



Notice of Decision

of the Licensing Sub Committee

Date of Meeting:	13 December 2024
Determination Date:	13 December 2024
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Members:	Cllr L Martin (Chair) Cllr J Senior Cllr E Carlisle
Legal Officer:	Robert Brown, Principal Legal Officer
Licensing Officer:	Matthew Nelson, Principal Licensing Officer
Clerk:	Debbie Oldham, Governance Officer
Premises:	Cock Beck, Pendas Way, Stanks, Leeds, LS15 8LA
Application:	Summary Review: Interim Steps

West Yorkshire Police having made an application for summary review of the premises licence of Cock Beck, Pendas Way, Stanks, Leeds, LS15 8LA, pursuant to s.53A of the Licensing Act 2003, members of the Council's Licensing Sub-Committee (herein referred to as "the Committee") met via remote means to consider whether it was necessary to take interim steps pending the determination of the substantive application. The Legal Officer, Licensing Officer and Officers from Governance Services also attended via remote means.

Members of the Licensing Sub-Committee had been provided in advance with a copy of the Report of the Chief Officer Elections and Regulatory. Appended to that Report were copies of the following:

- A copy of the premises licence
- An application submitted by West Yorkshire Police ("WYP") for a summary review of the premises licence
- A certificate under s.53A(1)(b) of the Licensing Act 2003 from a senior officer of WYP that in the opinion of that officer the premises are associated with serious crime
- A copy of the Home Office Summary Review Guidance

Although the Authority was not obliged to hear from the parties, it was considered appropriate in this case to allow this opportunity. P.C. Haywood of West Yorkshire Police made himself available to answer questions from the Committee as required, as did the Area Manager, [REDACTED]. Both provided helpful contributions.

The Committee noted the reasons for the application for review set out by the West Yorkshire Police and that they sought immediate suspension of the premises licence. The Committee also noted the steps that [REDACTED] was already exploring from the licence holder's

perspective. He was amenable to a temporary closure while he carried out this work. However, P.C. Haywood said that it is too early in the investigation for the Police to be able to support any specific measures short of suspension of the licence.

Decision

Having carefully considered the available information, the contributions of P.C. Haywood and [REDACTED], and having deliberated in private session, the Licensing Sub-Committee unanimously resolved to suspend the licence of Cock Beck, Pendas Way, Stanks, Leeds, LS15 8LA with immediate effect, pending the substantive hearing of the review application.

Reasons

While some of the details surrounding the recent incidents at the premises are still under investigation by the Police, the Committee considered that it was clear that the premises has been associated with three incidents of serious crime and/or serious disorder in recent weeks. [REDACTED] appeared to accept this, albeit his focus is now on taking steps to address the issues.

While there has been amicable dialogue between [REDACTED] and the Police, and [REDACTED] was very cooperative, it was the Committee's unanimous view that it was necessary and appropriate for the Authority to suspend the premises licence with immediate effect. That would not of course prevent further dialogue between the parties with a view to reaching a mutually acceptable position, which might be put to the Authority at that time. However, that was a matter for the parties.

The Committee considered that the incidents of violence and disorder associated with the premises were serious, had possibly resulted in serious injury and that there was a significant risk that further similar violent crimes could take place. The Committee found that interim steps were necessary to avoid further violent crimes and/or disorder from taking place and to promote the prevention of crime and disorder licensing objective. The Committee took the view that to modify or add to the existing conditions of the licence at this stage would have been too much of a guessing game, given the stage in the Police investigations. The Committee also considered that other alternative steps, short of suspension, would not have been sufficient in all circumstances.

The Committee was pleased to note [REDACTED] cooperation and keenness to address the concerns and was grateful for his time during the meeting. It might be the case that the situation might be reached in which the Police – and the Authority – would be satisfied that the suspension of the licence would no longer be necessary. However, that was not the current position, and the Committee was not prepared to take the risk in the meantime.

Right of Appeal

There is no right of appeal at this stage of the summary review process. However, the legislation permits a premises licence holder to make representations against the interim steps taken by the licensing authority.

On receipt of such representations the licensing authority must (if the representations are not withdrawn) hold a hearing within 48 hours of their receipt.

Further information on making a representation against the interim measures can be found in the Guidance issued under section 182 of the Licensing Act 2003.