



Doncaster Council

Report

To the Chair and Members of the

LICENSING SUB-COMMITTEE

Licensing Act 2003 – Application for a New Premises Licence.

Mexborough Business Centre, College Road, Mexborough, Doncaster, S64 9JP

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1. To request that members of the Sub-Committee determine the application for a new premises licence in respect of Mexborough Business Centre, College Road, Mexborough, Doncaster, S64 9JP. The procedure for considering the application is set out at Appendix A.

RECOMMENDATIONS

2. It is recommended that the Sub-Committee determine this application having regard to the representations made and the evidence before it.

WHAT DOES THIS MEAN FOR THE CITIZENS OF DONCASTER

3. The Licensing Act 2003 requires the Licensing Authority to exercise its obligations on licence applications which are the subject of representations.

BACKGROUND

4. The premises concerned are currently a business centre also providing function space for events including exhibitions and public information events.
5. The original application for a new premises licence sought to permit licensable activities including the sale of alcohol, late night refreshment and regulated entertainment between 08.00 and 02.00, 7 days a week.
6. To prevent representations from South Yorkshire Police and Environmental Health, the applicant has agreed to reduce the terminal hour for the sale of alcohol to 01.30 and to place additional conditions on the licence, should it be granted.
7. The applicant has also reduced the trading hours of the premises from 2.00am

to midnight Monday to Thursday, in an attempt to mediate with objectors.

8. A summary of the application, including the reduced hours and additional conditions is attached as Appendix B to this report.
9. A location plan of the premises is attached at Appendix C.
10. A copy of the application is attached at Appendix D.
11. Under the Licensing Act 2003, statutory guidance issued under section 182 of the Act and the Licensing Authority's statement of Licensing Policy, any licensing application under the Act in respect of which representations have been made to the Licensing Authority and which have not been withdrawn or resolved by mediation fall to be determined by the Licensing Sub-Committee having regard to the evidence before it.
12. The agreements between the applicant, South Yorkshire Police and Environmental Health – to reduce the hours for the sale of alcohol and to place additional conditions on the licence, should it be granted are attached as Appendix E.
13. The applicant has written to the objectors in an attempt to mediate. A copy of this letter which include a reduction in trading hours Monday to Thursday, is attached as Appendix F.
14. Six relevant Representations regarding the application have been received from neighbouring residents which relate to one or more of the four licensing objectives. The representations, which do not form part of the public report, but as required by law, have been provided to the applicant and to the members of the Licensing Sub-Committee as Appendix G.
15. A copy of the application has been sent to each of the Responsible Authorities. Details of the application have been published on the Council website.

OPTIONS CONSIDERED

16. The Licensing Act 2003 requires the Licensing Authority to exercise its obligations on licence applications, which are the subject of representations and therefore no other option other than to hold a hearing can be considered.
17. Where the Licensing Authority considers that action under its statutory powers is appropriate, it may take any of the following steps:
 - Grant the licence subject to conditions which are consistent to the operating schedule, modified to such extent as the authority considers necessary for the promotion of the licensing objectives, and those conditions which are mandatory.
 - To exclude from the scope of the licence any of the licensable activities to which the application relates.
 - To refuse to specify a person in the licence as the premises supervisor.
 - To reject the application.

IMPACT ON THE COUNCIL'S KEY OUTCOMES

18.

