

PREMISES LICENCE REVIEW: BINEET STATIONERS, 237 LONDON ROAD, MITCHAM CR4 3NH

The licensing authority in its capacity as a responsible authority wishes to make a representation in support of the above review application on the grounds that the licensing objectives of the protection of children from harm, crime and disorder and public nuisance have been adversely affected in this case.

The review has been sought by Sergeant Peter Sparham, the licensing sergeant at Wimbledon Police Station, following a failed test purchase, during which alcohol was sold to an underage person. Clearly, the sale of alcohol to a person under the age of 18 undermines the licensing objective of the protection for children from harm. Also, notwithstanding the fact that such a sale constitutes a criminal offence, the consumption of alcohol by people under the age of 18 often occurs on the street, increasing the risk of crime and disorder, notably through anti-social behaviour. It should also be noted that Mitcham Town Centre has recently been identified by the police as a place where street drinking has become an issue with both local residents and themselves. There can be little doubt that the sale of alcohol to underage persons is also likely to add to this problem, creating public nuisance issues as a consequence.

As part of a joint police and local authority initiative to deal with the problem of street drinking in Mitcham town centre, I visited this premises with Sergeant Sparham on Wednesday 17 September 2014, during which visit the issue of street drinking was discussed with a view to reducing the sale of high strength beers and ciders. Further, whereas the issue of sale of alcohol to underage persons was not specifically discussed during this visit, the issue of public nuisance caused by street drinking was. It should be noted that the failed test purchase conducted by the police took place on 20 September 2014, just three days after the visit to the premises by two regulatory bodies. This clearly raises the issue of not only failing to comply with the law regarding underage sales of alcohol specifically, but also of failing to uphold the licensing objectives in general.

The Licensing Act 2003 places the responsibility of compliance with the terms and conditions of a premises licence on all those responsible for the conduct of licensable activities, including the premises licence holder. Clearly there has been a failure to adhere to this responsibility in this case.

Yours sincerely



Stephen Beedell

Licensing Officer

Regulatory Services Partnership

London Boroughs of Merton and Richmond upon Thames

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