborough District this application is likely to add to the existing cumulative impact. Unfortunately no formal suggestions by the applicant or his representative have been received that would satisfactorily demonstrate that the application, if granted, would **not contribute** towards the cumulative impact already being experienced.

The formal application - part M states:

*"Describe the steps you intend to take to promote the four licensing objectives".*

I believe that this has not been addressed satisfactorily. Mr. Langford Smith, who has made numerous applications, on behalf of similar clients, is well aware of the Local Authorities requirements in relation to the CAN-DO area and in particular those of the Cumulative Impact Area. I am surprised that on this occasion the application merely offers 'CCTV', 'Smoke Alarm', and 'Fire Exit', whilst offering nothing to protect children from harm. I would suggest that if the Special Policy received any form of consideration by the applicant he could have demonstrated his intentions more thoroughly. This application could be seen by the communities who are raising concerns as an attempt to capitalise on the adverse issues locally in the name of profit.

As mentioned previously, this premises is an annex on the corner of Bargain Booze. Access is gained via a street facing door to a small triangular room. This room is barely able to exceed a capacity of 15 people. Within the room is an access staircase (indicated on the plan as direction to toilets) which gives access to a first floor function room, with a bar built in the corner of that room, which has a far greater capacity. My concerns lie with the fact that this application which seeks to install a café would soon become a far greater concern with large capacity functions taking place up stairs.

Whilst this is yet another licensed premise application within the Cumulative impact area ultimately the decision on granting the license lies with the Licensing Sub-Committee. I am conscious that with a new license in place there is risk that this premises can be converted and used as a larger unregulated club, and therefore add significant impact upon the cumulative impact already in place. In order to prevent this from happening I would ask the sub-committee to consider the facts that Cambridgeshire Constabulary do not support this application and appeal to the Licensing sub-committee to seriously consider the Special Policy and reject the application. Should a rejection of the application be considered as unsuitable in this case and the application is granted, may I ask that the following conditions are added to the license to support the licensee in upholding the Licensing Objectives.

#### **The Prevention of Crime and Disorder:**

1. CCTV will be provided in the form of a recordable system, capable of providing pictures of evidential quality in all lighting conditions in particular facial recognition. Cameras shall encompass all entrances and exits to the premises, fire exits and all area where the sale / supply of alcohol occur. A camera will be positioned outside the premises covering the shop frontage.
2. CCTV equipment must be maintained in good working order, be correctly time and date stamped. Recordings must be kept in date order, numbered sequentially and kept for a period of 28 days.
3. The Premises License Holder must ensure at all times a Designated Premises Supervisor or appointed member of staff is capable and competent at downloading CCTV footage in a recordable format and hand this footage over to the Police / Local

Authority on demand.

4. The recording equipment and discs / usb pen drives shall be kept in a secure environment under the control of the DPS or other responsible named individual.
5. An operational daily log report must be maintained endorsed by signature, indicating the system has been checked and is compliant, in the event of any failings of the system actions taken are to be recorded.
6. In the event of a technical failure of the CCTV equipment the Premises License Holder / Designated Premises Supervisor must report the failure to the Police or local authority immediately.
7. Notices advising that CCTV has been installed on the premises shall be posted so that they are clearly visible to the public within the licensed premises.
8. Staff training in relation to identifying and preventing sales of alcohol to any person who is, or appears to be drunk should be undertaken on a monthly basis. This training, together with on-going training to prevent underage sales (Challenge 25) should be recorded in a written format and be available to an authorised officer upon demand.
9. A refusals log will be maintained on a daily basis recording all refused attempted purchases of alcohol, carried out by drunks or underage persons.
10. No alcoholic drinks will be purchased by the store owners or staff from sellers calling at the store.
11. All invoices (originals or copies) for all alcoholic goods for retail sale on the premises will be kept at the licensed premises and made available to Police, Council and HMRC Officers upon request.
12. A strict stock control system will be introduced so that the licensee can quickly identify where and when alcoholic drinks have been purchased.
13. A ultra-violet light will be available and maintained at the store for the purpose of checking the UK Duty Stamp on all spirits as soon as practical after they have been purchased.
14. If any spirits bought by the company have UK Duty Stamps that do not fluoresce under ultra-violet light, or are otherwise suspicious, the licensee shall identify the supplier to the Trading Standards department and HMRC as soon as possible.

**Promote Public Safety -**

15. An adequate and appropriate supply of first aid equipment and materials shall be available on the premises.
16. Valid Public liability Insurance shall be kept in force and a copy of the schedule shall be available for inspection by an authorised officer on request.
17. No person will be allowed to enter or leave the licensed premises (as defined by the plan) with an open vessel of alcohol and the licensee will actively discourage and prevent anyone congregating or drinking outside the premises.

## **The Protection of Children from Harm –**

18. Signage will be prominently placed within the premises advertising the fact that the premises operate the 'Challenge 25' initiative.
19. Any person selling or supplying alcoholic drink under the authority of a personal licence holder must ask for a photo ID proof of age where they have reason to believe that the individual may be less than 21 years of age.
20. A refusal log will be accurately maintained on every refusal made in relation to the attempted purchase of alcohol by a juvenile or intoxicated person.

Kind regards

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