

SUBJECT:	APPLICATION FOR A NEW PREMISES LICENCE at: Simply Local, 18-20 Eastfield Road, Burnham, SL1 7NZ
REPORT OF:	Application under section 17, Licensing Act 2003
Responsible Officer	Brian Whittall – Licensing Officer
Report Author	Brian Whittall – Licensing Officer
Ward/s Affected	Cliveden Ward

1. Purpose of Report

To provide Members with information enabling the determination of an application for a new Premises Licence, in respect of which relevant representations have been received.

The Application has been submitted by Mr Hashmeet Singh Kapoor of 210 North Hyde Lane, Southall, UB2 5SE (“the applicant”) in respect of Simply Local, 18-20 Eastfield Road, Burnham, SL1 7NZ (“the premises”) by Personal Licence Courses UK, 145 Station Road, West Drayton, UB7 7ND (“the agent”).

2. Background

2.1 The premises is located within a small parade of retail units in an area that is predominately consisting of residential properties.

A location plan showing the premises location is attached to this report marked “**Appendix 1**”.

3. The Application

3.1 This application is for a new Premises Licence to commence with immediate effect upon the decision to grant by this licensing authority. A copy of the application *is* attached to this Report marked **Appendix 2**. A plan of the “premises” is attached **Appendix 3**.

3.2 The licensable activities sought are as follows:

<u>Proposed activity</u>	<u>Proposed hours</u>
Supply of alcohol Off the premises only	Every Day 07:00 - 23:00

Hours premises are open to the public	Every Day 07:00 - 23:00
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4. Relevant Representations

4.1 Responsible Authorities:

4.1.1 **The Chief Officer of Police:** No objection. **Appendix 4.**

4.1.2 **The Licensing Authority:** No response received.

4.1.3 **The Fire and Rescue Authority:** No objection, **Appendix 5**

4.1.4 **The Local Planning Authority (Head of Sustainable Development):** No response received.

4.1.5 **The Local Environmental Health Authority (Head of Environmental Health):** No objection. **Appendix 6**

4.1.6 **Weights and Measures Authority (Trading Standards Officer):** No response received.

4.1.7 **The Safeguarding and Child Protection Unit:** No response received.

4.1.8 **The Primary Care Trust:** No response received.

4.2 **Any other persons:** **Fifty Two** (52) objections were received during the 28 day consultation on the grounds of prevention of crime and disorder; Public safety; Prevention of Public Nuisance; licensing objectives. There was one (1) representation in support of the application. **Appendix 7.**

5. Licensing Officer's Observations:

5.1 The Relevant Representations received raise the follows issues:

- The prevention of crime and disorder
Representations mention concerns regarding anti-social behaviour, drunkenness, making the area unsafe for children and crime increasing within the area as a result of the application being granted.
- Public Safety
Representations mention that they will not feel safe if the application is granted. References are made to the possible dangers of traffic congestion.
- Prevention of a public nuisance
Representations mention an increase in car traffic and the associated noise of door closing. There is a concern that more alcohol and late hours will increase noise in the area.

- 5.2 In addition to the Mandatory Conditions, the Licensing Sub-Committee should consider those conditions offered in the operating schedule and decide whether they are appropriate for the promotion of the licensing objectives and address any valid representations made by Interested Parties.

6. Policy Considerations

- 6.1 Regard must be had to the Council's adopted Licensing Policy published February 2022 when determining this application. Of particular relevance (but not limited to) the following:

Anti-social behaviour

- 2.36 Licensing is not the primary mechanism for controlling anti-social behaviour away from premises and beyond the direct control of operators. However, it is a key aspect of such control and licensing law is part of the holistic approach to the management of the evening and night time economy in town and city centres as well as rural areas and to some extent during the daytime too. Therefore, this Policy acknowledges the contribution of individual premises and, in certain circumstances, groups of premises to anti-social behaviour.

Prevention of crime and disorder

- 3.26 Section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 places a legal duty on the Council to consider the reduction of crime and disorder, including the reduction of anti-social behaviour, in all its activities. The Licensing Authority will look to the police as the main source of advice on crime and disorder matters and will also seek to involve the local Community Safety Partnership for advice on anti-social behaviour.
- 3.27 Applicants are expected to demonstrate in their operating schedule how they intend to promote the crime prevention objective in relation to the licensable activities provided. Applicants should also consider local circumstances, for example such as the terminal hour of other licensed premises in close proximity, local crime and anti-social behaviour 'hot spots'.

