



RESPONSIBLE AUTHORITY RESPONSE TO LICENSING APPLICATIONS

RESPONSIBLE AUTHORITY– Licensing

Name and Address of Applicant	Mr N Piratheepan
Premises	Rhymney Garage, Victoria Road, Rhymney

Your Name	Annette Dicks Date: 26 th September 2022
Job Title	Assistant Licensing Manager
e.mail Address	dicksa@caerphilly.gov.uk
Contact Telephone Number	01443 866750

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

Please outline the reasons for your Representations
<p>The application to vary the premises licence seeks to extend the current hours for the sale of alcohol for consumption off the premises which is 07:30 to 23:00 Monday to Sunday, to 06:00 to 01:00, as part of a petrol station and convenience store, which operates over a 24-hour period Monday to Sunday. The applicant has only benefited from a premises licence at this site since August 2021, following a hearing of the Licensing & Gambling Sub Committee whereby the applicant had originally requested a 24-hour licence and subsequently modified the application to operate over a 21-hour period (05:00 to 02:00). At that time, given the nature of the application, its location and the problems associated with the area outlined by Heddlu Gwent Police in their representations, the Licensing Authority objected to the application and supported their representations. In addition, as part of its objections, the Licensing Authority stated that the applicant had not been in contact with Responsible Authorities to discuss his proposals where he would have been made aware of the problems associated in the area, and had a lack of regard to the Council's statement of licensing policy which refers to applicants considering the hours they seek and recommending that they discuss their proposals with the appropriate Responsible Authorities (Paragraphs 5.4; 26.2 & 26.3).</p>

In considering the application now submitted, given the representations submitted by Heddlu Gwent Police, it is apparent that the area is still subject to high levels of Anti-Social Behaviour and Crime, where several agencies continue to work within the area to address these issues. It is also concerning to note that in the past few months, since the licence has been granted, two incidents have occurred on 26/01/22 and 21/02/22, where alcohol has been stolen as part of a theft. In relation to the incident on 26/01/22, having spoken to Police who attended the premises, the staff member refused to provide a witness statement, which suggests that the licensing objective, of the prevention of crime and disorder, is not being promoted. In addition, the applicant has again failed to contact the appropriate Responsible Authorities to discuss his proposals and would appear to show a lack of regard towards the local area. The applicant has not offered any additional steps within the application to promote the licensing objectives. Throughout the Council's statement of licensing policy reference is made to operating schedules satisfactorily addressing the licensing objectives, taking into account the day-to-day operation of the business, its location, type of premises, licensable activities to be provided and needs of the local community. Furthermore, following a recent compliance visit to the premises undertaken by licensing officers, it would appear that some of the current conditions of licence were not being adhered to. It was noted that there was no Challenge 25 sign at the entrance to the premises, staff training records were unavailable for inspection, and the member of staff present at the time of the inspection was unable to operate the CCTV equipment. The applicant has also failed to address, in the current application, changes to the plan which is attached to the premises licence. Having regard to the above, the Licensing Authority would therefore object to this application and support the representations submitted by Heddlu Gwent Police.

<p>What conditions could be added to the licence to remedy your representation that the Licensing Sub-Committee could take into account</p>	
<p>Are you prepared to discuss these representations with the applicant by way of mediation?</p>	<p>No</p>

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