	Outcomes	Implications
	<p>Doncaster Working: Our vision is for more people to be able to pursue their ambitions through work that gives them and Doncaster a brighter and prosperous future;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Better access to good fulfilling work • Doncaster businesses are supported to flourish • Inward Investment 	<p>It is recognised that licensed premises are, quite often, businesses and places of employment.</p> <p>The Licensing Committee/Sub-Committee, subject to the general principles set out in the Council's Statement of Licensing Policy and the overriding need to promote the 4 licensing objectives, will have regard to this outcome when making licensing decisions.</p> <p>The licensing objectives are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Prevent crime and disorder 1. Prevent public nuisance 2. Public safety 3. Protection of children from harm
	<p>Doncaster Living: Our vision is for Doncaster's people to live in a borough that is vibrant and full of opportunity, where people enjoy spending time;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The town centres are the beating heart of Doncaster • More people can live in a good quality, affordable home • Healthy and Vibrant Communities through Physical Activity and Sport • Everyone takes responsibility for keeping Doncaster Clean • Building on our cultural, artistic and sporting heritage 	<p>The Licensing Committee/Sub-Committee, subject to the general principles set out in the Council's Statement of Licensing Policy and the overriding need to promote the 4 licensing objectives (see above), will have regard to this outcome when making licensing decisions.</p>
	<p>Doncaster Learning: Our vision is for learning that prepares all children, young people and adults for a life that is fulfilling;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Every child has life-changing learning experiences within and beyond school 	<p>The Licensing Committee/Sub-Committee, subject to the general principles set out in the Council's Statement of Licensing Policy and the overriding need to promote the 4 licensing objectives (see above), will have regard to this outcome</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Many more great teachers work in Doncaster Schools that are good or better Learning in Doncaster prepares young people for the world of work 	when making licensing decisions.
	<p>Doncaster Caring: Our vision is for a borough that cares together for its most vulnerable residents;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children have the best start in life • Vulnerable families and individuals have support from someone they trust • Older people can live well and independently in their own homes 	The Licensing Committee/Sub-Committee, subject to the general principles set out in the Council's Statement of Licensing Policy and the overriding need to promote the 4 licensing objectives (see above), will have regard to this outcome when making licensing decisions.
	<p>Connected Council:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A modern, efficient and flexible workforce • Modern, accessible customer interactions • Operating within our resources and delivering value for money • A co-ordinated, whole person, whole life focus on the needs and aspirations of residents • Building community resilience and self-reliance by connecting community assets and strengths • Working with our partners and residents to provide effective leadership and governance 	The Licensing Committee/Sub-Committee, subject to the general principles set out in the Council's Statement of Licensing Policy and the overriding need to promote the 4 licensing objectives (see above), will have regard to this outcome when making licensing decisions.

RISKS AND ASSUMPTIONS

19. There are no risks or assumptions other than those referred to in the Legal Implications below.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS [Officer Initials HW Date 15/11/18]

20. The Licensing Authority must ensure it complies with its obligations under the Licensing Act 2003 and associated Regulations which includes, but is not limited to the following:-

In considering an application, the committee must have regard to the 4 licensing

objectives (Prevent crime and disorder, Prevent public nuisance, Public safety, Protection of children from harm), take into account of the statutory guidance issued by the Home Office and the Council's statement of licensing policy. The committee shall consider the application in accordance with both the Licensing Act 2003 and the Licensing Act 2003 (Hearings) Regulations 2005, and amending secondary legislation. The committee must make its decision based on evidence submitted in accordance with the legislation and give reasons for reaching its decision.

The 2005 Regulations also set out the pre-hearing requirements including to whom notice of hearings and details of the representations received must be sent. The report confirms we have complied with the statutory requirements.

An appeal against the decision of the licensing authority may be made to the Magistrates' Court.

Legal advisors shall be present at the hearing to give specific legal advice.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS [Officer R Taylor - Standard Implications Agreed 2/3/18]

21. The costs associated with applications of this nature and their determinations are met from fees paid to the Council by applicants for Authorisations/Licences under the Licensing Act 2003 and there are no further financial considerations.

HUMAN RESOURCES IMPLICATIONS [Officer D Knapp - Standard Implications Agreed 14/2/2018]

22. There are no human resource implications to this type of report.

TECHNOLOGY IMPLICATIONS [Officer P Ward – Standard Implications Agreed 19/2/18]

23. There are no specific technology implications in regards to this type of report. The Northgate M3 system is used to process the application and record the outcome of the decision.

HEALTH IMPLICATIONS [Officer R Suckling – Standard Implications Agreed 12/2/2018]

24. The Director of Public Health must be fully notified of applications and is entitled to make representations to the licensing authority in relation to the application for the grant, variation or review of a premises licence. These representations must still be considered 'relevant' and relate to one or more of the licensing objectives.
25. Such representations can potentially be made on the grounds of all four licensing objectives. Perhaps the most obvious example is where drunkenness leads to accidents and injuries from violence, resulting in attendances at emergency departments and the use of ambulance services. Some of these incidents will be reported to the police, but many will not. Such information will

often be relevant to the public safety and crime and disorder objectives.

