

From: Middleton, Jason
Sent: 27 December 2017 10:44
To: 'licensing'
Subject: Police objection - Temporary Event Notices - Voodoo Lounge during January 2018

Temporary Event Notice Objection

Applicant: Richard Martyn Stansfield
Premises name: Voodoo Lounge, Willow Street, Accrington, BB5 1LP
Event: Proposed opening of premises during the weekends of January 2018
Received by Police: 21st December 2017

Lancashire Police, as a Responsible Authority under the Licensing Act 2003, wish to make a formal representation and object to the above Temporary Event Notice.

The objection is based on police concerns that allowing the premises to be used in accordance with the notice would undermine the Prevention of Crime and Disorder licensing objective.

The reasons for the objection are as follows:

As recently as Thursday 14th December 2017 the premises was subject to a Premises Licence Review application Hearing at Hyndburn Council Offices in Accrington. The application was submitted on the grounds that the Prevention of Crime and Disorder licensing objective was being undermined at the premises which could be linked to a 'Limitless/All-Inclusive' drinks promotion at the premises during certain times. This drinks promotion was deemed to be irresponsible with evidence of an increase in incidents of crime and disorder during the times the drinks promotion was taking place. The decision of the Licensing Committee was to revoke the premises licence and the Licensing Committee at the conclusion of the Hearing made particular mention of their concerns regarding the drinks promotion.

The submitted Temporary Event Notices is to allow the premises to trade over the four weekends in January 2018. It's unclear at this time whether the premises licence will be still in place in January due to the recent review hearing and any potential subsequent appeals. However, it's apparent from social media that those responsible at the premises intend to continue to run a 'Limitless' drinks promotion during the period of the Temporary Event Notices. It appears this promotion will allow customers to drink as much alcohol as possible for a period of time therefore falling under the definition of an Irresponsible Drinks Promotion under the Mandatory Conditions. There is evidence available that previously this promotion as resulted in a significant increase in incidents of crime & disorder.

Of further concern is that there is information available that indicates the opening of the premises and the running of the mentioned drinks promotion is totally against the wishes of the premises licence holder. This total disregard of the premises licence holder wishes leads to obvious concerns regarding whether the licensing objectives would also be disregarded at the premises.

If the premises was to be allowed to trade as per the Temporary Event Notice and therefore run the 'Limitless' drinks promotion, Lancashire Police have serious concerns that the licensing objectives will be seriously undermined and therefore formally object to the application.

Submitted for consideration

Regards

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