


Appendix 5b

Blackpool Council Licensing Service Representation made by a Responsible Authority to an application for the grant / variation of a Premises Licence / Club Premises Certificate				
Responsible Authority				
Name of Responsible Authority	LANCASHIRE CONSTABULARY			
Name of Officer <i>(please print)</i>	PS1747 Helen Parkinson			
Signature of Officer				
Contact telephone number	01253 604074			
Date representation made	03	04	17	
Do you consider mediation to be appropriate				NO
Premises Details				
Premises Name	Tesco			
Address	96-98 Whitegate Drive			
	Blackpool			
Post Code	FY3 9BZ			
Reasons for making representations				
<p>I am in receipt of an application to vary the Premises Licence for the above address to increase the hours in which it can sell alcohol.</p> <p>On behalf of the Chief Officer of Police, having reviewed the application the Police make formal objections on the following grounds:</p> <p>The Police base this objection on the existing Premises Licence being within the Off Licence Saturation Policy Area. The purpose of this Policy is to limit the number of Off Licensed Premises within a given geographic area, in order to reduce crime and disorder and promote the licensing objectives.</p> <p>The policy was created in 2009 covering the Wards of Bloomfield, Claremont, Talbot and Victoria. The policy was to apply to all new licence applications and any variations to an existing off-licence within these wards. This application falls within Talbot Ward. It is accepted that Tesco, being a National Operator, does take compliance and social responsibility</p>				

very seriously, but the location of this store sits in one of the most challenging areas with regards to alcohol related harm.

Alcohol misuse in the North West is the worst in the UK and Blackpool has high levels of alcohol related harm for the size of the population. Blackpool has widespread deprivation within the Central Wards of the town. A combination of poor quality housing lack of appealing employment and low aspiration within the resident population makes alcohol a convenient pastime. There are approx. 180 off-licence premises in Blackpool (50% higher than national average) half of which are located in these four most deprived wards in the town.

This Tesco Store falls within Talbot Ward and is surrounded by HMOs, hotels, holiday flats and houses.

The attached statement from PC TURKI indicates that issues being experienced by police in terms of crime and disorder within the locality, with 168 reports of anti-social behaviour in the area, 8 recorded public order crimes and 83 recorded violent crimes within the past 6 months. It is not possible to make a causal link between Tesco's retailing practice and this crime data but alcohol provision and availability will have a bearing on statistics and controlling cumulative effect of multiple retailers in an area can assist in reducing the impact or harm on the licensing Objectives. However, The store itself does suffer from a certain amount of anti-social behaviour with are 41 reports of nuisance and assault within the past 6 months.

There is currently a lot of work being done by Blackpool Council in Talbot Ward around the issues of vagrancy and begging and the associated Street Drinking. Tescos and other stores within the immediate area are currently experiencing issues with a vagrant called Colin Clapp. Clapp has been moved on from Town Centre due to action being taken by the Council and it is quite feasible that others may follow. Any increase in availability in alcohol at an earlier time is likely to attract vagrants and street drinkers to the area being the only store at the time where alcohol is available.

The police does not wish to advance an argument that the current operation harms any of the Objectives but does have huge concerns that the earlier hours between 07:00 – 08:00 and longer hours on a Sunday that are sought by the applicant may have significant impact on Crime and Disorder and Public Nuisance.

It is recommended that the licence should only be granted if the application is amended, or if conditions are applied, as detailed below.

- N/A



WITNESS STATEMENT

Criminal Procedure Rules, r 27. 2; Criminal Justice Act 1967, s. 9; Magistrates' Courts Act 1980, s.5B

URN

Statement of: **Laila TURKI**

Age if under 18: Over 18 (if over 18 insert 'over 18') Occupation: **Police Officer**

This statement (consisting of 1 page(s) each signed by me) is true to the best of my knowledge and belief and I make it knowing that, if it is tendered in evidence, I shall be liable to prosecution if I have wilfully stated in it anything which I know to be false, or do not believe to be true.

Signature: Laila (witness) Date: 26/03/17

I am PC 6172 Turki of the Lancashire Constabulary, currently stationed at Blackpool Police station as the community beat manager (CBM) for Talbot and Tyldesley.

Whitegate drive is a main road situated on beat WA40 and WA43 in the Ward area of Talbot and Tyldesley. Whilst Whitegate drive itself, is of moderate policing demand, the area it is situated in is a high demand area. Whitegate drive leads onto several high demand roads, such as; Reads Avenue, Palatine Road and Hornby Road. A considerable proportion of the Blackpool Central Neighbourhood Policing Team's resources are concentrated on this area due to alcohol related crime, namely, Anti-social behaviour, Public Order Offences and Violent offences, such as Assault. In approximately the last 6 months, there have been 168 crime reports of Anti-Social Behaviour in the area, 8 incidences of Public Order and 83 incidents of Violent crime. At 96 White gate drive specifically, there have been 41 incident reports of nuisance and assault at the Tesco Store. Currently, there are a number of prolific criminals on the NPT target profile, many of whom have a dependency on alcohol and purchase it from the Tesco Store on 96 White gate drive at unsociable hours. They often engage in Anti-Social Behaviour, Public Order and Nuisance, specifically, drinking alcohol on the streets and loitering on Whitegate Drive for the purposes of Begging. The area experiences varying degrees of social deprivation, which correlate to alcoholism and criminality. Whilst the Neighbourhood Policing Team are concentrating our efforts on devising an action plan to tackle the alcohol related crime and our prolific offenders, it is my honest held belief as the CBM of Talbot and Tyldesly, that extending the licencing hours for 96 Whitegate Drive from 7am, will only exacerbate the problem and contribute to the Anti-Social Behaviour and Alcohol related crime in the area.

Signature: Laila Signature Witnessed by: OB 3805

