



Licensing Authority
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London
N22 8HQ

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N17 9ES

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North Eight, 26 High Street, London, N8 7PB

License Number: LN/000002982

Premises License Holder: Hornsey Arms LTD 15476522. Director- James KEARNS.

Designated Premises Supervisor: Jemma Crucifix

Current times of licensable activities:

Regulated Entertainment

Friday and Saturday 2000 to 0000

Supply of Alcohol

Monday to Sunday 1100 to 0300

The opening hours of the premises:

Monday to Sunday 1100 to 0330

This review was started by the local authority concerns the premises license for the North Eight. Police are making supporting representations due to the premises being subject to multiple incidents involving violence as well as breaches of its licensing conditions, raising serious concerns about its management and impact on the local community. Evidence indicates that the premises has failed to adequately control patrons, leading to repeated incidents of disorder, public nuisance, and non-compliance with licensing objectives. Children have also been served at the premises at approximately 02:55hrs on occasion and the challenge25 policy has not been adhered to.

The North Eight venue has become a hotspot for violence and public order, with a significant number of reported incidents linked to its operation. The failure to implement effective security measures and uphold licensing conditions has contributed to an unsafe environment, placing both the staff and public at risk.

Police data:

Since March 2024 there have been twenty five separate dates police have been called to the premises the majority coming from VERISURE Alarm Company. Out of thirty nine of these calls twenty eight were in relation to violence at the premises. The Police call data suggests that there are no specific days incidents are happening and it is evenly spread across the week, with nearly all calls happening around 00.00 – 03.00 hours.

CAD 165/16APR25 00.29 hours- VIOLENCE AGAINST THE PERSON, CRIMINAL DAMAGE
CAD 157/16APR25 00.31 hours- VIOLENCE AGAINST THE PERSON
CAD 338/14APR25 01.16 hours- VIOLENCE AGAINST THE PERSON
CAD 494/04APR25 02.10 hours- VIOLENCE AGAINST THE PERSON
CAD 6965/01APR25 21.00 hours- VIOLENCE AGAINST THE PERSON, CRIMINAL DAMGE
CAD 7605/18MAR25 21.49 hours - VIOLENCE AGAINST THE PERSON
CAD 181/18MAR25 00.41 hours - VIOLENCE AGAINST THE PERSON
CAD 8217/17MAR25 23.46 hours - VIOLENCE AGAINST THE PERSON
CAD 6703/17MAR25 19.59 hours - VIOLENCE AGAINST THE PERSON
CAD 489/03MAR25 02.23 hours - VIOLENCE AGAINST THE PERSON
CAD 431/03MAR25 02.02 hours - VIOLENCE AGAINST THE PERSON
CAD 6860/28FEB25 19.55 hours - VIOLENCE AGAINST THE PERSON
CAD 6837/28FEB25 19.52 hours - VIOLENCE AGAINST THE PERSON
CAD 528/18FEB25 02.14 hours - VIOLENCE AGAINST THE PERSON
CAD 53/14FEB25 00.09 hours - VIOLENCE AGAINST THE PERSON
CAD 272/14FEB25 00.56 hours - VIOLENCE AGAINST THE PERSON
CAD 6798/09FEB25 23.08 hours - VIOLENCE AGAINST THE PERSON, CRIMINAL DAMAGE
CAD 6791/09FEB25 23.07 hours - VIOLENCE AGAINST THE PERSON
CAD 247/06FEB25 01.00 hours - SUSPICIOUS CIRCUMSTANCES
CAD 243/06FEB25 01.00 hours - ROWDY OR INCONSIDERATE BEHAVBIOUR, ASB
CAD 341/06FEB25 01.29 hours - FOUND BY POLICE
CAD 529/03FEB25 02.38 hours - ASB NUISANCE
CAD 542/03FEB25 02.48 hours - CIVIL DISPUTE
CAD 545/01FEB25 01.38 hours - SUSPICIOUS CIRCUMSTANCES
CAD 6893/28JAN25 20.47 hours - VIOLENCE AGAINST THE PERSON
CAD 825/18JAN25 02.55 hours - VIOLENCE AGAINST THE PERSON, CRIMINAL DAMAGE
CAD 708/17JAN25 03.04 hours - ROWDY OR INCONSIDERATE BEHAVBIOUR, ASB
CAD 261/09JAN25 01.04 hours - VIOLENCE AGAINST THE PERSON
CAD 267/09JAN25 01.03 hours - VIOLENCE AGAINST THE PERSON
CAD 520/16DEC24 02.15 hours - ROWDY OR INCONSIDERATE BEHAVBIOUR, ASB
CAD 150/24NOV24 00.17 hours - VIOLENCE AGAINST THE PERSON
CAD 124/24NOV24 00.16 hours - VIOLENCE AGAINST THE PERSON
CAD 123/24NOV24 00.17 hours - VIOLENCE AGAINST THE PERSON
CAD 103/24NOV24 00.13 hours - VIOLENCE AGAINST THE PERSON
CAD 494/29AUG24 01.35 hours - SUSPICIOUS CIRCUMSTANCES
CAD 4567/24AUG24 15.49 hours - VIOLENCE AGAINST THE PERSON
CAD 351/15JUL24 00.47 hours - ROWDY OR INCONSIDERATE BEHAVBIOUR, ASB
CAD 1167/07JUL24 03.09 hours - ROWDY OR INCONSIDERATE BEHAVBIOUR, ASB
CAD 7226/25MAY24 21.04 hours- VIOLENCE AGAINST THE PERSON

