

Committee :	Date	Classification	Report No.	Agenda Item No.
Licensing Sub-Committee		Unclassified		

Report of: David Tolley Head of Environmental Health and Trading Standards Originating Officer: Mohshin Ali Senior Licensing Officer	Title: Licensing Act 2003 Application for a variation of a premises licence for (Tower Hamlet's Pizza) 479 Cambridge Heath Road, London, London E2 9BU Ward affected: St. Peter's
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1.0 Summary

Licence holder:	Mr Haroon Hamidi
Name and	Tower Hamlet's Pizza
Address of Premises:	479 Cambridge Heath Road London E2 9BU
Licence sought:	Licensing Act 2003 - variation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To extend the times for the provision of late night refreshment
Representations:	Environmental Protection

2.0 Recommendations

- 2.1 That the Licensing Committee considers the application and objections then adjudicate accordingly.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT 2000 (Section 97)
LIST OF "BACKGROUND PAPERS" USED IN THE DRAFTING OF THIS REPORT

Brief description of "background paper"	Tick if copy supplied for register	If not supplied, name and telephone number of holder
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Guidance Issued under Section 182 of the Licensing Act 2003 Tower Hamlets Licensing Policy File 		Mohshin Ali 020 7364 5498

3.0 **Background**

3.1 This is an application for a variation of a premises licence for (Tower Hamlet's Pizza) 479 Cambridge Heath Road, London, London E2 9BU.

3.2 A copy of the existing licence is enclosed as **Appendix 1**. The timings are as follows:

“The provision of late night refreshment - Indoors

- *Sunday to Thursday, from 23:00 hours to 01:00 hours the following day*
- *Friday and Saturday, from 23:00 hours to 02:00 hours the following day*

The opening hours of the premises

- *Sunday to Thursday, from 11:00 hours to 01:30 hours the following day*
- *Friday and Saturday, from 11:00 hours to 02:30 hours the following day”*

3.3 A copy of the variation application is enclosed as **Appendix 2**. The applicant has described the variation as follows:

“... We would like to increase our delivery hours because business is busiest after 0200 which is the time on our current license. Our business would be majorly affected if this change doesn't happen...”

3.4 The licensable activities and timings that have been applied for are as follows:

“The provision of late night refreshment - Indoors

- *Monday to Sunday, from 23:00 hours to 05:00 hours the following day*

The opening hours of the premises

- *Monday to Sunday, from 11:00 hours to 05:00 hours the following day*

4.0 **Location and Nature of the premises**

4.1 Maps of the venue are included as **Appendix 3**.

4.2 Photographs showing the vicinity are included as **Appendix 4**.

4.3 Details of the nearest licensed venues are included as **Appendix 5**.

5.0 **Licensing Policy and Government Advice**

5.1 The Council has adopted a licensing policy and this is available from the Licensing Section, and at the hearing. The revised policy came into effect on the 1st November 2018.

- 5.2 Relevant Sections of the policy are brought to the attention of Members within the Licensing Officers report.
- 5.3 The Home Secretary has issued Guidance under Section 182 of the Licensing Act 2003. This is available on the Government's website, www.homeoffice.gov.uk. It was last revised in November 2021.
- 5.4 Relevant Sections of this advice are brought to Members attention within the Licensing Officers report. Members should note however, that in some areas Tower Hamlets, after a proper consideration of local circumstances, has not followed the Government's advice, or has developed it further.

6.0 Representations

- 6.1 This hearing is required by the Licensing Act 2003, because relevant representations have been made by Environmental Protection (see **Appendix 6**)
- 6.2 All of the responsible authorities have been consulted about this application. They are as follows:
- The Licensing Authority
 - The Metropolitan Police
 - London Fire Brigade
 - Planning Department
 - Health and Safety
 - Environmental Health Noise Team
 - Trading Standards
 - Child Protection
 - Public Health
 - Home Secretary (Home Office Immigration Enforcement)
- 6.3 In addition the application was required to be advertised in a local newspaper and by a blue poster. Only objections that relate to the following licensing objectives are relevant:
- the prevention of crime and disorder
 - public safety
 - the prevention of public nuisance
 - the protection of children from harm
- 6.4 Essentially, the relevant party opposes the application because the applicant has not explained how within the context of the application they will meet the licensing objective(s), particularly the prevention of public nuisance.
- 6.5 There are strict time limits to any representations. The time limits are contained in The Licensing Act 2003 (Premises licences and club premises certificates) Regulations 2005.

