

9 September 2022

Dear [REDACTED]

**APPLICATION TO VARY PREMISES LICENCE
ABI MINI MART, HALTON BROOK, RUNCORN WA7 2DY**

I hope you are keeping well.

I am contacting you on behalf of my client, Mr Aravendan Kanthanathan (known as Ravi), whom as you know has applied to vary the premises licence at the above shop.

The Council have sent me a copy of your representation and I thought I would contact you to outline this application further, and to explain the steps that would be taken to promote the licensing objectives.

As you know, this is an established general convenience store selling an extensive range of goods for the benefit of the local community. The alcohol sales will continue to just be a part of the overall business.

Update;

The original application was for the shop to open and provide licensable activities until 2am daily.

Following discussions with the Police, the licence application has been amended – the proposal is now to allow the shop to open and provide licensable activities until 1am daily. The shop will close to the public at 1am. The shop could then operate an order/delivery service until 2am if it wishes.

Cheshire Police are satisfied with the above hours and we have agreed several new conditions with the Police – such as keeping CCTV images for a minimum of 28 days and providing CCTV images to the Police or Council upon reasonable request.

The current licence contains numerous licence conditions (rules and regulations) which must be complied with. These conditions include CCTV, staff training, Challenge 25 policy to prevent underage sales, spirits to be kept behind the counter, deliveries to be arranged so there's no public nuisance, etc.

The licence application includes a document called an Operating Schedule – this is an important part of the application which shows the further steps that would be taken at the shop to promote the licensing objectives. Each of these steps become legally enforceable licence conditions should the application be approved.

You may not have seen the proposed operating schedule - and so I attach a copy for your information below. They include;

Staff to do regular litter checks outside the shop;

Challenge 25 notices shall clearly be displayed in the shop.

Keeping a refusals register (for the sale of alcohol);

Displaying Challenge 25 posters;

Further details of these conditions are shown over the page

Every application like this involves an extensive consultation exercise carried out with the various responsible authorities including the Police, the Councils Licensing Authority, Environmental Health, Trading Standards, Public Health, Child Protection, Planning, etc

None of the Responsible Authorities have submitted any representations against this application – they have all assessed the application including the operating schedule and they are satisfied that the application can be granted.

In particular, the Police are crucial as they are the Council's main source of information regarding local crime and disorder. They are satisfied that this application would not impact on local crime and disorder, and that the application can be approved granted. Any existing problems of anti social behavior in the area will of course be dealt with by the Police.

Licensed premises are extremely well-regulated - they must promote the licensing objectives and fully comply with all of their licence conditions. If they don't, then the Authorities can take action - this includes prosecution, a licence review, revocation of the licence, etc.

However, the licensing law isn't the primary mechanism for the control of anti-social behaviour of individuals once they are beyond the direct control of the business (with a premises licence).

Ravi is a responsible person and he will do everything that he can to make sure that there are no problems or disturbance from his shop. For example, the CCTV images from the shop will be made available to the Police upon request, staff will do regular litter checks outside the shop, and alcohol will continue to be sold responsibly from the shop.

The Police and the other Authorities can take action against licensed premises if there's a problem or if something goes wrong. Likewise, if you found evidence of problems at this business (or indeed any licensed premises) in the future then you can call for the licence to be reviewed - the matter would then be considered by the Licensing Sub Committee.

I hope the above information is helpful and informative. I ask you to give Ravi the opportunity to demonstrate that the shop will not cause any issues.

I look forward to hearing from you and please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any queries.

If you would to meet on site to discuss, please let me know and I'll arrange something.

Yours sincerely

A large black rectangular redaction box covering the signature area of the letter.

Please see over the page

PROPOSED OPERATING SCHEDULE / LICENCE CONDITIONS

The operating schedule was put together having due regard to various available information and guidance including the Council's Statement of Licensing Policy and the Guidance.

The new proposed conditions are shown below;

Prevention of crime and disorder

All staff selling alcohol shall be authorised to sell alcohol in writing and a record of the authorisation will be kept in the shop for inspection.

