

# Report

## Licensing Sub Committee

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### Part 1

Date: 9<sup>th</sup> April 2024

**Subject** **Review of Premises Licence under Section 51 Licensing Act 2003, “Bar Amber” 16 High Street, Newport South Wales, NP20 1FW**

**Purpose** The consideration and decision in respect of a review application under Licensing Act 2003.

**Author** Alastair Dearling (Licensing Manager)

**Ward** Stow Hill

**Summary** An application for a review of the premises licence was made by Gwent Police, acting in its role as a Responsible Authority, on 14<sup>th</sup> February 2024 on the basis that the premises is undermining:

- The Prevention of Crime and Disorder
- Public Safety
- And Protection of Children from Harm.

**Proposal** To make a decision on the application to review the Premises Licence issued in respect:

Bar Amber, 16 High Street, Newport, NP20 1FW

**Action by** Head of Law and Regulation

**Timetable** Statutory Consultation Period

**Signed**

## 1. Review Application

- A review application under Section 51 of the Licensing Act 2003 was received on the 14<sup>th</sup> February 2024 from Gwent Police, to review the Premises Licence issued in respect of Bar Amber, 16 High Street, Newport, NP20 1FW The application for review relates to the following Licensing objectives:

The prevention of Crime and Disorder.  
Public safety  
and Protection from Children from harm.

A copy of the review paperwork and supporting documents can be found in **Appendix A** of this report. Any further supporting documentation submitted by the Police can be found in Appendix A. As part of the Police evidence, they will wish to present CCTV footage to the Licensing Committee, the Police may request that that footage is viewed in private at the hearing due to the possibility of ongoing criminal investigations.

The application was received by the Licensing Authority on 14<sup>th</sup> February 2024 and in accordance with section 51(3)(a) of the Licensing Act 2003 a copy of the application was served on the holder of the Premises Licence and on all Responsible Authorities.

Following receipt of the application, the Licensing Authority advertised the application in accordance with the regulations of the Act, thereby inviting representations to be made by interested parties. Any representation in respect of this application made by a responsible authority or an interested party had to be received by the Licensing Authority by 12<sup>th</sup> March 2024.

## 2. Licensable Activities

The current premises licence holder is:

Harvey's Leisure (South Wales) Limited,  
Unit 3A  
Boxer Trading Estate  
Ponthir Road  
Caerleon  
Newport  
NP18 3NY

The Current Designated Premises Supervisor (DPS) is:

Ryan Ashley Courtney

The Premises Licence relates to the following licensable activities:

Times the licence authorises the carrying out of licensable activities.

Sale by retail of Alcohol  
Monday to Sunday inclusive 10:00 - 03:00

Provision of facilities for dancing  
Monday to Sunday inclusive 10:00 - 03:00

Playing of Recorded Music  
Monday to Sunday inclusive 10:00 - 03:00

Late Night Refreshment  
Monday to Sunday inclusive 23:00 - 03:00

For the sale by retail of Alcohol and the provision of regulated entertainment, namely playing of Recorded Music and provision of facilities for dancing

i) New Year's Eve, from the end of permitted hours to the start of permitted hours on the following day

A copy of the premises licence can be found in **Appendix B** of this report.

### **3. Representations**

The Licensing Authority invited representation from responsible authority and “other persons” to be submitted before Midnight on the 12<sup>th</sup> March 2024. The Licensing Authority Received:

No further representation from any other responsible authority or “other persons” as defined in the Licensing Act 2003.

Though on the 29<sup>th</sup> of February 2024 the Licensing Authority arranged a mediation meeting with both Gwent Police, The Licence holder of Bar Amber (who is also the Owner of the Building) and the DPS / Management Team of Bar Amber who lease the premises.

Unfortunately, no representatives of Bar Amber Management Team or the DPS attended the meeting. As such Gwent Police made it abundantly clear to the licence holder that they were certainly not looking for a revocation or suspension of the premises licence, but simply looking to add further conditions to the premises licence so as to promote the four licensing objectives.

At the meeting it was discussed with the Licence Holder that the Premises was placed on an action plan after serious disorder took place after Newport County v Swindon Game in 2023 as indicated in the Police review paperwork. The action plan gave clear guidance to the Bar Amber Management Team and DPS to assist them to promote the Licensing objectives, specifically around when Newport County played at home.

The action plan and advice given by Gwent Police via the action plan was not implemented by Bar Amber, this may have contributed to the second serious disorder that took place in February 2024.

It was in the opinion of Gwent Police during the mediation meeting that the Premises was required to have clear and legally binding conditions on the Premises Licence to promote the licensing objectives. Again, Gwent Police at the mediation meeting made it abundantly clear they were not looking for a revocation or suspension of the Premises Licence and clearly would be happy to continue to work with the Bar Amber Management Team.

As such the below listed conditions were proposed to the Licence Holder by Gwent Police. The Licence holder stipulated he would present/discuss the proposed conditions with the Management Team of Bar Amber.

Both the Licensing Authority and Police stipulated that they would be happy to mediate further with the Management Team and discuss the proposed conditions, these conditions being:

- 1 SIA door staff should be present at the premise 3 hours before kick-off of a Newport County home game and 3 hours after the final whistle of Newport County Home game. Door staff should proactively manage the front door of the premises.
- No drinks should be taken outside the premises 3 hours before kick-off till 3 hours after the final whistle.
- No outside furniture should be utilised by customers 3 hours before kick-off and 3 hours after final whistle.
- A maximum of 60 customers are permitted inside the venue 3 hours before kick-off and 3 hours after final whistle.
- No under 18 are permitted in the premises 3 hours before kick-off and 3 hours after final whistle.
- The DPS or named manager(s) provided to Gwent Police should be present at the premises 3 hours before kick off and 3 hours after the final whistle. That named manager(s) should hold a personal licence.
- The current DPS to be removed from the premises.
- No persons looking under the age of 25 should be permitted into the premises without showing ID on match days.