6.6 The applicant has offered measures in the operating schedule of the application that address the promotion of the Licensing Objectives. If there were no representations, the Licensing Authority would grant the licence, with conditions consistent with the operating schedule, which are relevant, proportionate and enforceable. Members are asked to consider the schedule and incorporate any conditions as necessary to address the licensing objectives.

7.0 Conditions consistent with Operating Schedule

7.1 The following are conditions are contained within the existing premises licence:

“Annex 2 - Conditions consistent with the operating Schedule

1. *A CCTV system shall be put in place; the cameras are to be of sufficient quality so that people’s faces are clearly identifiable from the footage.*
 - a. *The cameras are to be placed in such a way as they cover areas of the premises specified by the Police.*
 - b. *The system is to record the footage and to keep it for a minimum of 30 days and a copy off CCTV footage is to be made available to Police or the Local Authority upon request and supplied within 24 hours.*
 - c. *While the premises are open to the public a member of staff must be on duty who can operate the CCTV system*
2. *Customers will not be sought by means of personal solicitation outside or in the vicinity of the premises.*
3. *Prominent, clear and legible notices shall be displayed at the exit requesting the public to respect the needs of nearby residents and to leave the premises and the area quietly.*
4. *Customers shall not be admitted to the premises beyond the opening hours*
5. *All details provided in staff training record book shall be made available to an authorise officer on request.*
6. *Log Book shall be kept on the premises and made available to an authorised officer on request”.*

7.2 No additional enforceable conditions have been offered as part of this variation.

8.0 Conditions in consultation with the responsible authorities/other person

8.1 None

9.0 Licensing Officer Comments

9.1 The Business & Planning Act 2020 came into force on Wednesday 22nd July 2020 and provides a temporary permission for businesses that have a premises licence that permits them to sell alcohol in regards to the ability to sell alcohol as an off sale, i.e. for consumption off the premises. The permission will end on 30th September 2022 unless the legislation is changed by the Secretary of State.

It will only apply to businesses that hold a Premises Licence up to 22nd July 2020 and that in the last 3 years preceding 22 July 2020 those licences have NOT:

- had a premises licence application where permission for off sales was refused;
- had a variation of a premises licence seeking permission for off sales refused
- had a variation seeking to exclude off sales permission granted
- had a premises licence varied or modified by a review hearing to exclude off sales.

The new off-sales permission will permit off-sales to be made at a time when the licensed premises are open for the purposes of selling alcohol for consumption on the premises, subject to a cut off time of 11pm or the cut off time of the current licensed hours stated on the licence, whichever is earlier. Measures also temporarily suspend existing licence conditions in so far as they are inconsistent with the new off-sales permission. Further Guidance on this can be found at <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-for-temporary-alcohol-licensing-provisions-in-the-business-and-planning-bill>

9.2 The Live Music Act removed licensing requirements for the following:

- amplified live music and recorded music between 8am and 11pm before audiences of no more than 500 people on premises authorised to sell alcohol for consumption on the premises;
- unamplified live music between 8am and 11pm in all venues.
- Further exemptions apply see Section 16.5-16.6 of Section 182 Guidance.

9.3 The following is intended simply to advise Members of the relevant aspects of the Boroughs Licensing Policy, guidance from the Secretary of State, legislation and good practice (See 6.2). Members may depart

from the Council's Licensing Policy and/or Government advice, provide they consider it appropriate to do so, and have clear reasons for their decision.