Approximately nineteen of these have been incidents where members of the travelling community have refused to leave and or started fighting inside the pub. A couple of these incidents have resulted in criminal damage. To name one call a female was allowed to be served to the point of vomiting, kicked out of the pub, tried to get into her car and was subsequently arrested for drunk and disorderly

and had to be taken to hospital by officers. A 16 year old has also been served up to appease him and this was at the hours of 02:55am, where no unaccompanied children are allowed on premises according to its licence conditions.

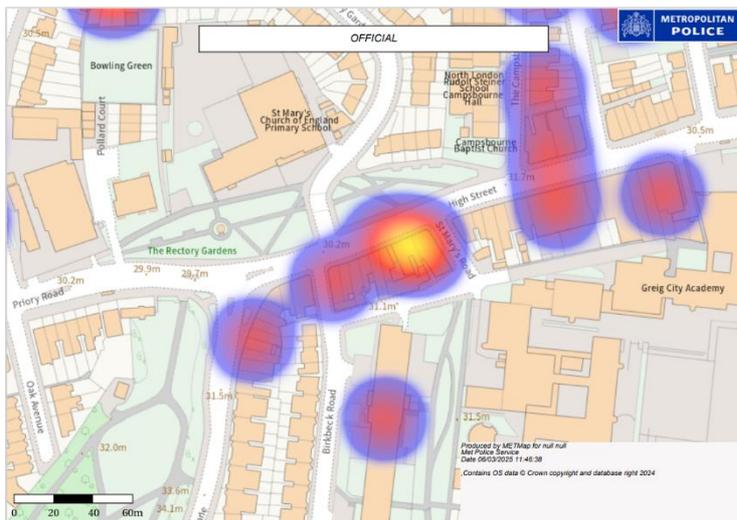
Crime reports:

Over the last twelve months, there has been eleven crime reports generated by police in connection with violent incidents occurring at the premises. This figure does not account for the numerous occasions when Police have been called to immediately respond to fights and disturbances where no formal reports were filed due to lack of cooperation from individuals involved. These incidents highlight the ongoing issues at the premises. Please see North Eight Crimes.

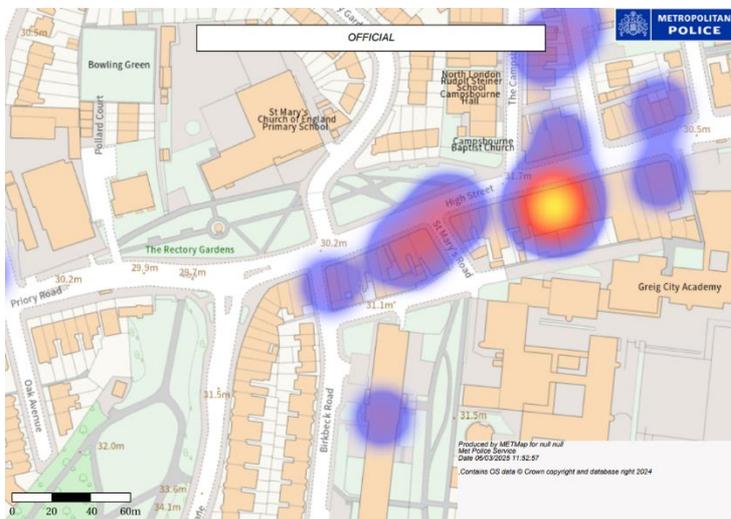
The premises is presenting as a Police hotspot for Violence against the person, Criminal damage and Public order offences.