A question was raised at the mediation meeting regarding the capacity of Bar Amber as this would clearly determine the number of SIA door staff required within any condition proposed by Gwent Police.

The Licence Holder stipulated he believed the capacity was approximately 60 persons. After reviewing the Premise plans this is likely to be correct in line with the Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005, what stipulates "normally"

The maximum occupancy of a room with only one exit will normally be 60 persons. This door may be inward opening.

If more than 60 people are present a minimum of two separate exits will be required which should open in the direction of escape.

At the conclusion of the meeting the Licence holder stipulated that he would agree to the proposed conditions but would again require to speak to Bar Amber management team.

The Licensing Authority was contacted by the Licence Holder shortly after the meeting to say Bar Amber had determined to surrender the lease to the premises. The Licensing Manager stipulated to the Licence Holder would Mediation be beneficial for all concerned, especially in light of Bar Amber Management team and DPS not attending the mediation meeting.

But from the publication of this report neither the Licensing Authority or Gwent Police have been contacted by Bar Amber Management Team or DPS to discuss the proposed conditions.

In the event of the premises no longer being a football supporters bar the conditions proposed by Gwent Police have slightly changed to stipulate:

The following conditions will only come into force at the written request of Gwent Police Licensing Team.

The request by the Police will only be made if the Police feel that there is potential for crime and disorder when Newport County play at home game.

- 1 SIA door staff should be present at the premise 3 hours before kick-off of a Newport County home game and 3 hours after the final whistle of Newport County Home game. Door staff should proactively manage the front door of the premises.
- No drinks should be taken outside the premises 3 hours before kick-off till 3 hours after the final whistle.
- No outside furniture should be utilised by customers 3 hours before kick-off and 3 hours after final whistle .
- A maximum of 60 customers are permitted inside the venue 3 hours before kick-off and 3 hours after final whistle.
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- The DPS or named manager(s) provided to Gwent Police should be present at the premises 3 hours before kick-off and 3 hours after the final whistle. That named manager(s) should hold a personal licence.
- The current DPS to be removed from the premises.
- No persons looking under the age of 25 should be permitted into the premises without showing ID on match days.

The Licence holder has confirmed to the Licence Authority he is happy to agree to the above conditions.

## Background / Premises Licence History

The premises is located on High Street within the City Centre, the premises has held a licence since the introduction of the Licensing Act 2003 . During this time, it has been operated as a Late Night bar.

In September of 2022 the Premises was rebranded as “Bar Amber” and became a more sports focused bar with a number of Newport County Fans using the premises as an unofficial supporter’s club. A map and pictures of the location of the premises can be found in **Appendix D** of the report.

Harvey's Leisure (South Wales) Limited is both the owner of the property and the licence holder, though also holds a formal contract with the Management Team Bar Amber thus meaning the DPS of Bar Amber is legal responsible to comply with licence Conditions.

The legal case of Hall & Woodhouse v Poole Council makes it clear that the premises licence carries no automatic liability for unlawful acts of third parties.

It is opinion of Gwent Police that liability of the premises failing to meet the Licensing Objectives is mainly due to the current management team rather than Harvey’s Leisure (Licence holder).

## 30 Policy Considerations regarding a review of a Premises Licence

### 30. Reviews of licences

30.1 The Council can only review a licence where it is alleged by a “responsible authority”, or other person that the licensing objectives are being breached. Responsible authorities will aim to give licence holders early warning of any concerns identified at the premises. Only responsible authorities or other persons (e.g. local residents, local organisations and councillors) can apply for the review of a licence; and determine its outcome at a hearing where an evidential basis for allegations made will be submitted. It views particularly seriously applications for the review of any premises licence which involves the

- use of licensed premises for the sale and distribution of controlled drugs and the laundering of the proceeds of drugs crimes;
- use of licensed premises for the sale and distribution of illegal firearms;
- evasion of copyright in respect of pirated films and music;
- underage purchase and consumption of alcohol;
- use of licensed premises for prostitution or the sale of unlawful pornography;
- use of licensed premises for unlawful gaming;
- use of licensed premises as a base for organised criminal activity;
- use of licensed premises for the organisation of racist, homophobic or sexual abuse or attacks;
- use of licensed premises for the sale of smuggled tobacco or goods;
- use of licensed premises for the storage or sale of stolen goods;
- the police being frequently called to attend to incidents of disorder;
- prolonged and/or repeated instances of public nuisance
- serious risk to public safety have been identified and the management is unable or unwilling to correct;

- Serious risk to children.

30.2 The Licensing Sub-committee will consider all evidence provided at the hearing and apply appropriate weight to that evidence when making their decision.

30.3 The licensing sub-committee will consider all of the sanctions available to it provided for in the Act and guidance, including taking no action if appropriate. In cases where a licensing objective is seriously undermined, that revocation of the licence, even in the first instance, will be considered where appropriate to ensure the licensing objectives are promoted.

30.4 In cases where a licensing objective is seriously undermined, the revocation of the licence, even in the first instance, will be seriously considered where appropriate to ensure the licensing objectives are promoted.