9.4 Guidance issued under section 182 of the Licensing Act 2003

- ❖ As stated in the guidance it is “provided to licensing authorities in relation to the carrying out of their functions under the 2003 Act.” It is a key medium for promoting best practice, ensuring consistent application and promoting fairness equal treatment and proportionality (1.7).
- ❖ Also “as long as licensing authorities have properly understood this Guidance, they may depart from it if they have good reason to do so and can provide full reasons. Departure from this Guidance could give rise to an appeal or judicial review, and the reasons given will then be a key consideration for the courts when considering the lawfulness and merits of any decision taken.” Therefore licensing authorities will need to give full reasons for their actions (1.9).
- ❖ Also Members should note “A Licensing Authority may depart from its own policy if the individual circumstances of any case merit such a decision in the interests of the promotion of the licensing objectives.” (1.12)
- ❖ Also, “The licensing authority may not impose any conditions unless its discretion has been exercised following receipt of relevant representations and it is satisfied as a result of a hearing (unless all parties agree a hearing is not necessary) that it is appropriate to impose conditions to promote one or more of the four licensing objectives.” Therefore, conditions may not be imposed for the purpose other than promoting the licensing objectives and in some cases no additional conditions will be appropriate. (10.8)
- ❖ Necessary conditions should emerge from a risk assessment by the applicant, which should then be reflected in the operating schedule (10.4).
- ❖ The Guidance states: “Where there are objections to an application to extend the hours during which licensable activities are to be carried on and the licensing authority determines that this would undermine the licensing objectives, it may reject the application or grant it with appropriate conditions and/or different hours from those requested.” (10.14)
- ❖ Mandatory conditions must be imposed (10.25) and censorship avoided (10.17).
- ❖ The Guidance states: “It is still permitted to sell alcohol using promotions (as long as they are compatible with any other licensing condition that may be in force), and the relevant person should ensure that the price of the alcohol is not less than the permitted price.

Detailed guidance on the use of promotions is given in the guidance document available on the Gov.uk website.” (10.58) Also, “Licensing authorities should not attach standardised blanket conditions promoting fixed prices for alcoholic drinks to premises licences or club licences or club premises certificates in an area.” (10.21)

- 9.5 The Licensing Act 2003 permits children of any age to be on the premises which primarily sells alcohol providing they are accompanied by an adult. It is not necessary to make this a condition.
- 9.6 In all cases the Members should make their decision on the civil burden of proof, that is “the balance of probability.”
- 9.7 In all cases Members should consider whether or not primary legislation is the appropriate method of regulation and should only consider licence conditions when the circumstances in their view are not already adequately covered elsewhere.
- 9.8 The Government has advised that conditions must be tailored to the individual type, location and characteristics of the premises and events concerned. Conditions cannot seek to manage the behaviour of customers once they are beyond the direct management of the licence holder and their staff and standardised conditions should be avoided where they cannot be shown to be appropriate. (1.16/1.17)
- 9.9 The Council’s Licensing Policy generally expects applicants to address the licensing objectives and discuss how to do this with the relevant responsible authorities.
- 9.10 In **Appendices 7 - 11** Members are given general advice, and also have explanations of the Council’s Licensing Policy, Government advice and other legislation relating to the matters previously identified.

10.0 Legal Comments

- 10.1 The Council’s legal officer will give advice at the hearing.

11.0 Finance Comments

- 11.1 There are no financial implications in this report.

12.0 Appendices

Appendix 1	A copy of the existing licence
Appendix 2	A copy of the variation application
Appendix 3	Maps of the venue
Appendix 4	Photographs showing vicinity of the venue
Appendix 5	Details of nearest licensed venues
Appendix 6	Representation of Environmental Protection
Appendix 7	Licensing Officer comments on noise while the premise is in use
Appendix 8	Licensing Officer comments on access/egress problems
Appendix 9	Planning
Appendix 10	Licensing Policy relating to hours of trading
Appendix 11	Tower Hamlets Cumulative Impact Zone