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Friday 19th June 2026

Police Representation

METROPOLITAN POLICE SERVICE REPRESENTATION IN SUPPORT OF REVIEW OF PREMISES LICENCE

Premises: The Village Square Karaoke Bar & Cocktail Lounge, 177 Archway Road, London N6 5BL

Representor: PC Adriana Costache, Police Licensing Officer

INTRODUCTION

I make this representation on behalf of the Metropolitan Police Service as a Responsible Authority under the Licensing Act 2003 in support of the review application submitted by the London Borough of Haringey.

This representation is made in support of the licensing objectives of the Prevention of Crime and Disorder, Public Safety and the Prevention of Public Nuisance.

The Metropolitan Police submit that the evidence demonstrates a prolonged pattern of crime, disorder, anti-social behavior, licensing non-compliance, management failings and public nuisance associated with the premises. The concerns are not based upon isolated incidents but upon a cumulative history extending over a number of years despite repeated interventions by both the Licensing Authority and Metropolitan Police.

POLICE INCIDENT HISTORY – 12 months checks

IIP checks conducted between 12 May 2025 and 12 June 2026 identified numerous incidents linked to the premises.

11 October 2025 – CAD 1216. Report of a group fighting outside the premises. Informant reported drug use and inhalation of gas. Connect reference INV-01/7643108/25.

12 October 2025 – CAD 961. Male punched and kicked causing injury. Intelligence identified large quantities of discarded nitrous oxide canisters.

20 October 2025 – Intelligence 01/6297535/25. Anti-social behaviour and nitrous oxide use linked to the premises.

9 November 2025 – Community Protection Warning served on the premises.

17 January 2026 – Sexual touching investigation INV-01/7013389/26. Male arrested and found in possession of Class A controlled drugs.

15 February 2026 – CAD 1145. Approximately ten persons fighting outside the premises with bottles being smashed. Investigation for Assault Occasioning Actual Bodily Harm.

15 February 2026 – INV-01/717397/26 and INV-01/7186546/26. Female assaulted outside the premises and property stolen during the altercation.

15 February 2026 – CAD 4319 and CAD 4624. Further reports of fighting, disorder, shouting, nitrous oxide canisters and drug paraphernalia littering surrounding streets.

7 March 2026 – Notification of Alleged Offences under the Licensing Act 2003 issued by PC Costache;

- ✓ No summary of premises licence displayed
- ✓ Nobody available to provide CCTV recordings upon police's request.
- ✓ No door supervisor, left 2 weeks ago
- ✓ No polite notice displayed

15 March 2026 – CAD 459. Licensing compliance visit.

19 March 2026 – CAD 8635. Further licensing visit.

31 March 2026 – Section 19 Closure Notice issued by PC Costache; breaches corrected, found new breaches as in the premises going beyond their permitted hours; CCTV footage checked on FRIDAY 27th MARCH and SATURDAY 28th MARCH 2026 for at least 16 minutes passed.

23 May 2026 – CAD 1146. Report of fighting outside the premises. Police attended and established anti-social behaviour had occurred prior to arrival.

23 May 2026 – CAD 4256 linked to CAD 2854. Resident reported screams, shouting, nitrous oxide use, discarded canisters and significant disturbance caused by patrons leaving the premises.

LICENSING COMPLIANCE FAILURES

Police licensing inspections identified CCTV failures, inability to provide footage when requested, absence of SIA staff when required, failure to display statutory license documentation, operation beyond authorized hours and poor engagement with Responsible Authorities.

These failings resulted in formal enforcement action culminating in the service of a Section 19 Closure Notice.

PUBLIC NUISANCE

Police evidence, Licensing Authority evidence and resident evidence consistently identify excessive noise, shouting, screaming, anti-social behavior, nitrous oxide use, littering, discarded canisters and significant disturbance to local residents during the early hours of the morning.

The consistency and duration of complaints demonstrate a recurring and significant impact upon the local community.

MANAGEMENT FAILINGS

The Police acknowledge representations regarding the DPS's health. However, the premises continued to trade. The licensing objectives cannot be suspended because of the personal circumstances of an individual license holder.

The evidence demonstrates repeated opportunities to improve through advice, visits, warning letters, compliance inspections, Licensing Authority intervention, a Community Protection Warning and a Section 19 Closure Notice. Despite those opportunities, concerns continued.

The Police therefore have limited confidence that the current management arrangements are capable of consistently promoting the licensing objectives.

SECTION 182 GUIDANCE

The Section 182 Guidance makes clear that review proceedings are preventative and protective in nature. Responsible Authorities and Licensing Authorities are expected to take appropriate and proportionate action where the licensing objectives are being undermined.

The Metropolitan Police submit that the repeated incidents, breaches and failures identified in this case demonstrate that lesser interventions have not achieved sustained compliance.

POLICE POSITION ON APPROPRIATE STEP

The Metropolitan Police have carefully considered the powers available to the Licensing Sub-Committee under Section 52 of the Licensing Act 2003.

Having reviewed the entirety of the evidence, including police incidents, intelligence reports, licensing breaches, enforcement action, Community Protection Warning, Section 19 Closure Notice, resident complaints and management failings, the Metropolitan Police submit that revocation of the premises licence is the most appropriate and proportionate step available.

This position is reached because:

- Concerns associated with the premises extend over several years.
- Repeated complaints have been received concerning disorder, violence, anti-social behavior and nuisance.
- Repeated interventions by Police and the Licensing Authority have failed to secure lasting compliance.
- Formal enforcement action has already been taken.
- Licensing breaches have continued despite warnings and advice.
- Police records demonstrate continuing incidents of disorder and violence linked to the premises.
- Public nuisance continues to affect local residents.

The Metropolitan Police submit that lesser interventions have already been attempted and have failed.

The Police therefore have no confidence that the addition of further conditions alone would adequately address the underlying management failures identified within this review.

CONCLUSION

This review is not based upon one complaint, one fight or one isolated breach.

It is the culmination of years of complaints, police incidents, intelligence reports, licensing breaches, enforcement action and management failings.

The evidence demonstrates a recurring pattern of crime and disorder, violence, anti-social behavior, drug-related activity, public nuisance, licensing non-compliance and failures of management control.

The Metropolitan Police submit that the licensing objectives have been repeatedly undermined and that confidence in the management of the premises has been fundamentally eroded.

Previous attempts to secure compliance through advice, engagement, licensing visits, warning letters, formal enforcement action, a Community Protection Warning and a Section 19 Closure Notice have failed to achieve lasting improvement.

The question for the Sub-Committee is not whether improvements could be promised today. The question is whether, after years of interventions, warnings, enforcement action and repeated incidents, confidence remains that this premises can promote the licensing objectives. The Metropolitan Police submit that such confidence no longer exists.

The Metropolitan Police therefore support the review application and respectfully request that the Licensing Sub-Committee revoke the premises license pursuant to Section 52 of the Licensing Act 2003.

In the alternative, should the Sub-Committee not be minded to revoke the license, the Metropolitan Police request consideration of a substantial suspension of the license, removal of the Designated Premises Supervisor and the imposition of extensive additional conditions which I already attached to Annex 1.

I reserve the rights to provide further information to support this representation.

Kind regards,

PC Adriana Costache
Central Licensing Officer – Strategic Delivery Unit
Metropolitan Police Service