- 6.2 Regard must also be had to the national Guidance issued by the Home Office under Section 182 of the Licensing Act 2003, as amended.

Prevention of a public nuisance

- 3.36 In considering all licence applications, the Licensing Authority will consider whether the measures proposed to deal with the potential for public nuisance having regard to all circumstances of the application, are adequate. Much weight will be placed on recommendations made by Environmental Health Officers in terms of preventing public nuisance.

- 3.37 Particular measures include:

Litter. Measures should be in place to manage the risk of littering associated with the premises. This includes having sufficient waste receptacles to avoid overflowing refuse containers and litter sweeps in the immediate vicinity to clear cigarette butts, food receptacles and flyers associated with the premises. Sometimes problems arise about litter from takeaways and, to a limited extent, from off licences. Licensees should consider distinctive wrapping, packaging or bags, so that litter can be traced back to particular premises and also periodic litter collection patrols and the provision of additional bins.

Street drinking. Street drinking can cause nuisance as well as crime and disorder. Where there is a history of public nuisance associated with street drinking in an area, the Licensing Authority may impose additional restrictions on licences for the sale of alcohol for consumption off the premises. Additional restrictions may include not selling high strength beer and cider, not selling cans and bottles in single cans and discouraging the sale of alcohol to known street drinkers.

7. Links to Council Policy Objectives

- 7.1 The Authority regards existing and future environmental qualities and character of the District to be important when consideration is given to granting licences for any purpose. When considering licensing applications where relevant representations have been made, the Authority will consider its effect on the licensing objectives and in particular the effect the licence will have on the public nuisance objective. In order to consider these matters, it is necessary to consider the environment of the area in which the premises are or will be situated.

Guidance issued under s.182 (p.6)

Crime and disorder

- 2.1 Licensing authorities should look to the police as the main source of advice on crime and disorder.
- 2.3 Conditions should be targeted on deterrence and preventing crime and disorder including the prevention of illegal working in licensed premises. For example, where there is good reason to suppose that disorder may take place, the presence of closed-circuit television (CCTV) cameras both inside and immediately outside the premises can actively deter disorder, nuisance, anti-social behaviour and crime generally.

Public safety

- 2.7 Licence holders have a responsibility to ensure the safety of those using their premises, as a part of their duties under the 2003 Act. This concerns the safety of people using the relevant premises rather than public health which is addressed in other legislation.

Prevention of a public Nuisance

- 2.16 Public nuisance is given a statutory meaning in many pieces of legislation. It is however not narrowly defined in the 2003 Act and retains its broad common law meaning. It may include in appropriate circumstances the reduction of the living and working amenity and environment of other persons living and working in the area of the licensed premises. Public nuisance may also arise as a result of the adverse effects of artificial light, dust, odour and insects or where its effect is prejudicial to health.
- 2.17 Conditions relating to noise nuisance will usually concern steps appropriate to control the levels of noise emanating from premises. This might be achieved by a simple measure such as ensuring that doors and windows are kept closed after a particular time, or persons are not permitted in garden areas of the premises after a certain time. More sophisticated measures like the

installation of acoustic curtains or rubber speaker mounts to mitigate sound escape from the premises may be appropriate. However, conditions in relation to live or recorded music may not be enforceable in circumstances where the entertainment activity itself is not licensable (see chapter 16). Any conditions appropriate to promote the prevention of public nuisance should be tailored to the type, nature and characteristics of the specific premises and its licensable activities. Licensing authorities should avoid inappropriate or disproportionate measures that could deter events that are valuable to the community, such as live music. Noise limiters, for example, are expensive to purchase and install and are likely to be a considerable burden for smaller venues.

- 2.18 As with all conditions, those relating to noise nuisance may not be appropriate in certain circumstances where provisions in other legislation adequately protect those living in the area of the premises. But as stated earlier in this Guidance, the approach of licensing authorities and responsible authorities should be one of prevention and when their powers are engaged, licensing authorities should be aware of the fact that other legislation may not adequately cover concerns raised in relevant representations and additional conditions may be appropriate.
- 2.21 Beyond the immediate area surrounding the premises, these are matters for the personal responsibility of individuals under the law. An individual who engages in anti-social behaviour is accountable in their own right. However, it would be perfectly reasonable for a licensing authority to impose a condition, following relevant representations, that requires the licence holder or club to place signs at the exits from the building encouraging patrons to be quiet until they leave the area, or that, if they wish to smoke, to do so at designated places on the premises instead of outside, and to respect the rights of people living nearby to a peaceful night.

