

Blackpool Council Licensing Service
Representation made by a Responsible Authority

Responsible Authority

Name of Responsible Authority	Licensing Authority			
Name of Officer <i>(please print)</i>	Mark Marshall			
Signature of Officer				
Contact telephone number	01253-478493			
Date representation made	27	07	2015	
Do you consider mediation to be appropriate			YES	NO

Premises Details

Premises Name	Bells Convenience
Address	151 Palatine Road
	Blackpool
Post Code	FY1 4DN

Details of your representation (Please refer and attach any supporting documentation)

I am Mark Marshall and am duly authorised to submit representations on behalf of the Licensing Authority.

On the 15th June 2015 a Licensing Enforcement Officer visited the premises and had concerns regarding the appointed DPS who was absent from the premises, other technical licensing issues were also disclosed, such as no summary on display, no certified copy of the licence and partially obscured or inadequate notices regarding minimisation of noise to residents.

An advisory letter was sent to Mr Amer KHAN, the licence holder at the time on the 23rd June 2015.

On Friday 17th July 2015 Mark Marshall, Licensing and Health and Safety Manager met with the new operator of Bells Convenience, Mr Jeyabalan SORNALINGAM and Gunaratnam KETHEES who arranged the meeting with me and was there to facilitate communication as Mr SORNALINGAM had very poor English language skills.

During the meeting it was apparent that Mr SORNALINGAM had been the owner of the shop since

January 2015, he didn't really understand the requirement to transfer the licence so during the meeting I assisted him by completing the forms for transferring the DPS and the Premises Licence into his name.

It was very apparent from his character and lack of competence that Mr SORNALINGAM would be a concern if left to run this shop without assistance, it was very much accepted by all parties that Mr SORNALIGAM capabilities had limitations, I suggested that perhaps ordering stock, arranging displays, back office management would be ok but if he was left to do the operational day to day running of the premises I would be concerned. I suggested that he needed some assistance in the form of a shop manager; someone who understood the issues in the area could speak English fluently and had a stronger bearing.

The transfer and change of DPS was submitted on the same day so the intentions of Mr SORNALIGAM are clearly honourable but many of the issues here such as the underage sale, technical licensing breaches and the fact that the licence was not transferred for over 6 months are in my view down to operator incompetence and the need for a competent manager is essential in this case.

For New / Variation Applications only.

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