

LICENSING (2003 ACT) SUB COMMITTEE

14TH NOVEMBER 2006

DIRECTORATE OF FINANCE AND CORPORATE SERVICES

**REPORT OF THE HEAD OF LEGAL SERVICES
– C.A. JOHN**

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PART 1 – Doc.Code: LICAS-141106-REP-FS-CJ

SECTION A – MATTERS FOR DECISION		
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1. Licensing Act 2003 Premises Licence Applications		
Ref.No.: 005417 Premises Name: Leonard Street Post Office (shop) Premises Address: 1 Leonard Street, Neath, SA11 3HW	2 - 8	Neath North

adhering to the Statement of Licensing Policy and intend to carry out our activities of sale of alcohol in the premises by promoting the licensing objectives. We understand that each objective is of equal importance and we have given paramount consideration while producing this application. Risk assessment is carried out with regard to all the four licensing objectives.

We also considered all the steps to avoid potential or anticipated anti-social behaviour from the customers or clients within or leaving the premises and committed to do so by adhering any conditions to avoid and minimising disorderly behaviour within or in the vicinity of premises. Being a convenience shop and post office for several years, all the steps are taken to ensure public safety including firesafety. We are also vigilant on observing the child protection procedures focused on preventing under-age drinking.

The Prevention of Crime & Disorder:

We at Leonard Street Post Office the management and staff have always been an intergral part of the community and represent the community to take preventive measures to discourage all sort of crime and disorder.

We considered all the measure to avoid potential anti-social behaviour for the customers within leaving the premises.

We have well-organised and effective plans for the management of premises and the staff is well familiar with the community having experience of working in the same premises since last 12 years.

We are well trained and self-motivated to prevent any crime or disorders, keen to update our knowledge and information time to time. The management have complete dedication to support the community to prevent any crine amd disorder and obtaining all sort of necessary trainings to each individual working within the premises.

We are well equipped with CCTV system and fully covered with alarm Systems, such as intruder alarm, panic alarm and other security systems are also in place. All the doors and internal layouts are safe and secure to avoid potential harm to the staff and customers. CCTV tapes will be kept for a period of 28 days.

The cash registers are also in a safe and secure area and fully alarmed with PIR security systems, the premises are alarm-protected

with Chubb Electronic Security Systems, Romec security systems and panic alarms which are well connected with centralised security system or agencies. Also by BT red care police preferred specification system.

The management member himself is also well trained and obtained necessary personal licence to be the premises designated supervisor. The designated premises supervisor will be responsible for all the day to day running of the premises and have the complete ability to review and revise the policies time to time and strictly vigilant to adopt any necessary steps to ensure that the licensing objectives are strictly followed in the premises and prevent crime and disorder.

Public Safety:

The premises are currently in a good state of art condition, safe and secure.

We are intending to carry out the sale alcohol only under the category of an off licence provision and all the necessary steps are already in place for the safety of the public.

The premises are well-secured and constructed or adapted and operated to safeguard occupants against any kind of risk. The shelving arrangements and the display layouts all are in line with the safety measures. The premises are well maintained time-to-time to keep the standards at all times. We are committed to ensuring the safety of any person visiting or working in the premises.

The premises layouts are also ensuring the public safety. Risk assessment including fire safety is carried out on the premises and the required measures are in place, a record is maintained for the same and reviewed time to time.

The premise is complying with disabled access. This is already well used with ramp access in the post office.

All the exits are properly marked with fire or emergency exit signboards and its obstruction free, a well working fire extinguisher is in place, which can be used in case of emergency. Fire force and emergency telephone numbers are also well known to all the members of staff, well recorded in the premises in case of an emergency.

We are well equipped with CCTV system, fully covered with alarm system such as intruder alarm, panic alarm and all security system are well in place. All the doors and internal layouts are safe and secure.

First aid box is available in the shop.

The Prevention of Public Nuisance:

The intended alcohol products are planned to be kept and displayed in the shelf in a secure area within the shop only accessible to the staff and permitted persons.

