Blackpool Council Licensing Service

Representation made by a Responsible Authority In support of an application for the Review of an existing Premises Licence or Club Premises Certificate

Responsible Authority making representation							
Name of Responsible Authority		Lancashire Constabulary					
Name of Officer (please print)		PS1747 Helen Parkinson					
Signature of Officer		J. +					
Contact telephone number		01253 604074					
Date representation made		08	03	18			
Do you consider m	appropriate			N	o		
Name of Responsible Authority / Applicant who requested a review of this Licence							
Mr Mark Marshall – Health and Safety, Blackpool Council							
Premises Details							
Premises Name	Takeaway (Lilo Charcoal)						
Address	124 Central Drive						
	Blackpool						
Post Code	FY1 5DY						
Details of your re (Please reference					oplication		

The Review is brought by Mark Marshall from Blackpool Council following concern raised at these premises during a recent visit. This application is made in support of this Review and the Police will present evidence that the Licensing Objectives of prevention of crime and disorder and protecting children from harm have been undermined.

On 2nd February 2018 I was working in company with Mr Marshall and officers from the Home Office Immigration Service. Our task was to conduct joint agency visits to certain premises in the Blackpool area.

At 17:15hours we attended Lilo Charcoal Takeaway on Central Drive. On our arrival there were four males in the rear of the premises, in the food preparation area. We noticed that there was a CCTV system installed in the premises but when asked, none of the four staff members could operate the system; therefore we were unable to check whether it was recording properly and for how long.

The officers from the Immigration Service then checked all of the males and it transpired that

one of the males had no legal right to work in the UK. When questioned by the officers he denied working there, despite being seen preparing food. However, when the officers looked through the male's mobile phone they found text messages indicating that he was in fact working.

Whilst this male was being questioned, the Premises Licence Holder at the time, Mr Sharam Shaif Amin entered the shop. He too was asked about the CCTV and confirmed that he was unable to operate the system. Lilo Charcoal has the following condition on its licence:

The premises are to be equipped with a closed circuit television system, which is appropriate to its purpose and provided and maintained to the satisfaction of the enforcement authorities.

It is appreciated that our attendance was not after 23:00hours when the conditions come into force however, as none of the staff nor the manager knew how to operate the system it is highly unlikely that come 6 hours later they will have suddenly gained this knowledge and as the staff were not new to the venue then they won't have had this knowledge on the previous occasions they have been open passed 11pm.

A fine was also subsequently issued to Mr Amin in relation to environmental issues.

Whilst we were at the premises a number of local youths were seen hanging around outside the front doors. When we left 4 young females were stood by the door and then seen by myself to be speaking to Mr Amin in the doorway of the premises. This area around Central Drive has been suffering with a significant amount of anti-social behaviour and disorder from youths. The Neighbourhood Policing Teams will state that they are suffering from a lot of ASB in that immediate area on Central Drive caused by youths hanging around on the street. The biggest issue is around youths throwing stones as passing vehicles, causing significant amount of damage and being rude and intimidating to the public and in certain establishments. Takeaways which allow youths into the premises provide a haven for youths, esp in the cold inclement weather and play a part in them being able to hang around. Being out later at night also puts these youths at risk.

Following on from this, one particular youth, who I will refer to as 'A' to protect their identity is 15 years old, looked after by Child Services and is deemed at risk of harm from drugs, alcohol and CSE. This child has been reported missing 38 times since April 2017. 'A' has been seen behind the counter at Lilo Charcoal eating food, when it was believed that they didn't have any money. The reason they were behind the counter is unknown but as no members of the public should ever be behind the counter this is concerning behaviour.

The types of juvenile calls include the following:

LC-20171130-0077 Ambulance request after a 15year old has fallen from the back of a bus. Paramedics required assistance due to the level of aggression from the female youth on the line and the sound of screaming that could be heard.

LC-20180221-1531 Call from business owner stating kids have been in and ripped his chairs.

LC-20180225-0868 Call from Blackpool Transport stating one of their drivers has reported a group of youths trying to jump into the buses in the Central drive area.

LC-20180303-1118 Report from neighbouring premises that youths are messing about in the takeaway refusing to leave. 7 in total. They are being rude and abusive and have previously caused damage.

Lilo Charcoal did phone a nuisance log into Police on 22^{nd} December – a call from a Mrs Verity saying a female youth is throwing forks in the premises. This is only recorded issue from the premise.

The Police therefore have similar concerns to those raised by Mr Mark Marshall with regards to how this licenced premise is operating. Firstly, the fact that nobody, including the licence holder, could operate a basic CCTV system; CCTV is a key tool in the prevention of crime and disorder and secondly that a young vulnerable youth has been seen eating behind the counter when these children are causing a great deal of disorder in the area. Furthermore, the employment of illegal workers is also of great concern to the police and can lead to further issues in terms of human trafficking and in some cases organised crime.

From the evidence presented during the visit the Police are of the opinion that the crime and disorder and protect children from harm objectives are being undermined and fully support Mr Marshall in his Representation.