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*Date:* 09 April 2018

Dear Sir

**Licence Review of Premises Licence LN/000000704  
Ronnie's Cutter, 37-39 Upper Green East, Mitcham, CR4 2PF**

I have received a copy of a licence review application brought by the Metropolitan Police in relation to the above premises and wish to make a representation in support of this review.

As a Responsible Authority the Trading Standards Service has concerns on the basis of the following licensing objectives;

- a) the prevention of crime and disorder,
- b) public safety,
- c) the prevention of public nuisance, and
- d) the protection of children from harm.

Trading Standards have conducted enforcement visits to Ronnie's Cutter, 37-39 Upper Green East, Mitcham, CR4 2PF during 2018 on the following occasions.

**9<sup>th</sup> March 2018**

An advisory visit providing a business advice and support pack, including point of sale material in relation to the sale of alcohol, tobacco and other age restricted products. The officer discussed the businesses legal obligations in depth and provided practical advice. The discussion was with [REDACTED] who received and signed for the business advice pack. [REDACTED] was advised that an attempt to test purchase alcohol would be made within the next 3 months.

**26<sup>th</sup> March 2018**

At 1735 hours a 15 year old boy accompanied by Trading Standards Staff visited the premises. The boy purchased a 325ml bottle of Guinness beer. He was served by [REDACTED]. No identification was requested and the boy was not asked how old he was. [REDACTED] did ask if the boy had any change during the transaction and the boy requested a carrier bag. There was no other conversation.

When officers spoke to [REDACTED] denied all knowledge of the sale but subsequently recalled events following a conversation with the DPS Mr Ronak Patel.

Four previous test purchases had been undertaken at the premises in 2010, 2011 and 2013. On each occasion a sale was refused. Mr Ronak Patel had owned the business for a number of years however; I understand that he has now leased the shop premises to a different business but remains as DPS.

The sale of alcohol to young people can lead to serious health and anti-social behaviour issues. Young people who start drinking alcohol before age 15 are five times more likely to develop alcohol abuse or dependence than people who first used alcohol at age 21 or older.

For the above reasons, and those highlighted in the review application, the Trading Standards Service fully supports this licence review.

Having regard to all the circumstances highlighted in the review application the Trading Standards Service would respectfully request that the Licencing Committee consider revoking the Premises Licence.

Yours faithfully

[REDACTED]

John Hillarby  
Chief Inspector of Weights and Measures  
Trading Standards Manager