



**Kent
Police**

Protecting and serving the people of Kent

The Beverage Bank
1 The Row
New Ash Green
Kent
DA3 8JB

Date: Monday 18th November 2019

Dear Mr Kirkman,

On Wednesday 13th November 2019 PC Comben, PS Ballard and Ellen Shaw attended The Vault Public House along with Michael Moss from the Licensing Authority. This was to discuss a recent incident on 16/09/2019 that has occurred at the premises, namely a domestic related matter that involved a fire within the living quarters above the public house. The visit was also completed in order to conduct a full licencing compliance check. I thank you for being present in order for this to take place.

The licensing compliance check identified that, despite previous checks, you are currently in breach or have breached a number of the premises licence conditions. The details of these breaches are recorded below;

Condition 1. Custom will not be sought by solicitation outside of the premises.

- **Currently there is an advertisement board displayed outside the premises advertising that 'tea, coffee and pastries' are available to purchase within the premises, there has previously been advertising at the rear of the premises.**

Condition 2. CCTV will be in operation and recording at the premises at all times that the premises are open to the public. All images will be retained for a period of not less than 30 days.

- **CCTV was in operation however the functionality could not be checked as it could not be accessed at the time. The current investigation has identified that there was no CCTV available at the time of the incident on 16/09/2019.**

Condition 3. CCTV will cover the main trading area and entrance as a minimum.

- **None of the CCTV cameras currently present offer coverage of the main entrance.**

Condition 4. A member of staff trained in the use of the CCTV system must be available at the premises at all times that the premises are open to the public.

- **No evidence was produced to show that any staff members have been trained in the use of the CCTV system.**

Condition 6. A log will be maintained of all incidents occurring at the premises, whether police were called or not.

- **A Log book was produced but no record of any incidents, despite the most recent incident reported to the Police.**

Condition 9. All staff responsible for the sale of alcohol will receive training in all aspects of the requirements of the licensing act, such training will be documented and available for inspection by responsible authorities upon a reasonable request being made.

- **No evidence was produced to show that staff (current or previous) have been given such training.**

Condition 10. All staff will be trained in respect to Environmental Health Requirements.

- **No evidence was produced to show that staff had received the relevant training.**

Condition 19. Customers temporarily leaving the premises e.g. to smoke, shall not be permitted to take drinks or open glass containers with them.

- **A breach of this condition was previously discussed on 15/07/19 – there was suggestion that customers were taking drinks outside and sitting within a makeshift drinking area at the rear (tables and chairs were present). The Body Worn Video used by officers at the time of the recent incident shows customers drinking outside along with the DPS (Mr Kirkman), this essentially is a further breach despite the previous warning issued.**

All of the conditions on the premises licence have been discussed and explained at length, as a result of the breaches a visit will be conducted within two weeks of the meeting. As advised, any further breaches identified may result in a prosecution under licensing act, a review of the premises licence and a request that the premises licence is revoked.

Having discussed the incident that occurred on 16/09/19 and the fact that there is still a current investigation ongoing it was advised that the person named within this investigation, in the opinion of Kent Police, should not be permitted on the premises at the current time as it is felt that this may undermine the licensing objectives.

Concerns were also raised around the fact that, due to the above breaches and the recent incident within the premises, you are no longer deemed to be 'fit and proper' as a Designated Premises Supervisor (DPS). The advice from Kent Police is that you make arrangements to remove yourself as the DPS and find a 'suitable' replacement, please ensure that the replacement is advised of the responsibility of such position. A deadline of Monday 16th December 2019 has been set for you to find a suitable replacement, if there are issues in you doing so then I urge you to contact the local authority or Kent Police Licensing Department.

I wish to express that Kent Police Licensing Department take the above matters very seriously and request that you take every step possible to rectify the current issues raised.

Yours Sincerely

PC 12876 Comben – Sevenoaks Licensing Officer

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