

# GWENT POLICE

## RESPONSIBLE AUTHORITY RESPONSE TO LICENSING APPLICATIONS

### RESPONSIBLE AUTHORITY – Gwent Police

<b>Name of Applicant</b>	Nakendram PIRATHEEPAN
<b>Premises</b>	Rhymney Garage, Victoria Road, Rhymney, NP22 5NU

<b>Your Name</b>	PC7 Daniel Allen
<b>Job Title</b>	Police Constable
<b>Email Address</b>	LicensingWest @gwent.police.uk
<b>Contact Telephone Number</b>	07464653993
<b>Date</b>	14/09/2022

<b>Which of the four Licensing Objectives does your representation relate to?</b>	
<b>The Prevention of Crime and Disorder</b>	X
<b>Public Safety</b>	
<b>The Prevention of Public Nuisance</b>	X
<b>The Protection of Children from Harm</b>	

<b>Please outline the reasons for your Representations</b>
<p>Gwent Police received an application from Nakendram Pirtaheepan who is seeking to amend the sale of alcohol hours from 07:30- 23:00 hours Monday to Sunday to 06:00 – 01:00 hours Monday to Sunday at Rhymney Garage, Victoria Road, Rhymney, NP22 5NU.</p> <p>On 13/8/2021 the applicant was refused a 24 hours licence for the sale of alcohol at a committee hearing. Gwent Police objected to the original application in 2021 for the granting of the proposed licensed trading times of 24 hours and at that point stated that they would advocate for the hours to be 0730-2300 hours Monday to Sunday which was agreed by the Licensing committee.</p> <p>The premise is a petrol station with a forecourt and a small building which is used as a convenience store. The premise is situated on the main street of Rhymney and is close to residential properties, a library and a public car park. Within the nearby vicinity there are several other off licences and Public Houses. These off licence alcohol supply times end at 22:30/23:00 hours each day.</p> <p>Gwent Police's position has not changed and do not support any additional hours added to the licence. In 2021 Gwent Police explained how the fundamental role of the local Inspector was to oversee Crime and Disorder in the area ensuring that all plans and patrols are in place to keep incidents to a minimum, facilitating long term plans with partners to assist in this process and ensuring a minimal detrimental impact on the quality of life for residents who live in the area.</p> <p>The applicant was told that Gwent Police are working with partners to assist in the issues that contribute to the high number of calls in Rhymney and that we achieved funding through the Home Office Safer Streets initiative to further strengthen our efforts in driving down crime.</p>

Rhymney has several social and economic challenges. There are several agencies working to break that cycle of re-occurring Anti-Social Behaviour by providing both education and enforcement to the residents. There is a clear link between alcohol and Anti-Social Behaviour and the area is suffering high levels of Anti-Social behaviour and Crime. Gwent Police believe that any additional hours to the licence would have a detrimental effect on the area and an increase in calls to the police.

The applicant will also be aware as disclosed in the 2021 objection that due to the large amount of Police calls to the area a Problem Orientated Policing Plan (POP) was created to combat the high volume of calls made in the vicinity.

POP plans are solely a tool used and funded by the Police and are created to tackle issues that we have identified such as a crime series or ASB issues in certain locations over a period. They are used to identify the cause/root of the issue using data as well as other information. The Police complete the actions using partners where appropriate to reduce demand and tackle long term issues.

Since the granting of the licence there has been calls made to the Police from this premise which include a Knife Point Robbery and Theft where the member of staff/ witness refused to provide a statement.

At approx. 06:00 hours on 21/2/22 two males committed a knife point robbery at the premise stealing numerous items and cash. Police Ref: 2200059378.

At approximately 10:35 hours on 26/1/22 a male entered the store, had a verbal argument with a member of staff, took several items and left without payment.

Officers attended the premise and spoke to the member of staff who was working alone. That member of staff refused to provide a statement to the police. Police Ref: 2200028838.

Since the licence has been granted there has been a total of 43 police calls to Victoria Road, Rhymney which reaffirms Gwent Police's position. The calls include incidents of Anti-Social Behaviour, Criminal Damage, Robbery, Theft, Burglary and Violence.

The applicant has shown a lack of regard towards the local area and work that is going on by Police and Partner agencies by not taking into consideration the information that was disclosed to him last year. The applicant has not offered up any further conditions or contacted any of the Responsible Authorities prior to submitting this application.

Gwent Police's position has not changed. The current licence is adequate. Any additional hours to the supply of alcohol would have a negative impact on the local area, damage ongoing partnership work and undermine the licensing objectives.

Gwent Police Object to the application.

**N.B.** If you make a representation you will be expected to attend the Licensing Sub-Committee and any subsequent appeal proceeding.

Please remember if you intend to make representations to copy this file to all other RA's