

Chima Umunnakwe, Interim Pollution Team Leader
Environmental Health, Havant Borough Council, Public Service Plaza, Civic
Centre Road, Havant, PO9 2AX
Received 10 August 2023

Subject: Licence Variation Application - The Golden Lion, 54 Bedhampton Road,
Havant, PO9 3EY

Dear Licensing,

Thank you for passing to Pollution Team the above license variation application or comments.

I have now reviewed the application details/drawings in the context of one of the licensing Objectives, 'Prevention of Public Nuisance' and wish to make a FORMAL REPRESENTATION.

This representation considers protracted and ongoing complaints of noise relating to excessive use of amplified music during licensable activities and live music in the 'workplace' area within the meaning of the Deregulation Act 2015. The premises license holder seeks application to vary existing premises license to amend the existing premises layout in accordance with the submitted plans and vary opening hours on Sundays from 8am to provide breakfast (non-licensable activities). I am aware that this part of the proposed variation has now been withdrawn and therefore we will not provide detailed comments regarding this part of the application.

The Premises

The premises is an existing Public House that occupies a substantially building property on Bedhampton Road. The premises comprises of a bar, amplified music, and live bands on Sundays in the outdoor/Beer Garden. The premise benefits from a vast car parking facility close to residential properties. The Pollution Team considers the proposed variation (amended layout) has the potential to undermine the licencing objective the licensing objective. Two aspects of the proposed variation are of great concern for the Pollution Team as follows:

- Noise disturbance from the use of amplified/live music.
- Disturbance to nearby residents from patrons in amended layout.

It seems inevitable there will be untold noise disturbance to residents from loud amplified music being played within the amended plan and on Sundays during the summer months live music events. The Pollution Team has had numerous noise complaints relating to excessive music during licensed activities and we are in the process of gathering evidence in order to substantiate statutory noise nuisance. We consider that granting the proposed variation in accordance with the proposed layout will only exacerbate noise problem, thus causing significant impact on the residents,

thus undermining the licensing objectives. It is our view that should the sub-committee consider this variation, it is likely to have a detrimental impact on already noise suffering residents given the history of complaints. Whilst it is not possible to quantify the amount of noise presently, we are currently in the process of gathering evidence of nuisance through monitoring activities. We believe it is a factor relating to Prevention of Public Nuisance that must be considered in this application to alleviate the sufferings of the residents.

Variation for no-licensable activities on Sundays from 8am

As mentioned earlier in this representation, this aspect of the proposed licensing application appears to have withdrawn. However, we consider it necessary to provide some brief comments.

Given the history of complaints, we would have considered a formal representation as well should the license premises holder had proceeded with this aspect of the proposal. This is due to potential increase in the noise climate on Sunday mornings from patrons using the facility. We consider the background noise to have reduced significantly during Sunday mornings and noise from vehicle, voices and car door slamming will impact on residential amenity and consequently undermine the licensing objectives.

I hope this helps.

Regards

Chima Umannakwe

Interim Pollution Team Leader / Planning Apps | T: [REDACTED]

Environmental Health

Havant Borough Council, Public Service Plaza, Havant, PO9 2AX