The premises shall operate an alcohol refusals policy - alcohol will not be sold to;

- (1) Any person recognised or identified as a street drinker (regardless of their level of inebriation at the time);
- (2) Any person found to be drinking alcohol in the street;
- (3) Any person who is drunk or appears to be drunk;
- (4) Any person suspected of trying to buy alcohol for another person who is drunk or appears to be drunk;
- (5) Any person unable to provide valid ID when requested by staff;
- (6) Any person who is verbally or physically abusive towards staff or customers.
- (7) To any person suspected of trying to buy alcohol for another person(s) who may be under age.

A notice advising customers of the refusals policy shall be on display.

'Drinkaware' promotional literature shall be on display in the shop.

'Crimestoppers' promotional material will be on display to promote the initiative.

Public safety

No further conditions are proposed / considered necessary

Prevention of public nuisance

A notice(s) shall be on display in the premises asking customers not to drop litter on the floor.

Staff will monitor the area immediately outside the premises on a regular basis to check for, and to properly dispose of, any litter from the premises.

Protection of children from harm

Challenge 25 notices shall clearly be displayed in the shop.

A refusals register (for the sale of alcohol) will be kept and be available for inspection by responsible authorities.

The PLH shall sign up to the Portman Group's retail alert bulletin in respect of the code of practice on the naming, packaging and promotion of alcoholic drinks.

A due diligence checklist (aimed at preventing any underage sales) will be used, and be made available for inspection by responsible authorities.

Conditions in relation to orders and deliveries of alcohol;

Alcohol deliveries will only be made to pre-arranged and booked postal addresses.

No deliveries shall be made to 'open spaces' (this includes playing fields, parks etc)

The Challenge 25 policy shall also apply at the point of delivery, and delivery drivers will use a refusals register/log to record any instances when a refusal is made. This register/log shall be made available for inspection by Authorised Officers.

All alcohol deliveries will normally be accepted by an individual in person - a delivery of alcohol will not be left in a 'safe place' for collection (unless there are special circumstances such as Covid 19 social distancing measures etc).

9 September 2022

Dear [REDACTED]

**APPLICATION TO VARY PREMISES LICENCE
ABI MINI MART, HALTON BROOK, RUNCORN WA7 2DY**

I hope you are keeping well.

I am contacting you on behalf of my client, Mr Aravendan Kanthanathan (known as Ravi), whom as you know has applied to vary the premises licence at the above shop.

The Council have sent me a copy of your representation and I thought I would contact you to outline this application further, and to explain the steps that would be taken to promote the licensing objectives.

As you know, this is an established general convenience store selling an extensive range of goods for the benefit of the local community. The alcohol sales will continue to just be a part of the overall business.

Update;

The original application was for the shop to open and provide licensable activities until 2am daily.

Following discussions with the Police, the licence application has been amended – the proposal is now to allow the shop to open and provide licensable activities until 1am daily. The shop will close to the public at 1am. The shop could then operate an order/delivery service until 2am if it wishes.

Cheshire Police are satisfied with the above hours and we have agreed several new conditions with the Police – such as keeping CCTV images for a minimum of 28 days and providing CCTV images to the Police or Council upon reasonable request.

The current licence contains numerous licence conditions (rules and regulations) which must be complied with. These conditions include CCTV, staff training, Challenge 25 policy to prevent underage sales, spirits to be kept behind the counter, deliveries to be arranged so there's no public nuisance, etc.

The licence application includes a document called an Operating Schedule – this is an important part of the application which shows the further steps that would be taken at the shop to promote the licensing objectives. Each of these steps become legally enforceable licence conditions should the application be approved.

You may not have seen the proposed operating schedule - and so I attach a copy for your information below. They include;

Staff to do regular litter checks outside the shop;

Challenge 25 notices shall clearly be displayed in the shop.

Keeping a refusals register (for the sale of alcohol);

Displaying Challenge 25 posters;

Further details of these conditions are shown over the page

Every application like this involves an extensive consultation exercise carried out with the various responsible authorities including the Police, the Councils Licensing Authority, Environmental Health, Trading Standards, Public Health, Child Protection, Planning, etc

None of the Responsible Authorities have submitted any representations against this application – they have all assessed the application including the operating schedule and they are satisfied that the application can be granted.