### **Section 10.1 of the Council Licensing Policy:**

Prevention of Crime and disorder 10.1 Licensed premises, especially those offering late night/early morning entertainment, alcohol and refreshment for large numbers of people, can be a source of crime and disorder problems.

10.2 The Licensing Authority will expect operating schedules (see section 27) to satisfactorily address these issues from the design of the premises through to the day-to-day operation of the business. Details of the factors that will need to be considered as part of the operating schedules are given in the Licensing Policies and matters for consideration when deciding applications, which are attached in the annex to this policy and in the Guidance notes for applicants.

10.3 Applicants are recommended to seek advice from the Licensing Authority's licensing officers and the police, as well as taking into account, as appropriate, local planning and transport policies, tourism, cultural and crime prevention strategies, when preparing their plans and operating schedules.

10.4 The Licensee/applicant should also use their own experience and knowledge of their customers and locations when drafting their operating schedule, which subsequently becomes the basis of conditions on the licence. Failure to do this may lead to a representation from the Authority, a responsible authority or other person. Applicants may wish to consider the following and are advised to refer to the Authority's 'Model Pool of Conditions' when considering an application

- Is there CCTV, and, if so what are the areas covered, does it have the ability to see clear full face recording of patrons entering, does it record the patron search area at the entrance. What is the retention period of recordings, how easy it to access, produce copies or download images if requested by Police and Licensing.
- Are Security Industry Authority (SIA) door staff employed and what checks are made to the validity of the SIA licence? What records are kept of SIA checks, search policy, entrance policy, restriction of patrons using outside areas, such as smoking areas, employment times of SIA and their training?
- Is there ID scanning on entry to the premises? Will there be 'No ID No Entry' policy in place?
- Is there a clear drug and weapon policy? Is there a regular documented training of this policy carried out with staff when drugs/weapons are seized or stored. Are areas or surfaces designed to prevent the likelihood of drug use at the premises?
- Has the use of plastic or toughened glass for serving of alcohol been considered, will glass bottles be handed over the bar? Are there restrictions of drinks being taken outside?
- Is there a proof of age scheme, do the premises have a challenge 25 policy? Are staff trained regularly on this policy and is it documented

10.5 The Licensing Authority recognise that although Gwent Police and other criminal justice services suffer the greatest resource burden from preventable alcohol related crime and

disorder the health system is also impacted. Preventable alcohol-related attendances and admissions have a negative impact on limited NHS resources, staff and other patients. Physical injury and the psychological impacts from violent incidents directly affect the health and wellbeing of individuals, their family, friends and work colleagues, our public service staff and licensed premise staff who deal with these incidents, and the local community.

15 Responsible Authorities will work together, sharing all available local data, and will use NHS sources of data to promote this licensing objective. 10.6 The Authority will endeavour to reduce crime and disorder throughout the County in accordance with its statutory duty under s.17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998.

10.7 Newport City Council, through agency working together and sharing information aim to identify and prevent sexual exploitation, modern slavery and human trafficking. Licence holders can help as they may become aware or come into contact with such victims. This may be in hotels, bars and restaurants, late night takeaways, off licences or other licensed premises. Licence holders, and staff employed in licensed premises, are in an ideal position to help protect people Modern slavery and human trafficking is a crime and a violation of fundamental human rights and can take various forms such as slavery, servitude and compulsory labour. The licence holder and staff who work in licensed premises should look for and ask themselves the following

- Has the person got any physical signs of abuse or neglect? Deprived of food, water, sleep, medical care or other life necessities?
- You see worrying behaviour towards someone.
- Is the victim in possession of a passport, identification or travel documents? Are these documents in possession of someone else?
- Does the victim act as if they were instructed or coached by someone else? Do they allow others to speak when spoken directly?
- Was the victim recruited for one purpose and forced to engage in some other job? Was their transport paid for by facilitators, whom they must pay back through providing services?
- Does the victim receive little or no payment for their work? Is someone else in control of their earnings?
- Was the victim forced to perform sexual acts?
- Does the victim have freedom of movement? Can they freely contact friends and family? Do they have limited social interaction?
- Has the victim or family been threatened with harm if the victim attempts to escape?
- Is the victim bonded by debt, or in a situation of dependence?

If there are concerns the licence holder are to report the matter to Modern Day Slavery helpline on 08000 121 700 or visit the website <https://www.modernslaveryhelpline.org/report> If someone is in immediate danger to call the Police on 999. In addition, all staff who are employed in the UK must have the right to work in the UK. Employing someone illegally without carrying out the prescribed checks can lead to robust sanctions against the licence holder

### **Revised Guidance issued under section 182 of the Licensing Act 2003**

11.16 The 2003 Act provides a range of powers for the licensing authority which it may exercise on determining a review where it considers them appropriate for the promotion of the licensing objectives.

11.17 The licensing authority may decide that the review does not require it to take any further steps appropriate to promoting the licensing objectives. In addition, there is nothing to prevent a licensing authority issuing an informal warning to the licence holder and/or to recommend improvement within a particular period of time. It is expected that licensing authorities will regard such informal warnings as an important mechanism for ensuring that the licensing objectives are effectively promoted and that warnings should be issued in writing to the licence holder.



11.18 However, where responsible authorities such as the police or environmental health officers have already issued warnings requiring improvement – either orally or in writing – that have failed as part of their own stepped approach to address concerns, licensing authorities should not merely repeat that approach and should take this into account when considering what further action is appropriate. Similarly, licensing authorities may take into account any civil immigration penalties which a licence holder has been required to pay for employing an illegal worker.

