

<b>REPORT TO:</b>	<b>LICENSING SUB COMMITTEE</b> <b>28 May 2020</b>
<b>SUBJECT:</b>	<b>LICENSING ACT 2003 – APPLICATION FOR A VARIATION TO A PREMISES LICENCE</b>
<b>LEAD OFFICER:</b>	<b>Executive Director, Place Department</b>
<b>CABINET MEMBER:</b>	<b>Cllr. Hamida Ali, Cabinet Member for Safer Croydon &amp; Communities</b>
<b>WARDS:</b>	<b>Addiscombe East</b>
<b>CORPORATE PRIORITY/POLICY CONTEXT:</b> This report is specific to this application and has no implications on the Council's Corporate Policies.	
<b>FINANCIAL SUMMARY:</b> This application is being processed as part of normal duties carried out by the Department with no additional costs involved.	
<b>FORWARD PLAN KEY DECISION REFERENCE NO.:</b> N/A	

**For general release**

<b>1. RECOMMENDATIONS</b>
1.1 The Sub-Committee is asked to determine whether to grant the application for a variation to a premises licence at 243-245 Lower Addiscombe Road, Croydon, CR0 6RD.

## **2. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

- 2.1 The purpose of this report is to advise the Sub-Committee that an application has been received for a variation to a premises licence under the Licensing Act 2003 ("the Act"). This application is the subject of representations, therefore a hearing is required.

## **3. DETAIL**

- 3.1 A Protocol for Licensing Hearings and a Procedure for Licensing Sub-Committee Hearings has previously been agreed by the Licensing Committee (minute A/24/05 refers). The protocol has been subsequently amended by the licensing committee (minutes A/32/06, A/40/07 and A/07/12 refer). The Chair of the Licensing Sub-Committee is authorised to vary the procedure which applies to Licensing Sub-Committee hearings in respect of any hearing if

he/she considers that this would facilitate the proper consideration of the application or notice before the Licensing Sub-Committee. In addition, the Licensing Sub-Committee may waive, vary or modify any part of Part 5F protocol in relation to a particular case if it considers that this is necessary to ensure fairness to the Parties and/or proper consideration of the application in question, provided always that this does not result in any contravention of the Licensing Act 2003 (Hearings) Regulations 2005.

3.2 The applicant and the party making the representations have been notified of the hearing in accordance with the Licensing Act 2003 (Hearings) Regulations 2005 and Licensing Act 2003 (Hearings) (Amendment) Regulations 2005 “the Regulations”. Information to accompany the notice of hearing was provided to the applicant and the party making representations in accordance with “the Regulations”.

3.3 Appendix A to this report provides details of this application.

#### **4. FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS**

##### **4.1 Revenue and Capital consequences of report recommendations**

There are no direct financial implications associated with this report, subject to the risks at 4.2 & 4.3. This application is being processed as part of normal duties and therefore the work associated with it is contained within the departmental budget.

##### **4.2 The effect of the decision**

The decision of the Sub-Committee may be subject to appeal and/or Judicial Review

##### **4.3 Risks**

An appeal against a decision of the Sub-Committee or a Judicial Review of the application process may present financial risks to the Council with regard to any award of costs against it.

##### **4.4 Options**

The options available are: to grant the application, to vary the application, with or without further conditions, or to refuse the application.

##### **4.5 Savings/ future efficiencies**

None identified.

4.6 (Approved by: Flora Osiyemi, Head of Finance Place, Residents & Gateway)

#### **5. COMMENTS OF THE SOLICITOR TO THE COUNCIL**

5.1 The Head of Litigation and Corporate Law comments on behalf of the Director of Law and Governance that the sub-committee must determine the application, taking into account relevant representations, the Licensing Act 2003, the regulations made thereunder statutory guidance and the Council's own licensing policy.

5.2 (Approved by Sandra Herbert, Head of Litigation and Corporate law on behalf of the Director of Law and Governance and Deputy Monitoring Officer).

## **6. HUMAN RESOURCES IMPACT**

6.1 The Human Resources impact of supporting the Licensing Hearings will be contained within the budgeted establishments of the Democratic and Legal Services and Licensing Teams.

6.2 (Approved for and on behalf of Sue Moorman, HR Director, by Jennifer Sankar, Head of HR Place).

## **7. EQUALITIES IMPACT**

7.1 The arrangements for the Licensing Hearings seek to ensure that all applicants and other interested parties receive a fair hearing and that the process is accessible to all groups within the community.

## **8. ENVIRONMENTAL AND DESIGN IMPACT**

8.1 The effective implementation of the Licensing Act 2003 will contribute to an improved environment for local residents and other stakeholders.

## **9. LICENSING OBJECTIVES IMPACT**

9.1 The licensing objectives contained in the Act are:

- the prevention of crime and disorder
- public safety
- the prevention of public nuisance and
- the protection of children from harm.

9.2 Officers comments and relevant representations on the impact of the application on these objectives appear in Appendix A to the application.

## **10. HUMAN RIGHTS IMPACT**

10.1 The Human Rights 1998 (HRA) requires public bodies to ensure everything they do is compatible with Convention Rights and makes it unlawful for a public authority to act incompatibly with those Rights. **Article 6 (A6)** of the European Convention on Human Rights (ECHR) is the right to a fair trial. The key elements of this include:

- The right to a *fair* hearing;
- The right to a *public* hearing;

- The right to a hearing before an *independent and impartial tribunal*;
- The right to a hearing *within a reasonable time*.

10.2 When hearing an application, the proceedings of a non-judicial body such as the Licensing Sub Committee, as opposed to an actual Court, need not meet the full requirements of A6 where there is a right of appeal from the Licensing Sub Committee to a Court that does meet the full A6 standards and can consider all aspects of the case (even if that does not include a full re-hearing of the facts).

10.3 So, while it is good practice to make a hearing before the Licensing Sub Committee as A6 compliant as possible, it will not be a breach of the HRA if it is not. Further, the hearing of all applications is subject to the principles of Natural Justice and the requirement for decisions to be 'Wednesbury reasonable'.

## **11. FREEDOM OF INFORMATION/DATA PROTECTION CONSIDERATIONS**

11.1 Protocols agreed in relation to Licensing Hearings are within the Council's Constitution and will be accessible as part of the Council's Publication Scheme maintained under the Freedom of Information Act.

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**CONTACT OFFICER:** Michael Goddard, Licensing Manager, Place  
Department ext. 61838

**BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS:** None

### **APPENDICES:**

**Appendix A:** Licensing Hearings Protocol and Procedure

**Appendix A1:** Premises License 19/00502/LIPREM

**Appendix A2:** Application for a Variation to a Premises Licence under the Licensing Act 2003

**Appendix A3:** Objection Notice – The Prevention of Public Nuisance ( Licensing Act 2003)

**Appendix A4:** Ordnance Survey Map