Violence against the person for the address and the immediate area. 05/03/2024- 06/03/2025.



Criminal damage for the address and the immediate area. 05/03/2024- 06/03/2025.



Public Order offences for the address and the immediate area.
05/03/2024- 06/03/2025.

Police engagement:

Mr Kearns was spoken to on Friday 14th February over the phone regarding an altercation that happened during the early hours on 14/02/2025. He stated that he would bar the people that caused issues at the location and words of advice were given. The Haringey Police Licensing Team email was provided to Mr Kearns. Following this Mr Kearns asked for a meeting with police regarding advice in how to manage Irish Travellers refusing to leave his pub and fighting. This was a first time the PLH indicated he wanted to engage with the police, only after receiving a call post incident, from the Haringey Police Licensing team.

On Friday 14th March police conducted a licensing visit to the North Eight to discuss ongoing concerns that both the Police and Mr Kearns had regarding the premises. During this visit the Mr Kearns, the PLH, acknowledged multiple breaches of the licensing conditions including:

- Only one SIA door supervisor had been hired during the weekends since at least December 2024, when his license clearly states two. PLH told police it costs him approx. £600 and it would ruin his business if he was to spend double on two doors supervisors.
- There was no refusals book on the premises.
- There had been an issue with obtaining CCTV when officers had attended for an incident. This had already been rectified when licensing officers attended the meeting.

The PLH stated to officers that he consumed alcohol whilst on site. This coupled with the breaches further reinforced the Police’s serious concerns about the ability of the PLH and DPS to operate the premises in accordance with the law and licensing objectives. Particularly in relation to maintaining control over patrons. Police were keen to engage with the PLH and scheduled a followed up meeting.

During this visit, Police considered issuing a Section 19 Closure notice due to the breaches. However, after reassurance from both the PLH and licensing consultant it was ultimately decided to allow the venue an opportunity to rectify the breaches and implement measures to reduce incidents. The premises was advised on how to fix breaches and a follow up meeting was organised.

In response to the concerns raised, the premises took positive steps to improve compliance and safety. These measures included increasing CCTV coverage and storage capacity to better monitor incidents, signed up to Licensing Connect- which includes WAVE training to improve staff awareness of vulnerability issues- and hiring two SIA door staff to assist with managing patrons and the prevention of disorder.

While these actions demonstrate a willingness to address ongoing issues, it does not appear they have been implemented effectively to ensure a reduction in incidents. There appears to have been minimal

effort in barring nuisance patrons and from looking at response officers Body Worn Video when attending calls patrons appear heavily intoxicated, one young man had to be walked out by two of his friends and officers believed he needed hospital treatment. In this BWV some of the patrons look under 18, as there had been no refusals log on sight officers aren't aware if these people would have been served. How the entries to the Licensing Connect online portal are made, whether these are contemporaneous notes entered at any day, or on the day of the incident, it has not been explained to police. Police does not use or is not familiar with the technicality and operations of the Licensing Connect online tool, which premises have adopted.

Post 1st visit:

Since the Police visit on 14/03/2025, there have been a further two incidents on two consecutive nights one incident on the day of a scheduled police visit and following it.

On 17/03/2025, a hired entertainer was assaulted by patrons, being physically thrown about in the premises. Police were later called again around 23.45 hours for a fight breaking out at the premises, but were ultimately sent away after the pub stated they were happy for people to remain. This was detailed on CAD 8217/17MAR25 by a night duty Inspector. Approximately an hour later Mr Kearns's daughter Shannon Kearns called police stating a staff member had been assaulted, people were fighting and someone had been hit in the face with a bottle. When police arrived patrons were extremely intoxicated and were moved on and no one made themselves known with injuries.

Less than nine hours later on 18/03/2025, police were called to a fight at the venue. While lawfully ejecting patrons as per requested by staff at the premises due to SIA failing to do so, two police officers were subjected to racial abuse. The male was arrested in this instance having been ejected from the pub after he subsequently appeared to racially abuse the officer.

A common feature in these incidents is that the management of the pub have lost control as you will see in the statements from response officers. As well as people smoking inside of the pub, drinking whilst intoxicated and being aggressive. In one case during an incident the manager got into a car and left the premises with police left to deal with a number of drunken people.