26. There is also potential for health bodies to participate in the licensing process in relation to the protection of children from harm. This objective not only concerns the physical safety of children, but also their moral and psychological wellbeing. In addition to the responsible authority whose functions relate directly to child protection, the Director of Public Health may also have access to relevant evidence to inform representations about child protection matters. These representations may include, amongst other things, the use of health data about the harms that alcohol can cause to underage drinkers. Where a responsible authority, or other person, presents evidence to the licensing authority linking specific premises with harms to children (such as ambulance data or emergency department attendances by persons under 18 years old with alcohol-related illnesses or injuries) this evidence should be considered, and the licensing authority should also consider what action is appropriate to ensure this licensing objective is effectively enforced. In relation to applications for the grant of a licence in areas where evidence is presented on high levels of alcohol-related harms in persons aged under 18, it is recommended that the licensing authority considers what conditions may be appropriate to ensure that this objective is promoted effectively.

EQUALITY IMPLICATIONS [DDS 21/01/2019]

27. Decision makers must consider the Council's duties under the Public Sector Equality Duty at s149 of the Equality Act 2010. The duty requires the Council, when exercising its functions, to have 'due regard' to the need to eliminate discrimination, harassment and victimisation and other conduct prohibited under the act, and to advance equality of opportunity and foster good relations between those who share a 'protected characteristic' and those who do not share that protected characteristic. There are no specific equality implications arising from this report. However, any activities arising from this report will need to be the subject of separate 'due regard' assessments.

CONSULTATION

28. In addition to the advertising requirements, copies of the application form have been served on all relevant Responsible Authorities referred to in Section 13 of the Licensing Act 2003. These are:

- Doncaster Council – Environmental Protection - Enforcement
- Doncaster Council - Health & Safety Enforcement
- Doncaster Council – Licensing Authority
- Doncaster Council - Planning Services
- Doncaster Council - Trading Standards
- Doncaster Safeguarding Children Board
- Doncaster Council - Public Health
- Home Office - Immigration Enforcement
- South Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Authority
- South Yorkshire Police

BACKGROUND PAPERS

29. Doncaster Council's Statement of Licensing Policy 2016

30. Home Office Guidance issued under section 182 of the Licensing Act

REPORT AUTHOR & CONTRIBUTORS

David Smith, Licensing Officer
Telephone: 01302 862546
Email: david.smith@doncaster.gov.uk

Peter Dale
Director of Regeneration and Environment

DONCASTER METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

**LICENSING ACT 2003 – Hearing Procedure
LICENSING ACT 2003 (HEARINGS) REGULATIONS 2005**

1. Meaning of Expressions used in this Document

<i>“the Act”</i>	- Licensing Act 2003
<i>“the Regulations” or any particular reference to a “Regulation”</i>	- The Licensing Act 2003 (Hearings) Regulations 2005
<i>“the Authority”</i>	- Doncaster Metropolitan Borough Council, in its capacity as the relevant licensing authority under the Act, or where the context so admits the Committee
<i>“the Committee”</i>	- the Sub-Committee of the Authority’s Licensing Committee constituted under the Act to determine the matter before it
<i>“the Chair”</i>	- the member of the Committee appointed to act as Chairperson of the Committee
<i>“the Applicant”</i>	- the party making the application e.g. the licence/certificate holder or prospective holder, or the party seeking a review
<i>“responsible authorities”</i>	- the public or other bodies described in the Act as “responsible authorities” and who have made representations
<i>“party”</i>	- means person(s) to whom notice of hearing is to be given (including their representatives) and “party” and “parties” shall be construed accordingly