11.19 Where the licensing authority considers that action under its statutory powers is appropriate, it may take any of the following steps:

Revised Guidance issued under section 182 of the Licensing Act 2003

- modify the conditions of the premises licence (which includes adding new conditions or any alteration or omission of an existing condition), for example, by reducing the hours of opening or by requiring door supervisors at particular times.
- exclude a licensable activity from the scope of the licence, for example, to exclude the performance of live music or playing of recorded music (where it is not within the incidental live and recorded music exemption).
- remove the designated premises supervisor, for example, because they consider that the problems are the result of poor management.
- suspend the licence for a period not exceeding three months.
- revoke the licence.

11.20 In deciding which of these powers to invoke, it is expected that licensing authorities should so far as possible seek to establish the cause or causes of the concerns that the representations identify. The remedial action taken should generally be directed at these causes and should always be no more than an appropriate and proportionate response to address the causes of concern that instigated the review.

11.21 For example, licensing authorities should be alive to the possibility that the removal and replacement of the designated premises supervisor may be sufficient to remedy a problem where the cause of the identified problem directly relates to poor management decisions made by that individual.

11.22 Equally, it may emerge that poor management is a direct reflection of poor company practice or policy and the mere removal of the designated premises supervisor may be an inadequate response to the problems presented. Indeed, where subsequent review hearings are generated by representations, it should be rare merely to remove a succession of designated premises supervisors as this would be a clear indication of deeper problems that impact upon the licensing objectives.

11.23 Licensing authorities should also note that modifications of conditions and exclusions of licensable activities may be imposed either permanently or for a temporary period of up to three months. Temporary changes or suspension of the licence for up to three months could impact on the business holding the licence financially and would only be expected to be pursued as an appropriate means of promoting the licensing objectives or preventing illegal working. So, for instance, a licence could be suspended for a weekend as a means of deterring the holder from allowing the problems that gave rise to the review to happen again. However, it will always be important that any detrimental financial impact that may result from a licensing

authority's decision is appropriate and proportionate to the promotion of the licensing objectives and for the prevention of illegal working in licensed premises. But where premises are found to be trading irresponsibly, the licensing authority should not hesitate, where appropriate to do so, to take tough action to tackle the problems at the premises and, where other measures are deemed insufficient, to revoke the licence.

#### **4. Legal Considerations**

The decision must be taken following consideration of the representation received with a view to promoting the licensing objectives which are:

- Prevention of crime and disorder
- Public Safety
- Prevention of Public Nuisance
- Protection of Children from Harm

In each case the Sub-Committee may make the following determination

- To implement the conditions and hours recommended by Gwent Police and agreed by Harvey's Leisure.
- To further modify the conditions of the Premises licence
- To exclude a licensable activity from the scope of the premises licence
- To remove the designated premises supervisor from the licence
- To suspend the premises license for a period not exceeding 3 months
- To revoke the premises licence
- Take No action in respect of the Premises Licence.

All decisions taken by the Sub-Committee must

- (a) be within the legal powers of the Council and its Committees;
- (b) comply with any procedural requirement imposed by law;
- (c) be undertaken in accordance with the procedural requirements imposed by the Council eg. standing orders and financial regulations;
- (d) be fully and properly informed;
- (e) be properly motivated;
- (f) be taken having regard to the Council's fiduciary duty to its taxpayers; and
- (g) be reasonable and proper in all the circumstances.

#### **5. Issues for discussion**

The content of the application made by Gwent Police, acting in its role as a Responsible Authority, for a review of the Premises Licence.

Any evidence and mitigation provided by Licence Holder

## 6. Financial Summary

- The costs and financial implications: You must discuss financial implications with the Head of Finance and the report must identify from where your proposals will be funded, together with any impact on budgets or any opportunity costs

	Year 1 (Current) £	Year 2 £	Year 3 £	Ongoing £	Notes including budgets heads affected
Costs (Income)					
Net Costs (Savings)					
Net Impact on Budget					

## 7. Risks

It is important to identify and manage any project or scheme's exposure to risk and have in place controls to deal with those risks.

In this section, you should consider the key risks facing the proposals in your report, particularly those which would impact on delivery or sustainability of the project or projected outcomes. You will need to include details of how risks will be managed. If your proposals rely on short or medium term grant aid or funding streams you will need to outline your exit or continuation policy here.

You will need to complete the following Risk table

Risk	Impact of Risk if it occurs* (H/M/L)	Probability of risk occurring (H/M/L)	What is the Council doing or what has it done to avoid the risk or reduce its effect	Who is responsible for dealing with the risk?
Making a unlawful decision	High	Low	The Committee will consult with the Legal Officer and Licensing Officer to determine if any decision is lawful and	Chairperson. Legal Officer.

			proportionate. Members training.	
The licensing committee departing from the licensing policy.	Medium	Low	If the Committee wishes to depart from the Councils policy they must give good reason for this and obtain advice from the Legal Officer when departing from the Policies to ensure the decision is lawful.  Members training.	Chairperson. Legal Officer.
The applicant does not have a fair hearing	High	Low	A Licensing Committee procedure should be followed by the committee.  The Legal Officer alongside the Democratic Service Officer will advise the committee if at any stage an unfair hearing is taking place.  Members training.	Democratic Service Officer.  Chairperson. Legal Officer.

