



### **Licensing Act 2003**

Licensing Service representation in relation to application to review a premises licence

PL0047:

Nawaz Food Stores and Off Licence  
1 Edleston Street, Accrington, BB5 0HG

On 31.01.23 the premises licence was revoked following a review. During the appeal period an agreement was reached, and the licence was reinstated with conditions added.

Myself and another licensing officer visited the premises on 29<sup>th</sup> April 2026 to place the blue notices regarding the review application. Whilst there, we undertook a compliance check and found several issues of non-compliance. Upon arrival at the shop, there were no members of staff present, just a member of the public who seemed to be keeping an eye on the shop. It was more than 5 minutes before, Mr Asif Nawaz (son of the premises licence holder) arrived at the shop. He stated that his father had gone for a walk and was not available.

Annex 3, condition 1 of the premises licence requires all alcohol sales to be personally made by a personal licence holder. During my visit, Asif Nawaz the only staff working. He reported that in addition to his father, he is the only member of staff. I asked him if he holds a personal licence and he stated that he doesn't. When I pointed out that him serving alcohol is in breach of the licence conditions, he changed his mind and stated that he does have a personal alcohol licence, granted by Hyndburn Borough Council. I checked records upon my return to the office and confirmed that he does not hold a licence from HBC. Mr Asif confirms that he has worked at the premises since the time of the review. Therefore, there has been no compliance with this condition since it was added to the licence.

The same condition also requires records of personal alcohol licences to be kept on the premises. These records were not present.

Condition 2 of the premises licence requires all staff responsible for the sale of alcohol to undertake age verification training annually, as a minimum. Mr Nawaz reported that

he last undertook the training around 18 months ago. Records of the training are required to be available at the premises but were not available during our visit.

A refusal log is required and must be available for inspection by officers. Mr Nawaz said that there was not one.

Condition 5 requires a comprehensive CCTV system to be installed, and a member of staff who is familiar with the system to be present at all times while the premises is open to the public. Mr Nawaz stated that he was unable to operate the CCTV system.

I advised Mr Nawaz of the non-compliance and advised him and his rather to review the premises licence and become compliant, and that I would carry out a follow up visit during the representation period.

Following this visit, I sent a letter to the licence holder (copy attached) outlining the non-compliance and concerns.

I visited the premises again on 27/05/26. Once again Mr Asif Nawaz was working. The member of the public who had been watching the shop on my last visit was sitting on a stool to the side of the counter. I asked Mr Nawaz if his father was available, and this man answered, stating 3 times that he had gone for a walk and was not available.

Mr Nawaz immediately started to discuss the CCTV system, and the plans they have to upgrade the system. He did not seem to understand the other instances of non-compliance.

I asked Mr Nawaz about his personal alcohol licence, and he insisted that he attended the course approximately 3 years ago with Gill Sherratt, and that she issues his licence. I advised that there is no licence issued by HBC, and asked him to provide a copy. Eventually, he stated that he thought the course was automatically registered with the council and that this would mean he had a personal alcohol licence. I provided Mr Nawaz with the information to apply for a licence properly, and advised that he should not be selling alcohol until he receives his licence.

I asked Mr Nawaz if he has now undertaken the Check 25 training. He stated that he hasn't, but will do so next week. I advised that he may want to give this more of a priority given that there is an application for a premises licence review.

Still, there was no refusal register in place. I asked Mr Nawaz if he ever refuses sales of alcohol. He replied that he does so all the time. I explained the need for this to be recorded. He opened a packet of paper from the shelf whilst I was there and created a refusals register.

Mr Nawaz was still unable to operate the CCTV system, and initially stated that it was broken. He contacted his brother, who stated that it is working, but the dates and times are messed up. We confirmed that the CCTV does cover the areas required, though was 25 hours out of time, and only records for 4 days rather than the required 28. The timer was changed whilst we were there. Mr Nawaz confirmed that this CCTV system has been present for many years. Therefore, this has never been compliant with the condition put into place at the last review.

It concerns me that the premises licence was reinstated following a review with only 5 conditions, yet the licence holder failed to comply with these conditions in the 3 years since the review. It is also of concern that no effort was made to achieve compliance between my 2 visits, despite it being made clear that I would be returning, and putting the concerns in writing. The refusals register and age verification training are very simple tasks, as is changing the date and time on CCTV, yet no effort was made until my return visit.

If the licence holder is not able to comply with the conditions imposed to reinstate the licence following the last review, or make simple changes whilst knowing that another review hearing is about to take place, then I have doubts regarding their ability to be compliant in the future, and therefore the licensing service supports the review application made by Lancashire Constabulary.



Liz Wallace-Mills  
Licensing Manager