2. Rights of attendance, assistance and representation at hearings

- (a) A party may attend the hearing and may be assisted or represented by any other person. There is no requirement that a party's representative is legally or otherwise professionally qualified.
- (b) The hearing shall take place in public, unless the Authority decides to exclude the public from all or part of the hearing because it considers that the public interest in doing so outweighs the public interest in the hearing, or that part of the hearing taking place in public. A party and any person assisting or representing a party, may be treated as a member of the public.
- (c) The Authority may exclude from a public hearing any person attending who acts in a disruptive manner, and refuse to re-admit that person, or impose conditions on his/her re-admission. Any such excluded person may, before the end of the hearing, submit to the Authority in writing any such information that he/she would have been entitled to give orally.
- (d) The Authority may dispense with a hearing if all of the persons required by the Act agree that a hearing is unnecessary, have given notice to the Authority that they consider a hearing to be unnecessary, and the Authority have given notice to all parties that the hearing has been dispensed with.
- (e) The Authority has the power to consider adjournments and an extension of time limits provided for within the Regulations on the basis it is in the public interest to do so. When a request for an adjournment or an extension of time is received the request is referred to the Chair for agreement provided the request can be accommodated in the statutory time frame. If this is not possible the matter shall be determined by the Committee at the prelisted hearing.

3. Non-attendance of a party at the hearing

- (a) If a party has informed the Authority that he/she does not intend to attend the hearing, or be represented at the hearing, the hearing may proceed in his/her absence.
- (b) If a party who has not so notified the Authority does not attend either in person or by his/her representative, the Authority shall adjourn the hearing to a specified date if it considers it in the public interest to do so, but it shall otherwise proceed with the hearing in that party's absence.
- (c) Where the hearing proceeds in the absence of a party, the Authority shall consider the application, representations or notice made by that party.
- (d) Where the hearing is adjourned, the Authority shall forthwith, notify the parties of the date, time and place to which the hearing has been adjourned.

4. Procedure at the Hearing

The hearing shall take the form of a discussion led by the Authority. The following procedure is intended to give form to such a discussion to ensure that all parties are able to put their case. Each party shall have equal maximum time in which to address the Committee. The Committee may take into account documentary or other information provided by a party before the hearing, or with the consent of all other parties at the hearing. The Committee may change the procedure in individual cases, upon the application of a party, or upon its own motion, if it considers it necessary to properly determine the business before it.

- (a) At the commencement of the hearing, the Chair will make introductions and establish that all parties understand the procedure to be followed. The Committee will then receive and determine any application that a party may wish to make to permit another person to appear at the hearing, and any application that any party wishes to make to vary the following order of addresses.
- (b) The Applicant may then address the Committee and provide any further information that the Authority have requested. At the conclusion of the Applicant's address, members of the Committee may ask the Applicant questions. Following questions by Committee members, any other party that wishes to question the Applicant may request permission to do so. If granted, the party or parties receiving permission may question the Applicant.
- (c) Other parties entitled to address the Committee or given permission to do so under paragraph (a) above, may then do so; and also provide to the Committee any information that the Authority have requested. Following the address, the members of the Committee may question the party addressing the Committee. Following any Committee questions, any other party wishing to question the party that has addressed the Committee may seek the Committee's permission to do so. If granted, the party or parties receiving permission may question the Applicant.

Order of Addresses under paragraph (c)

Subject to any direction given by the Committee under paragraph (a) above, the order of addresses by other parties, under paragraph (c) above, shall be:-

- [1] Any representative of a "responsible authority" (as defined in the Act)
- [2] Any other party opposing the Applicant
- [3] Any other party not falling within category [1] or [2] above, or category [4] below
- [4] Any other party supporting the Application

Permission to question or cross-examine the Applicant or other party

A party may question any other party appearing if given permission by the Authority.

The Committee will determine any application by a party to question another party on its merits.

Cross examination shall not be permitted unless the Authority considers that cross examination is required for it to consider the representations, application or notice, as the case may require.

The Committee shall determine any application by one party to permit cross examination of another on its merits.

Normally, permission will be given to one party to question or cross-examine another, only where:-

- (i) a material fact put forward by one party is disputed by another party and the dispute can be properly determined, only if cross examination is permitted; or
- (ii) the question that one party wishes to put to the other is non-contentious and is for the purpose of clarification only.

