

Report of the Head of Licensing and Registration

Report to the Licensing Sub-Committee

Date: 11th February 2013

Subject: Application for the grant of a personal licence for Kevin John Alexander, 36 Ramshead Heights, Seacroft, Leeds, LS14 6PU

Are specific electoral Wards affected?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
If relevant, name(s) of Ward(s):		
Are there implications for equality and diversity and cohesion and integration?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Is the decision eligible for Call-In?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Does the report contain confidential or exempt information?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
If relevant, Access to Information Procedure Rule number:		
Appendix number: A and B		
This appendix is regarded exempt under the provisions of Paragraph 14 of the Licensing Act 2003 (Hearings Regulations 2005)		

Summary of main issues

This is an application for the grant of a personal licence for Mr Kevin John Alexander 36 Ramshead Heights, Seacroft, Leeds, LS14 6PU.

The application has attracted a representation from the West Yorkshire Police in respect of Mr Alexander's criminal convictions as detailed in Appendix B of this report.

Recommendations

The committee is asked to consider the application and the representation made by West Yorkshire Police.

1 Purpose of this report

- 1.1 To advise Members of an application made under section 117 of the Licensing Act 2003 ("the Act") for a personal licence in respect of the above persons.
- 1.2 The Licensing Sub-Committee is required to consider this application due to the receipt of a representation from West Yorkshire Police.

2 Main Issues

2.1 A copy of the application is attached at **Appendix A** of this report. It should be noted that all information submitted within **Appendix A** is exempt information under Access to Information Rule 10.4 (1) as it includes information relating to an individual.

2.2 Relevant Representations

2.2.1 Under the Act, representations can be received from West Yorkshire Police and must be relevant to the prevention of crime and disorder. Please find attached a copy of the representation at **Appendix B**. It should be noted that all information submitted within **Appendix B** is exempt information under Access to Information Rule 10.4 (1) as it includes information relating to an individual.

2.3 Matters relevant to the application

2.3.1 Members of the Licensing Sub Committee must make decisions with a view to promoting the licensing objectives which are:

- The prevention of crime and disorder

3 Corporate Considerations

3.1 Equality and Diversity / Cohesion and Integration

3.1.1 The council has adopted a Statement of Licensing Policy which sets out the principles the council will use to exercise its functions under the Licensing Act 2003 and in which care has been taken in matters of equality, diversity and human rights. This policy is reviewed every three years. The council has completed equality, diversity, cohesion and integration screening and impact assessments with regards to the consultation process undertaken during the review of the policy.

3.2 Council Policies and City Priorities

3.2.1 When determining an application the Licensing Sub-Committee must have regard for the Licensing Act 2003 Statement of Licensing Policy which sets out the principles the council will use to exercise its functions under the Licensing Act 2003. Applicants are expected to read the policy before making their application and the council will refer to the policy when making its decisions.

3.2.2 The licensing regime contributes to the following aims:

By 2030, Leeds will be fair, open and welcoming

- Local people have the power to make decisions that affect them
- There is a culture of responsibility, respect for each other and the environment
- Our services meet the diverse needs of our changing population
- Everyone is proud to live and work

By 2030, Leeds' economy will be prosperous and sustainable

- Opportunities to work with secure, flexible employment and good wages

By 2030, all Leeds' communities will be successful

- Communities are safe and people feel safe

3.2.3 The licensing regime contributes to the following city priorities:

Best city... for communities:

- Reduce crime levels and their impact across Leeds
- Effectively tackle and reduce anti-social behaviour in communities

3.3 Resources and Value for Money

3.3.1 The licensing process, including the Licensing Sub-Committee, generates a cost to the council. The majority of these costs are covered by the application fee. The fees are set by Statute, and there is little option to increase the fee to cover all the cost. However, the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Bill, due to receive Royal assent in November 2011, may allow local authorities to set their own fees in the future based on full cost recovery.

3.4 Legal Implications, Access to Information and Call In

3.4.1 Applicants and people making representations are able to challenge the licensing sub-committee's decision by appealing to the Magistrates Court. Legal advice is provided during the Sub-Committee hearing and during deliberations to mitigate the risk to the council.

3.5 Risk Management

3.5.1 Full training and legal advice is provided to members sitting on Licensing Sub Committee in order to mitigate the risk of legal challenge.

4 Conclusions

4.1 An application has been received under the Licensing Act 2003 which is brought before a Licensing Sub- Committee for determination.

4.2 The Licensing Sub-Committee must take such of the following steps as it considers necessary for the promotion of the licensing objectives:

- Grant as requested; or
- Reject the application.

5 Recommendations

The committee is asked to:

- Consider the application and the representation from West Yorkshire Police
- Take any of the steps detailed at 4.2, if any, they consider necessary for the promotion of the licensing objectives.

6 Background Papers

6.1 Guidance issued under s182 Licensing Act 2003

6.2 Leeds City Council Licensing Policy