We have developed strategies and layout models to strictly adhere the proper management of such products and prepared policies and action to be adopted for the management. We explained these policies to each individual and staff that manage the premises and prepared all the necessary precautions by considering each individual's view in this regard.

We are associates and members for various organisations in retail sector and retail watch.

We are also keen that the general precautions are followed like no sale of alcohol to an already drunk person, knowingly allowing disorderly conduct on the licensed premises, knowingly keeping or allowing keeping unlawfully imported goods etc.

We are committed in placing all the necessary requirements if at all necessary for any disorders within the premises or within the vicinity of the premises at times and review periodically to meet with the changes in the community time to time. This involves reporting to police and relevant other authorities regarding potential or actual disorderly behaviour or which carry an element of crime and disorder.

The Protection of Children From Harm:

We are determined to:

Practise the strict protection against any sale of alcohol to children.

Stop under age drinking and protect children from harm.

The age identification procedures and proof of age card will be strictly followed.

We are already strictly following the practices for Preventing any sale of tobacco products to under 16 at present in our premises and which in turn enhance the practice of prohibiting any sale of alcohol products to under 18.

A notice/signage will be displayed with the message NO ALCOHOL PRODUCTS TO UNDER 18.

The alcohol shelves and coolers will be strictly out of reach of children and only accessible to persons over 18 years.

1.5. Relevant Representations:

Interested Parties Representations

See Appendix 1.

1.6. Policy Considerations

It is considered that the following policies are relevant to this application:

Crime & Disorder

- 6.6 *In addition to the requirements that the Council promote the licensing objectives, it also has a duty under Section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 to do all it reasonably can to prevent crime and disorder in the County Borough. The council is required therefore to have particular regard to the likely impact of licensing on crime and disorder. The nature or type of premises, its location, the hours of operation, its impact on the area, the operation and management of premises are all significant factors, which can impact on crime and disorder. All applications for licences or certificates including renewals and variations will be expected to have addressed these matters within the operating schedule.*

Public Safety

- 7.1 *The 2003 Act covers a wide range of premises that require licensing, including cinemas, concert halls, theatres, nightclubs,*

public houses, cafes/restaurants and fast food outlets/takeaways.

7.2 *Each of these types of premises present a mixture of risks, with many common to most premises and others unique to specific operations. It is essential that premises are constructed or adapted and operated so as to acknowledge and safeguard occupants against these risks. The council is committed to ensuring that the safety of any person visiting or working in licensed premises is not compromised.*

1.7. Officer's Report

Representations from a resident of the area express concern at possible crime and disorder/anti-social behaviour issues arising as a result of this application. An issue in respect of the suitability/safety of the ceiling to the premises is also referred to.

Consideration needs to be given as to whether these are significant and relevant concerns.

1.8. Recommendation

That members determine the application after taking into account the representations received.

List of Background Papers

Application for Premises Licence

Officer Contact

J Sullivan Principal Officer Licensing
Tel (01639) 686326 email j.sullivan@npt.gov.uk

Wards Affected

Neath North

North Port Tabbot B.C.
Licensing Dept,
Civic Centre,
North,
11/9/2006

A.W. HOVE,
L. Helly-veddel,
Hantwit Rd,
North.
SA11 3HH.

21 SEP 2006

09:50:00

Dear Sirs,

with reference to application for off licence at Leonard St. Post office.

I wish to register my objection on the following grounds.

A post office where O.A.S.'s collect their pension is not a suitable place for the sale of alcohol.

There is already several off licences in the area,

It is only recently with the Chinese take away at Helly-veddel closing its shop with off licence that the area has become free of people drinking from cans and using our walls as seats and our gardens as some where to dispose of their empties. The lane adjoining Gull Park Rd and parallel to Leonard St was also a popular location especially for seemingly under age drinkers, and a very convenient hiding place too.

The area here is predominantly residential but I do not believe it needs an off licence.

I also am given to understand the ^{false} ceiling in the P.O. does not meet with current fire safety regulations

Yours faithfully

A.W. HOVE.