

29th September 2023

Licensing Authority Thurrock Council Civic Offices New Road Grays RM17 6SL

## Police Representation to an application for the grant of a premises licence

On behalf of the Chief Officer of Police for the County of Essex and non-metropolitan districts of Southend-on-Sea and Thurrock I write to submit a representation in regard to an application for the granting of a new premises licence for a premises known as Dunlop Stores located at 38 on Dunlop Road in Tilbury.

The application seeks to create a licence on the site of a former store located at the same location that has been left vacant for a significant period of time, if granted it will allow the applicant to trade between 8am and 11pm all week. The applicant has supplied some conditions as part of their operating schedule in the application which have been considered in regard to the location of the premises, the type of operation being proposed and it is our position that if the application is granted in its current form there is a risk of the licensing objectives being undermined as the conditions given are not sufficiently detailed enough to enable enforcement.

Essex Police contacted the applicant on 12<sup>th</sup> September to clarify details of the application and a subsequent email on the 18<sup>th</sup> September sought to request differing conditions from the application which were:

- 1. The premises shall have installed and maintain a closed circuit television surveillance (CCTV) system which at all times complies with the below requirements:
  - a. CCTV will be provided in the form of a recordable system, capable of providing pictures of evidential quality in all lighting conditions particularly facial recognition;
  - b. CCTV cameras shall cover all entrances, exits and the areas where alcohol sales take place;
  - c. Equipment must be maintained in good working order, be correctly time and date stamped, recordings must be kept in good working order and kept for a minimum period of 30 days;
  - d. Upon the reasonable request of the police or licensing authority staff, within 48 hours viewable copies of recordings will be provided.
- 2. Signs must be displayed at all entrances advising customers that CCTV is operating at the premises and shall be a minimum size of 200 x 148 mm and clearly legible at all times when the premises conducts licensable activities.



- 3. A Challenge 25 scheme shall be operated, whereby any person who appears to be under the age of 25 years of age is required to produce on request an item which meets the mandatory age verification requirement (photo, name, date of birth and either a holographic mark or ultraviolet feature) and is either a:
  - a. Proof of age card bearing the PASS Hologram;
  - b. Photocard driving licence;
  - c. Passport; or
  - d. Ministry of Defence Identity Card.
- 4. The premises shall clearly display signs at each point of sale and in areas where alcohol is displayed advising customers that a 'Challenge 25' policy is in force. At the point of sale, such signs shall be a minimum size of 200mm x 148mm.
- 5. A refusals record shall be maintained at the premises that details all refusals to sell alcohol. Each entry shall, as a minimum, record the date and time of the refusal and the name of the staff member refusing the sale. All entries must be made as soon as possible and, in any event, within 4 hours of the refusal and the record must be made immediately available to police, trading standards or licensing authority staff upon reasonable request. The refusals record shall be either electronic or maintained in a bound document and retained for at least 12 months from the date of the last entry.
- 6. All staff engaged in the sale or supply of alcohol on the premises shall have received training in relation to the protection of children from harm (including under-age sales), how to recognise drunkenness and the duty not to serve drunk persons. Refresher training shall be carried out at least every six months. Training records shall be kept on the premises (or otherwise be accessible on the premises) for a minimum of 12 months and made immediately available to police, trading standards or licensing authority staff upon reasonable request.

The applicant has since confirmed that they will work within these conditions and have accepted the conditions proposed by Essex Police, a copy of this acceptance is attached to this representation.

In addition, Essex Police does have concerns regarding the premises plan being not in keeping with the likely structure of the premises, the applicant has given assurances that once the application is granted and the renovation works are underway that a minor variation application will be made to resolve this issue.

As the applicant has accepted our conditions and that these are approved at any subsequent hearing Essex Police are content for the granting of the application in these terms.

Yours faithfully,

Simon Barnes Police Licensing Officer – Brentwood & Thurrock