\* Taking account of proposed mitigation measures

## 8. Links to Council Policies and Priorities

This report has been prepared in accordance with The Licensing Act 2003 and with regard to Newport City Council Statement of Licensing Policies 2020.

**APPENDIX A (Review Application from Gwent Police)**

***Newport City Council***

**Application for the review of a premises licence or club premises certificate under the Licensing Act 2003**

**PLEASE READ THE FOLLOWING INSTRUCTIONS FIRST**

Before completing this form please read the guidance notes at the end of the form. If you are completing this form by hand please write legibly in block capitals. In all cases ensure that your answers are inside the boxes and written in black ink. Use additional sheets if necessary. You may wish to keep a copy of the completed form for your records.

**I Superintendent Jason White** on behalf of the chief officer of police for the Gwent Police area, apply for the review of a premises licence under section 53A of the Licensing Act 2003

Hereby apply for the review of a premises licence under section 51 of the Licensing Act 2003 for the premises described in Part 1 below

**Part 1 – Premises or club premises details**

<b>Postal address of premises or, if none, ordnance survey map reference or description</b>	
Bar Amber 16 High Street Newport South Wales NP20 1FW	
<b>Post town</b> Newport	<b>Post code (if known)</b> NP20 1FW

<b>Name of premises licence holder</b>
Harvey's Leisure (South Wales) Limited

<b>Number of premises licence</b>
19/01962/LAPVM

**Part 2 - Applicant details**

I am

Please tick ✓ yes

1) an individual, body or business which is not a responsible authority (please read guidance note 1, and complete (A) or (B) below)

2) a responsible authority (please complete (C) below)

✓

3) a member of the club to which this application relates  
(please complete (A) below)

**(A) DETAILS OF INDIVIDUAL APPLICANT (fill in as applicable)**

Please tick ✓ yes

Mr            Mrs            Miss            Ms            Other title

**Surname**

**First names**

Please tick ✓ yes

**I am 18 years old or over**

**Current postal  
address if  
different from  
premises  
address**

**Post town**

**Post Code**

**Daytime contact telephone number**

**E-mail address  
(optional)**

**(B) DETAILS OF OTHER APPLICANT**

**Name and address**

**Telephone number (if any)**

**E-mail address (optional)**

**(C) DETAILS OF RESPONSIBLE AUTHORITY APPLICANT**

Name and address <b>Superintendent Jason White Newport Central Police Station 3 Cardiff Road, Newport, NP20 2EH</b>
Telephone number (if any)
E-mail address (optional)

**This application to review relates to the following licensing objective(s)**

- |   |                                 |
|---|---------------------------------|
|   | Please tick one or more boxes X |
| 1) the prevention of crime and disorder | <b>X</b>                        |
| 2) public safety                        | <b>X</b>                        |
| 3) the prevention of public nuisance    | <b>X</b>                        |
| 4) the protection of children from harm | <b>X</b>                        |

**4056**Please provide as much information as possible to support the application (please read guidance note 3)

I formally request a review of Bar Amber current premises licence on the grounds of significant concern that the Licensing Objectives are not being promoted by Bar Amber. Gwent Police have serious concerns, specifically around the management team/door staff of the premises both currently and historically. Additionally, I believe there is a lack of appropriate management and a failure to act on patrons using the premises and causing serious and violent disorder between upper High Street and Cambrian Road and allowing patrons to return to gather further patrons to engage in violent disorder.

On the 24<sup>th</sup> March 2023, a meeting was held with Ryan Ashley Courtney (the owner of Bar Amber), PC 1703 CHESHIRE and Alastair Dearling from Newport City Council Licencing team. This was as a result of an incident on Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> February 2023 at Bar Amber between supporters of Newport County and Swindon Town FC. During the meeting, concerns were raised by both Gwent Police and Alastair Dearling in relation to this incident resulting in an Action Plan being undertaken with the premises. This action plan (below and attached) was arranged due to several incidents at the premises and the concerning behaviour of patrons attending the pub witnessed by police and council licensing officers either in person or via CCTV. Specifically, the ages of the persons involved, a distinct lack of control exhibited by door staff over the outside area at the premises was noted with the venue seemingly being a hub for individuals engaging in violent disorder reported.

The following Actions were agreed during this meeting dated 10/03/2023 – 10/04/2023.





## First Level Licensing Action Plan

**THIS ACTION PLAN** is made on: Friday 10<sup>th</sup> March 2023

**BETWEEN:** Heddlu Gwent Police / Newport City Council Licensing Department

**AND:**

**PREMISES:** Bar Amber, High Street, Newport

This Action Plan has been put forward due to the incident that took place on Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> March 2023 at the premises Bar Amber after the Newport County vs Swindon Town match.

1. All person involved in the incident on Saturday the 4th February to be banned from the premises for a minimum of a 12-month period.
2. The Outside area should not be utilised 1.5 hours after the final whistle of a Newport County home game. No drinks should be taken outside the premises for 1.5 hour period after final whistle of Newport County home game.
3. Door staff are required to have a HI VIS jacket / vest on all Newport County Home Games. Two door staff are required to be present 2 hours before Newport County home game and 1.5 hours after final whistle on match days.
4. Plastic glasses should utilise 2.5 hours before Newport County home game kick off and 1.5 hours after the final whistle. No glass should be present on the premises between the hours.
5. CCTV to be installed outside the Premises to cover the outside area of the premises.
6. All under 18s must be accompanied by an adult on match days.