Another feature is that the number of customers who are drunk, who police believe have been served while intoxicated. This is again evidenced in police body worn video with on young man so bad police believed he needed to go to hospital for treatment. As well as this some customers look under the age of 18. Again as mentioned before there had been no refusals log at the premises to detail any refusals to under 18's. Serving alcohol to a child, having a lone child at the premises at 02:55hrs is against the conditions of the license and also against a fundamental licensing objective to prevent harm happening to children.

2nd Visit:

Police attended again on Friday 21st March to review the CCTV of the incidents that occurred on 17/03/2025 and 18/03/2025. After viewing the CCTV it was clear there was two SIA door staff on, however they were unable to control the number of people in the premises and the ones trying to push their way in as well, this was on a Monday and Tuesday. Mr Kearns stated to Police during this visit that he had made the decision to close over the weekend of the 21st-23rd March to avoid any further incidents. Police viewed this as a responsible response, the PLH knowing the premises might not be able to handle a further incident so a positive step was taken to close.

It still remains these further incidents not only highlight the continued disorder associated with the premises but also raises concerns about the safety of staff, public and emergency personnel attending the location. A poorly managed venue can require excessive Police responses, diverting resources from other immediate response incidents in the community as that is what we have seen evidenced through the amount of calls in the last 12 months. This is evidenced in a response team Inspectors impact statement.

Post 2nd Visit:

There has since been an incident of affray, resulting in GBH, at the premises on 16/04/2025. At approximately 00.20 hours a fight has broken out after a disagreement between a member of bar staff and a patron. The bar staff had stated that they were closing the bar and it was last orders, a male has then ordered drinks and refused to pay. Another male has stated he would pay that tab, but the bar staff still refused service. This is when the first male has tried to get behind the bar, but was blocked, he has then gone back to the front and picked up the soda gun from the other side of the bar and aimed it at the staff. The staff member's boyfriend was sat at the bar as well and has intervened by placing the male in a headlock. During the incident there was number males holding on to each of the two locked together trying to get them apart, that's when the bar staff have picked up a glass and thrown it at the original male. After the males have broken free one has gone on to pick up five bar stools, one after the other, and thrown it behind the bar at the staff. The staff member has since been let go by Mr Kearns.

During an online Microsoft Teams meeting on 23/04/2025 between Mr Dadds, who is representing the licence holder, and the police licensing team, multiple proposals were suggested that the premises would voluntarily implement for a period of time. Mr Dadds stated he would email the Police licensing team an action plan for officers to consider. An email regarding this was not received until after Police informed Mr Dadds that supporting representations to the review would be submitted by police licensing team. This exchange of emails took place on 01/05/2025. Following a courtesy notification regarding submitting representations Mr Dadds emailed back some suggestions as below:

- Temporarily reducing operating hours to last orders at 23.00 and the premises empty by 01.00.
- Temporarily restricting entry to 23.00 hours, except for remittance of smokers.
- Applying over 21 policy at the weekends.

Summary:

Overall, the premises licence holder has clearly demonstrated he is unable to uphold the licensing objectives and has been unable to provide to Police any solutions to the crime and disorder stopping imminently. As we have seen from the evidence the majority of the violent crimes occur after midnight when other venues in the area have closed and people inside the North Eight have continued drinking for hours. The DPS and Mr Kearns have failed to stop serving customers when they are drunk, as evidenced from the no refusals book and officers BWV and statements. Both The Three Compasses and The Great Northern Railway Tavern, which are located on the same High Street, have lesser operating times on their licenses and do not experience the same issues as The North Eight. Therefore to prevent further crime and disorder the venue needs to close at 00.00 hours with the supply of alcohol being stopped at 23.30 hours as well as having a minimum of two SIA door staff every night of the week. There are concerns with current operating hours remaining in place, reverting to business hours is recommended and advised. This has been put through to the consultant during a police follow up visit, but the response stated more often than not the pub does not use up their permitted operating hours.

The inability to supply minimum two SIA's at the door on Fridays and Saturdays has been proved and admitted to by the PLH and it must be addressed asap. Police licensing team recommended putting minimum two SIA's at the door at every day of the week, due to the number of incidents steaming from the premises and resulting in crimes being committed.

The serving of children and their lone presence at the premises at early hours of morning must stop immediately.

Regards,

North Area Police Licensing Team