

**CITY OF
WOLVERHAMPTON
COUNCIL**

Mr C Howell
Licensing Services
Wolverhampton City Council
St Peter's Square
Wolverhampton
WV1 1DA

17 December 2018

Dear Mr Howell

**Application for a Review of a Premises Licence under Licensing Act 2003
The Talisman, Wildtree Avenue, Low Hill, Wolverhampton WV10 8LL**

I write on behalf of the Licensing Authority as a responsible authority. I write in support of the above review application made by Chief Constable of West Midlands Police. Representations are made against the crime and disorder licensing objective and the failure of the current management of the premises to promote this licensing objective.

The premises licence holder, Punch Partnership PTL of Elsley Court, 20 - 22 Great Tichfield Street, London WV1 8BE and Karen Nicholls the designated premises supervisor together with the management of the premises have not demonstrated they are operating in accordance with their premises licence and therefore are not promoting the licensing objective of the prevention of crime and disorder.

The premises has a history of non-compliance and failure to promote the licensing objective of crime and disorder.

On 8 March 2016 West Midlands Police submitted an expedited review application due to serious crime taking place at the premises. This was as a result of a drugs warrant being executed.

On 9 March 2016 the Licensing Sub-Committee determined interim steps were necessary and resolved to suspend the premises licence pending the full review hearing.

On 31 March 2016 the Licensing Sub-Committee heard the full review hearing and resolved to modify the premises licence by way of conditions. In order to promote to the crime and disorder licensing objective.

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On 4 December 2018 West Midlands Police submitted a further expedited review application due to a serious crime taking place at the premises.

On 6 December 2018 the Licensing Sub-Committee determined interim steps were necessary and resolved to suspend the premises licence pending the full review hearing.

The Licensing Authority has great concerns over Punch Partnership PTL and the management of the premises as the evidence provided by West Midlands Police relates to illegal drug dealing, handling/selling of stolen property from the premises in full knowledge of staff members. It is apparent that the crime prevention objective is being undermined through the premises being used to further crime and disorder.

If Councillors are satisfied that illegal activities have taken place at the premises and management of the premises and the premises licence holder is in breach of promoting the licensing objectives, the Licensing Authority would request the Licensing Sub-Committee ensure these issues are addressed by considering modification of the current premises licence in accordance with Section 52 of The Licensing Act 2003 and guidance issued by the Secretary of State under 182 of the Act together with Wolverhampton City Council's Statement of Licensing Policy.

This public house is situated in a residential area therefore Councillors may conclude from the evidence given within the review application and at the hearing in order to promote the licensing objective of crime and disorder it is necessary to reduce the hours of trading, remove Karen Nicholls as Designated Premises Supervisor and/or suspend the licence for 3 months rather than revoking the licence. In order for the premises licence holder to totally rejuvenate the premises and return it to a family public house for the benefit of the local residents and that of the wider community of which it was intended.

The Licensing Authority fully supports the review application brought by the West Midlands Police and concludes the above issues should be resolved in order to promote the licensing objective of crime and disorder.

I shall be in attendance at the hearing should Councillors have any questions or require any further assistance.

Yours sincerely

E Moreton
Section Leader Licensing
On behalf of the Licensing Authority

Copies: Premises Licence Holder/Designated Premises Supervisor

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