

Leeds District Licensing



**WEST YORKSHIRE
POLICE**

Department

**Leeds District Licensing Department
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3rd March 2022

**Entertainment Licensing Section,
Leeds City Council,
Civic Hall,
Leeds,
LS1 1UR**

cc. **Ruslanas Zirnikas,** [REDACTED]

RE: Lietuvaite Shop Ltd, 15 Brach Road, Armley, Leeds, LS12 3AQ

**APPLICATION FOR NEW PREMISES LICENCE – LICENSING ACT 2003:
POLICE – LETTER OF REPRESENTATION – “FULL” OBJECTION – ARMLEY CIA**

West Yorkshire Police received an application for a premises licence for the above premises on 21st February 2022.

The application relates to a premises which falls within one of the areas of Leeds currently subject to an assessment of cumulative impact, as detailed in the present Statement of Licensing Policy 2019-2023, issued by Leeds City Council as the licensing authority.

West Yorkshire Police make representations to the application based on the cumulative impact assessment (CIA) for Armley.

The full details of the Armley CIA can be found within the current '2019-2023 Statement of Licensing Policy' of Leeds City Council, from paragraphs 7.24 to 7.26. In 2016 Armley was identified as an area suffering from antisocial behaviour displayed by groups of men standing and drinking in the street. It could be reasonably expected that these people were drinking alcohol purchased on Town Street and so the CIA was implemented covering Armley Town Street and Branch Road and relating just to off licences.

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The application mirrors in most respects what is already allowed with existing licensed premises in the area concerned and which initially brought about the problems associated with the Armley area and the subsequent implementation of the Armley CIA.

This application wishes to supply alcohol for consumption 'off' the premises only, every day 1000-2000 hrs. It offers an array of CCTV conditions, other recognisable measures offered as conditions of the licence to promote the licensing objectives but these measures will not prevent the issues that arise with the Armley CIA.

This application provides nothing fundamentally different to what already applies to licensed premises in this area which are essentially responsible for the problems of disorder and anti-social behaviour associated within the area of the Armley CIA. The sale of alcohol within the Armley CIA simply adds to the problems and there is no getting around this fact. Officers who work in the area on a day to day basis describe groups of males gathering on Town Street and neighbouring streets, becoming intoxicated as early as 7am, vomiting and urinating in the street and on buildings, arguing with each other or members of the public, males passed out in the shop doorways and soiling themselves.

Further and probably most importantly in a case like this, the applicant has hardly addressed what is required in making an application in an area of this nature as identified in the following paragraphs of the current 'Statement of Licensing Policy', specifically in relation to the Armley CIA:-

- Paragraph 7.24 of the policy identifies that the area is suffering from the cumulative impact of off licences leading to problems undermining the licensing objectives.
- Paragraph 7.25 of the policy refers to drinkers causing problems of anti-social behaviour purchasing alcohol on Town Street and neighbouring streets and then remaining in the area to drink it.
- Paragraph 7.26 of the policy specifically in relation to the Armley CIA– It would be inconsistent with the council's duty to promote the licensing objectives to grant new and variation application for any premises licence which seeks off sales of alcohol at any time..
- Paragraph 7.33 and 7.34 of the policy –The applicant has failed to demonstrate how the premises will not add to the cumulative impact of premises in the area and has not identified any steps to combat the issues. In fact, the applicant has made no reference at all to the CIA and the issues the area is experiencing despite the fact that the premises already trades in the area.

Therefore, in these circumstances, West Yorkshire Police has no alternative but to ask a presiding sub-committee at a forthcoming hearing concerning this application, to refer to paragraph 7.64 of the same 'Statement of Licensing Policy' and refuse it outright.

Sarah Blenkhorn
Leeds District Licensing Officer
West Yorkshire Police

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