**THIS ACTION PLAN WILL LAST 12 MONTHS**

**FROM: 10/03/2023**

**TO: 10/04/2023**

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Date:

Print Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Date:

( Police Officer)

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Date:

(Licensing manager)

On Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> January 2024 at approximately 18:30 hours, Gwent police received a report from a member of the public stating that 50 Football fans were fighting with one male reported to be unconscious of the floor. Officers have attended the scene and 4 arrests of persons believed to be involved were made with further individuals unidentified at the time of writing.

From reviewing the council CCTV systems, 12 individuals can be seen leaving Bar Amber and descending on to Cambrian Road where they appear to engage with other football fans (later known to be Eastleigh fans) drinking at THE JOHN WALLACE LINTON pub on Cambrian Road. CCTV shows the parties begin to goad one another before a brawl ensues between them with multiple punches and kicks thrown between the persons involved.

A short time later, CCTV shows 5 members of the brawl, reattend bar amber, run straight past the security at the door without challenge and re-enter the pub. Moments later, those 5 persons are seen once again leaving the premises in company with a further 7 persons who are then seen running over to Cambrian Road to join the brawl. Various members of the second party not involved in the original altercation are shown to be throwing punches and actively engaging in violence. CCTV also captures an unidentified elderly male being struck and kicked on the floor by the persons involved before being led away by an unknown female. The parties seemingly separate again before engaging on a third occasion with several projectiles seen to be thrown by the parties involved.

The crowd eventually disperse upon the attendance of various police officers who subsequently detain and arrest some of the persons involved.

Point **2SO04** from Bar Amber part A license conditions states that CCTV cameras shall be installed inside and outside of the premises and shall be operational at all times when the premises is trading. While it cannot be confirmed that cameras were completely operational during this incident, officers attending have requested footage in order to aide the investigation by identifying the persons involved. However, this request was refused by Ryan Courtney who has stated to officers that he wasn't willing to record the footage for that amount of time and provide to police. This contravenes part A of the licensing objectives whereby there is a responsibility of the designated Premises supervisor to adhere to the licensing objective of the prevention crime and disorder, prevent public nuisance and to ensure public safety.

In addition to this, point **5SO04** from Bar Amber part A license conditions states that There shall be no admission to unaccompanied children at any time. The ages of the persons arrested during the violent disorder, were, 23, 21, 15 and 17. While it cannot be proven that the children arrested during this incident were unaccompanied by an adult, the ages of the persons in attendance at the premises who were subsequently arrested are of concern. In order to adhere to the licensing objective of the protection of children from harm, there is a responsibility of the designated Premises supervisor to adhere to the set licensing objective which is clearly not been adhered to.

Condition **3SO09** states that Any person evicted from the premises and who is likely to cause further problems shall be reported to Heddlu Gwent Police. From researching on Gwent Police local systems, there have been no reports to Gwent police concerning any individuals evicted or likely to cause further issues linked to the premises supervisor or the premises itself. No names or imagery of the persons involved have been provided to Gwent Police and there have been seemingly no action taken by Bar Amber following this incident which contravenes the licensing objective of prevent public nuisance and also to ensure public safety.

In accordance with Section 13 of the Licensing Act 2003 and Section 101 of Police Act 1996 Gwent Police licencing officers, have devolved powers as a Responsible Authority from the Chief Constable, Pam Kelly. Gwent Police are not satisfied that Bar Amber had met their responsibility to promote the licensing objectives in the listed objectives.

Gwent Police Licencing recommend an urgent rectification of Bar Amber procedures to conform with their premises license and prevent any further breaches. Gwent Police were less than satisfied and expect significant improvement from the Premise Licence holder and Designated Premise Supervisor moving forward in the promotion of the licensing objectives following its previous Action Plan. If the Responsible Authorities did not see an improvement, then consideration will be made to a review of the Premise Licence which is now the recommended course of action.

From the evidence Gwent Police has produced, it is clear that although working with the premises and offering support and advice, that there has been continued breaches and disregard to the premises licence and actions plans.

The following conditions that have been breached are: -

Prevent and reduce crime and disorder.  
Ensure Public Safety

**Prevent public Nuisance.  
Protect children from harm**

**Due to the above breaches Gwent Police Licencing feel as a responsible authority, we could not support the premises Bar Amber or feel confident that the premises has adhered to its responsibility towards its own premise licence.**

Please tick ✓ yes											
Have you made an application for review relating to the premises before											
If yes please state the date of that application	Day    Month    Year <table border="1"><tr><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td></tr></table>										

**If you have made representations before relating to the premises, please state what they were and when you made them**

No

Please tick ✓


yes

- I have sent copies of this form and enclosures to the responsible authorities and the premises licence holder or club holding the club premises certificate, as appropriate
- I understand that if I do not comply with the above requirements my application will be rejected

**IT IS AN OFFENCE, UNDER SECTION 158 OF THE LICENSING ACT 2003, TO MAKE A FALSE STATEMENT IN OR IN CONNECTION WITH THIS APPLICATION. THOSE WHO MAKE A FALSE STATEMENT MAY BE LIABLE ON SUMMARY CONVICTION TO A FINE OF ANY AMOUNT.**

**Part 3 – Signatures (please read guidance note 4)**

**Signature of applicant or applicant's solicitor or other duly authorised agent (please read guidance note 5). If signing on behalf of the applicant please state in what capacity.**

Signature  Supt Jason White  
.....

Date 14/02/2024  
.....

Capacity Superintendent  
.....