5. The Committee's Deliberations and Determination

- (a) The Authority considers that normally, it will be in the public interest that the deliberations of the Committee are conducted in the presence of the note taker and legal adviser only, unless an application is made by any party present for these to be conducted in public. If any such application is made, the Committee shall determine such application. The function of the legal adviser shall be to advise the Committee on points of law and procedure only.
- (b) Subject to paragraph (a) above, the Chair shall formally exclude the public including, the parties and their representatives from the meeting under Regulation 14(2), to enable the Committee to deliberate. All persons required to vacate the room during the deliberations shall be required to take all their personal belongings out of the room except as may be directed by the Committee.
- (c) If during its deliberations, the Committee require any further information from any party in order to assist in its deliberations, the Chair shall reconvene the public hearing for the purpose of attempting to secure that further information.
- (d) Following the Committee's deliberations, the public shall be re-admitted to the hearing, whereupon the Chair shall announce the determination of the Authority, where the provisions of the Act or the Regulations require a determination to be made at the conclusion of the hearing or otherwise where the Committee is unable to announce its determination.

- (e) Following the announcement of any determination of the application, representations or notice before the Committee, the hearing shall conclude.

6. Record of proceedings

A record of the hearing will be taken in a permanent and intelligible form. Any such record will be kept for a period of six years from the date that the application or review is finally determined (including any appeal or judicial review).

APPENDIX B**Name of Applicant: Mexborough Business Centre Ltd****Name of Premises: Mexborough Business Centre****Address: College Road, Mexborough, Doncaster, S64 9JP****Summary of Application: (as amended)**

For full details please see copy of application at Appendix D.

	Perform Play. Exhibit Film. Live Music. Recorded Music. Performance of Dance. Similar to Regulated Entertainment.	Late Night Refreshment.	Sale of Alcohol (On/Off).	Opening Hours.
	Indoors/Outdoors	Indoors/Outdoors	Licensed Area see plans	Whole of premises
Mon	08:00 - 0:00	23:00 - 0:00	08:00 - 23:30	08:00 - 0:00
Tues	08:00 - 0:00	23:00 - 0:00	08:00 - 23:30	08:00 - 0:00
Wed	08:00 - 0:00	23:00 - 0:00	08:00 - 23:30	08:00 - 0:00
Thur	08:00 - 0:00	23:00 - 0:00	08:00 - 23:30	08:00 - 0:00
Fri	08:00 - 02:00	23:00 - 02:00	08:00 - 01:30	08:00 - 02:00
Sat	08:00 - 02:00	23:00 - 02:00	08:00 - 01:30	08:00 - 02:00
Sun	08:00 - 02:00	23:00 - 02:00	08:00 - 01:30	08:00 - 02:00

Non Standard Timings:

None**Reduced hours and additional conditions agreed with South Yorkshire Police**

Sale of alcohol will be reduced by 30 min to allow a drinking up time.

Additional Licensing conditions:-

1. CCTV system to be fitted, maintained and in use at all times whilst the premises are open. The CCTV images will be stored for 28 days and police and authorised officers of the council will be given access to images for purposes in connection with the prevention and detection of crime and disorder. Members of the management team will be trained in the use of the system.
2. The Challenge 25 scheme must be implemented by all sales and delivery staff at the points of taking the order and delivery. The scheme must include the

maintenance of refusals records, staff training records and the display of signage at the points of sale.

3. Staff will receive training on matters concerning underage sales, drugs policies, and operating procedures. Records of such training will be kept and made available for inspection of the authorities.
4. It is considered that for the nature of the operation door supervisors will not be required however, a risk assessment will be undertaken should unusual events takes place and if they consider it appropriate will employ the same.
5. It is considered that for the nature of the operation that the use of alternative drinking vessels will not be required however, a risk assessment will be undertaken should unusual events takes place and if they consider it appropriate will change to an alternative drinking vessel for the event.

Additional conditions agreed with Environmental Health

1. No amplified and non-amplified music, singing and speech arising from regulated entertainment shall be permitted in the outdoor areas after 23:00. This includes recorded and live music, musical instruments, films or any other entertainment.
2. There shall be no disturbance to any noise sensitive premise(s) from the use of any outdoor area. The outdoor area must not be used for drinking after 23.00 hours.
3. All external windows and doors must be kept closed during the regulated performing and playing of live and recorded amplified and non-amplified music and acoustic and amplified voice.
4. Noise from amplified and non-amplified music, singing and speech arising from regulated entertainment from the premises between 23:00 and 07:00, shall not be audible inside habitable rooms of noise sensitive properties in the vicinity.

