

## **REVIEW OF PREMISES LICENCE**

Mr Colebourne  
Colebourne's Solicitors  
77 Adelaide Street  
Blackpool  
FY1 4LP

The Blackpool Council being the licensing authority on the 9<sup>th</sup> April 2014 received an application from weights and measures to review the premises licence issued in respect of Bolton News, 90-92 Bolton Street Blackpool.

The Council have determined to deal with the review by revoking the licence.

### **Decision**

This review has been submitted following a failed test purchase operation, a number of seizures of non-duty paid alcohol and concerns about staff training records being requested on a number of occasions but not being produced. The history of the visits and issues found are well documented in the papers.

At the time of the review Mr Chanthrakumar was the premises licence holder and designated premises supervisor. When he was interviewed in March 2014 about the underage sale, he denied being involved in the running of the business, saying that was Mr Thevakanthan. Mr Thevakanthan finally applied for the transfer of the licence in May 2014.

At the hearing today, Mr Thevakanthan stated that Mr Chanthrakumar as in day to day control of the premises and he had thought that Mr Chanthrakumar was completing the staff training records. We do not accept that Mr Chanthrakumar had full day to day control of the premises as Mr Thevakanthan appeared to purchase the alcohol, was present at the shop most days when the authorities visited and employed the person who failed the test purchase. On Mr Thevakanthan's own admission, he only gave this person verbal training – this does not tie in with his previous claim that Mr Chanthrakumar was responsible for training. It is also worthwhile pointing out that when questioned on the evening of the test purchase, Mr Thevakanthan said that the seller hadn't received training as he had only worked there two weeks and they were waiting for forms from the Council.

Taking all we have heard today into account, we are satisfied that for the last 12 months at least, Mr Thevakanthan has had significant involvement in the day to day running of these premises and that he is the cause of the issues that have brought this licence to review.

In reaching our decision we have taken into account the Secretary of State's guidance. We have considered the cause of the concerns and looked at appropriate LS/D/005/19/1

and proportionate actions. We have considered the conditions put before us today, however, we have no faith that the management of the premises will abide by any conditions. We believe that the concerns are so serious that only revoking the licence is an appropriate and proportionate response to remedy them.

This decision will come into effect in 21 days unless notice of appeal is served within that time.

Date: 5<sup>th</sup> June 2014

Signed.....

Designation Principal Solicitor (Licensing)

the officer appointed for this purpose

Please address any communications to:

Licensing Service  
Municipal Buildings  
PO Box 4  
Blackpool  
FY1 1NA

**Note: An appeal against this decision may be made by the applicant/the Chief Officer of Police as applicable (See Schedule 5 of the Act) to the magistrates' court for the petty sessions area (or any such area) in which the licensing authority's area or part of it is situated within 21 days from the date of receipt of the notification of the decision.**