<b>Contact name (where not previously given) and postal address for correspondence associated with this application (please read guidance note 6)</b>	
<b>Post town</b>	<b>Post Code</b>
<b>Telephone number (if any)</b>	
<b>If you would prefer us to correspond with you using an e-mail address your e-mail address (optional)</b>	

**Notes for Guidance**

1. A responsible authority includes the local police, fire and rescue authority and other statutory bodies which exercise specific functions in the local area.
2. The ground(s) for review must be based on one of the licensing objectives.
3. Please list any additional information or details for example dates of problems which are included in the grounds for review if available.
4. The application form must be signed.
5. An applicant's agent (for example solicitor) may sign the form on their behalf provided that they have actual authority to do so.
6. This is the address which we shall use to correspond with you about this application.

**APPENDIX B Bar Amber Premises Licence**

**Schedule 12**

**Part A**

(THIS PART OF THE LICENCE  
MUST BE KEPT AT THE  
PREMISES AT ALL TIMES AND  
PRODUCED UPON REQUEST OF  
AN AUTHORISED OFFICER)

**Premises Licence  
City of Newport**



<b>Premises Licence Number</b>	19/01962/LAPVM
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**Part 1 – Premises Details**

<b>Postal address of premises, or if none, ordnance survey map reference or description, including Post Town, Post Code</b>	
Bar Amber 16 High Street Newport South Wales NP20 1FW	
<b>Telephone number</b>	01633 267406

<b>Where the licence is time limited the dates</b>
Not Applicable

<b>Licensable activities authorised by the licence</b>
Sale by retail of Alcohol Provision of facilities for dancing Playing of Recorded Music Late Night Refreshment

<b>Times the licence authorises the carrying out of licensable activities</b>
Sale by retail of Alcohol Monday to Sunday inclusive 10:00 - 03:00

Provision of facilities for dancing  
Monday to Sunday inclusive 10:00 - 03:00

Playing of Recorded Music  
Monday to Sunday inclusive 10:00 - 03:00

Late Night Refreshment  
Monday to Sunday inclusive 23:00 - 03:00

For the sale by retail of Alcohol and the provision of regulated entertainment, namely playing of Recorded Music and provision of facilities for dancing  
i) New Year's Eve, from the end of permitted hours to the start of permitted hours on the following day.

**The opening hours of the premises**

Monday to Sunday inclusive 09:00 - 04:00

**Where non standard timings are authorised, the opening times shall be as those authorised for licensable activities with an additional 30 minutes on the terminal hour.**

**Where the licence authorises supplies of alcohol whether these are on and / or off supplies**

Alcohol is supplied for consumption on the Premises

**Part 2**

**Name, (registered) address, telephone number and email (where relevant) of holder of premises licence**

Harvey's Leisure (South Wales) Limited  
3A Boxer Trading Estate  
Ponthir Road  
Newport  
South Wales  
NP18 3NY

Business Phone Number 01633 267406

**Registered number of holder, for example company number, charity number (where applicable)**

Registered Business Number 3708019

**Name, address and telephone number of designated premises supervisor where the premises licence authorises for the supply of alcohol**

Ryan Ashley Courtney  
19 Merlin Crescent  
Newport  
South Wales  
NP19 7LF

**Personal licence number and issuing authority of personal licence held by designated premises supervisor where the premises licence authorises for the supply of alcohol**



Party Reference: 20/00486/LAI

Licensing Authority: Newport City Council

**This Premises Licence is issued by Newport City Council as Licensing Authority under Part 3 of the Licensing Act 2003 and regulations made thereunder.**

**Dated this** 2nd September 2022



Silvia Gonzalez-Lopez  
Head of Environment and Public Protection

## **Mandatory conditions**

1 No supply of alcohol may be made under the premises licence:

- i) at a time when there is no designated premises supervisor in respect of the premises licence; or
- ii) at a time when the designated premises supervisor does not hold a personal licence or his personal licence is suspended.

2 Every supply of alcohol under the premises licence must be made or authorised by a person who holds a personal licence.

3 Where at specified times one or more individuals may be at the premises to carry out a security activity, each individual must be licensed by the Security Industry Authority.

For the purposes of this section:

- i) "security activity" means an activity to which paragraph 2(1)(a) of that Schedule applies; and
- ii) paragraph 8(5) of that Schedule (interpretation of references to an occasion) applies as it applies in relation to paragraph 8 of that Schedule.

4 The admission of children to the exhibition of any film must be restricted in accordance with any recommendation made by the British Board of Film Classification (BBFC) or in the absence of a recommendation from the BBFC, the Licensing Authority.

For the purposes of this section:

- i) "children" means persons aged under 18 years of age.

5 The responsible person must ensure that staff on relevant premises do not carry out, arrange or participate in any irresponsible promotions in relation to the premises.

In this paragraph, an irresponsible promotion means any one or more of the following activities, or substantially similar activities, carried on for the purpose of encouraging the sale or supply of alcohol for consumption on the premises -

(a) games or other activities which require or encourage, or are designed to require or encourage, individuals to -  
(i) drink a quantity of alcohol within a time limit (other than to drink alcohol sold or supplied on the premises before the cessation of the period in which the responsible person is authorised to sell or supply alcohol), or  
(ii) drink as much alcohol as possible (whether within a time limit or otherwise);

(b) provision of unlimited or unspecified quantities of alcohol free or for a fixed or discounted fee to the public or to a group defined by a particular characteristic in a manner which carries a significant risk of undermining a licensing objective;

(c) provision of free or discounted alcohol or any other thing as a prize to encourage or reward the purchase and consumption of alcohol over a period of 24 hours or less in a manner which carries a significant risk of undermining a licensing objective;

(d) selling or supplying alcohol in association with promotional posters or flyers on, or in the vicinity of, the premises which can reasonably be considered to condone, encourage or glamorise anti-social behaviour or to refer to the effects of drunkenness in any favourable manner; .