In particular, the Police are crucial as they are the Council's main source of information regarding local crime and disorder. They are satisfied that this application would not impact on local crime and disorder, and that the application can be approved granted. Any existing problems of anti social behavior in the area will of course be dealt with by the Police.

Ravi is a responsible person and he will do everything that he can to make sure that there are no problems or disturbance from his shop. For example, the CCTV images from the shop can be made available to the Police upon request, and staff will do regular litter checks outside the shop. Alcohol will continue to be sold responsibly from the shop.

The licensing law is not the primary mechanism for the control of anti social behaviour of individuals once they are beyond the direct control of the business (with a premises licence). In terms of litter in the area – businesses will do what they can (such as litter checks outside a shop) but there is an individual responsibility by people to dispose of litter properly in all areas.

Licensed premises are extremely well-regulated - they must promote the licensing objectives and fully comply with all of their licence conditions. If they don't, then the Authorities can take action - this includes prosecution, a licence review, revocation of the licence, etc.

The Police and the other Authorities can take action against licensed premises if there's a problem or if something goes wrong. Likewise, if you found evidence of problems at this business (or indeed any licensed premises) in the future then you can call for the licence to be reviewed - the matter would then be considered by the Licensing Sub Committee.

I hope the above information is helpful and informative. I ask you to give Ravi the opportunity to demonstrate that the shop will not cause any issues.

I look forward to hearing from you and please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any queries.

If you would to meet on site to discuss, please let me know and I'll arrange something.

Yours sincerely

A large black rectangular redaction covering the signature and name of the sender.

Please see over the page

PROPOSED OPERATING SCHEDULE / LICENCE CONDITIONS

The operating schedule was put together having due regard to various available information and guidance including the Council's Statement of Licensing Policy and the Guidance.

The new proposed conditions are shown below;

Prevention of crime and disorder

All staff selling alcohol shall be authorised to sell alcohol in writing and a record of the authorisation will be kept in the shop for inspection.

The premises shall operate an alcohol refusals policy - alcohol will not be sold to;

- (1) Any person recognised or identified as a street drinker (regardless of their level of inebriation at the time);
- (2) Any person found to be drinking alcohol in the street;
- (3) Any person who is drunk or appears to be drunk;
- (4) Any person suspected of trying to buy alcohol for another person who is drunk or appears to be drunk;
- (5) Any person unable to provide valid ID when requested by staff;
- (6) Any person who is verbally or physically abusive towards staff or customers.
- (7) To any person suspected of trying to buy alcohol for another person(s) who may be under age.

A notice advising customers of the refusals policy shall be on display.

'Drinkaware' promotional literature shall be on display in the shop.

'Crimestoppers' promotional material will be on display to promote the initiative.

Public safety

No further conditions are proposed / considered necessary

Prevention of public nuisance

A notice(s) shall be on display in the premises asking customers not to drop litter on the floor.

Staff will monitor the area immediately outside the premises on a regular basis to check for, and to properly dispose of, any litter from the premises.

Protection of children from harm

Challenge 25 notices shall clearly be displayed in the shop.

A refusals register (for the sale of alcohol) will be kept and be available for inspection by responsible authorities.

The PLH shall sign up to the Portman Group's retail alert bulletin in respect of the code of practice on the naming, packaging and promotion of alcoholic drinks.

A due diligence checklist (aimed at preventing any underage sales) will be used, and be made available for inspection by responsible authorities.

Conditions in relation to orders and deliveries of alcohol;

Alcohol deliveries will only be made to pre-arranged and booked postal addresses.

No deliveries shall be made to 'open spaces' (this includes playing fields, parks etc)

The Challenge 25 policy shall also apply at the point of delivery, and delivery drivers will use a refusals register/log to record any instances when a refusal is made. This register/log shall be made available for inspection by Authorised Officers.

All alcohol deliveries will normally be accepted by an individual in person - a delivery of alcohol will not be left in a 'safe place' for collection (unless there are special circumstances such as Covid 19 social distancing measures etc).