(e) dispensing alcohol directly by one person into the mouth of another (other than where that other person is unable to drink without assistance by reason of disability).

6 The responsible person must ensure that free potable water is provided on request to customers where it is reasonably available.

7 (1) The premises licence holder must ensure that an age verification policy is adopted in respect of the premises in relation to the sale or supply of alcohol

(2) The designated premises supervisor in relation to the premises licence must ensure that the supply of alcohol at the premises is carried on in accordance with the age verification policy.

(3) The policy must require individuals who appear to the responsible person to be under 18 years of age (or such older age as may be specified in the policy) to produce on request, before being served alcohol, identification bearing their photograph, date of birth and either :

- (a) a holographic mark, or
- (b) an ultraviolet feature

8 The responsible person must ensure that -

(a) where any of the following alcoholic drinks is sold or supplied for consumption on the premises (other than alcoholic drinks sold or supplied having been made up in advance ready for sale or supply in a securely closed container) it is available to customers in the following measures-

(i) beer or cider: ½ pint;

(ii) gin, rum, vodka or whisky: 25 ml or 35 ml; and

(iii) still wine in a glass: 125 ml; and

(b) these measures are displayed in a menu, price list or other printed material which is available to customers on the premises; and

(c) where a customer does not in relation to a sale of alcohol specify the quantity of alcohol to be sold, the customer is made aware that these measures are available

#### **New Mandatory condition for on and off sales from 28 May 2014**

(1) A relevant person shall ensure that no alcohol is sold or supplied for consumption on or off the premises for a price which is less than the permitted price.

(2) In this condition:-

(a) "permitted price" is the price found by applying the formula  $P = D + (D \times V)$ , where-

(i) P is the permitted price,

(ii) D is the amount of duty chargeable in relation to the alcohol as if the duty were charged on the date of the sale or supply of the alcohol, and

(iii) V is the rate of value added tax chargeable in relation to the alcohol as if the value added tax were charged on the date of the sale or supply of the alcohol;

(b) "duty" is to be construed in accordance with the Alcoholic Liquor Duties Act 1979;

(c) "relevant person" means, in relation to premises in respect of which there is in force a premises licence-

(i) the holder of the premises licence,

(ii) the designated premises supervisor (if any) in respect of such a licence, or

(iii) the personal licence holder who makes or authorises a supply of alcohol under such a licence;

(d) "relevant person" means, in relation to premises in respect of which there is in force a club premises certificate, any member or officer of the club present on the premises in a capacity which enables the member or officer to prevent the supply in question; and

(e) "value added tax" means value added tax charged in accordance with the Value Added Tax Act 1994.

(3) Where the permitted price would not be a whole number of pennies, the permitted price shall be taken to be the price rounded up to the nearest penny.

(4) Where the permitted price on a day ("the first day") would be different from the permitted price on the next day ("the second day") as a result of a change to the rate of duty or value added tax, the permitted price which would apply on the first day applies to sales or supplies of alcohol which take place before the expiry of the period of 14 days beginning on the second day.

## **Conditions consistent with the Operating Schedule**

**1SO00** No adult entertainment or services, activities, other entertainment or matters ancillary to the use of the premises that may give rise to concern in respect of children, (for example, but not exclusively, nudity or semi nudity), regardless of whether children are present on the premises, are permitted within the premises at any time when the premises is open to the public, save for the provision of 1 gaming machine.

**2SO1B** The Premises Licence holder shall be a member of Pubwatch.

**2H03** The premises shall be registered with Newport City Council's Anti-Crime Group Radio Network and there shall be a suitable radio located within the premises. The Designated Premises Supervisor shall abide at all times by the terms of the Radio Network agreement with Newport City Council.

**2SO04** CCTV cameras shall be installed inside and outside of the premises and shall be operational at all times when the premises is trading.

**3SO09** Any person evicted from the premises and who is likely to cause further problems shall be reported to Heddlu Gwent Police.

**3SO15** All deliveries to the premises shall take place at sociable times only.

**3SO16** All windows shall be double glazed.

**3SO08** The entrance lobby shall remain in place, in order to reduce any noise emanating from the premises.

**4P03** The means of escape provided for all persons on the premises shall be maintained unobstructed, immediately available and clearly identifiable and all exit doors which may need to be used by the public shall be kept unlocked at all times whilst the premises are in use. All exit signs shall be maintained in good repair and shall be properly illuminated.

**4SO17** An annual inspection of all electrical installations shall be carried out, which includes the fire alarm and emergency lighting. Relevant certification shall be made available to an Authorised Officer on request.

**4SO19** A fire alarm shall be provided and maintained in good working order and shall be checked on a weekly basis. The results of such a test shall be recorded in a log book.

**4SO20** All emergency lighting shall be provided and maintained in good working order and shall be checked on a monthly basis. The results of such a test shall be recorded in a log book.

**5SO04** There shall be no admission to unaccompanied children at any time.

## **Conditions attached after a hearing by the licensing authority**

NIL.

## **Appendix C Representations Responsible Authorities / “Other Persons”**

No other representations were made in regard to the review.

## APPENDIX D

Location of premises