8. Resources, Risk and Other Implications

- 8.1 **Resource:** The only resource implications to date have been officer time however if the applicant or persons making relevant representations appeals against the decision of the Licensing Sub – Committee this would result in legal fees to defend the appeal and further costs. In the event of a successful appeal the Council may also have to pay the applicant/other party's costs.
- 8.2 **Human Rights:** The Licensing Sub-Committee's decision regarding this application will have Human Rights implications in respect of both the Applicant and the persons making relevant representations which also need to be considered equally and fairly so that the decision is proportionate and the right balance is met. The referral of this matter to the Sub-Committee is laid down in the Licensing Act 2003, as amended and is also in accordance with Article 6 of the Human Rights Act 1998, the right to a fair hearing, which is an absolute right. The Applicant and the persons making relevant representations have been notified of the Hearing and invited to make representations. A statutory right of appeal to the Magistrates Court and the right (if it arises) to challenge the Sub-Committee's decision by way of Judicial Review to the High Court also ensure a fair hearing to both the Applicant and the persons making relevant representations.
- 8.3 Article 8 and Article 1 of the First Protocol - the right to respect for private/family life and peaceful enjoyment of property/possessions (including Licences) - also needs to be considered. The persons making relevant representations have a right to respect for

their private and family life and their home. They are entitled not to be disturbed by unreasonable noise and/or nuisance. However, this is a qualified right and has to be balanced against the rights of others including the rights of businesses in the area to operate.

- 8.4 Article 14 of the Human Rights Act 1998 - the right to freedom from discrimination (which is an absolute right) also needs to be considered. The human rights provided under the Human Rights Act 1998 must not be subject to discrimination under various headings, including race, national or social origins, association with a national minority group or other status.
- 8.5 Interference with these rights is acceptable within the terms of the Human Rights Act 1998 if it safeguards the rights of others, is legitimate, proportionate and balanced in that there is a need to find a fair balance between the protection of individual rights and the interests of the community at large – other than rights under Article 6 and 14 which are absolute rights and can not be interfered with.
- 8.6 Therefore if Members refuse to grant the application for a new Premises Licence in whole or part or grant it subject to conditions, this will be a breach of the rights of the Applicant unless such refusal (in full or part) is, and/or the conditions imposed are, appropriate, proportionate and can be justified, on balance, by being outweighed by the rights of the community at large to peaceful enjoyment of their property/possessions. Any restriction placed upon the Premises Licence must not go beyond what is strictly necessary to achieve its legitimate purpose in order to mitigate the interference with the community at large's enjoyment of their property/possessions.
- 8.7 By taking into consideration all the material considerations relating to this application and balancing the interests/rights of all parties involved it is considered that the Licensing Sub-Committee's decision will be both proportionate and justified having had regard to the Human Rights Act 1998.
- 8.8 The Equality Act 2010, including the Council's Public Sector Equality Duty, must be taken into account when making decisions in relation to licensing applications.

9. Determination by the Licensing Sub-Committee

- 9.1 The Sub Committee is obliged to determine applications in the light of the above and any other material considerations with a view to promoting the four licensing objectives. Which are:
 - The prevention of crime and disorder
 - Public safety
 - Prevention of public nuisance
 - Protection of children from harm

Regard must also be had to the Council's Licensing Policy, Home Office Guidance issued under Section 182 of the Licensing Act 2003, as amended, relevant representations received and the evidence presented at the Hearing.

- 9.2 Each application must be considered on its own merits and any conditions attached to premises licences must be tailored to the individual style and characteristics of the premises and events concerned. This is essential to avoid the imposition of disproportionate and overly burdensome conditions on premises. Standardised conditions should be avoided and indeed may be unlawful where they cannot be shown to promote the licensing objectives in any individual case.
- 9.3 The Sub-Committee must avoid duplication of other legal requirements and should only impose conditions on a premises licence which are appropriate and proportionate for the promotion of the licensing objectives and where additional and/or supplementary measures are required in order to promote the licensing objectives.
- 9.4 The following options are available to the Licensing Sub Committee:
- 9.4.1 Grant the Premises Licence - subject to any conditions which are consistent with the Operating Schedule and which are considered appropriate and proportionate for the promotion of the four licensing objectives in response to relevant representations received - and any relevant mandatory conditions.
 - 9.4.2 Exclude from the scope of the Premises Licence granted under Para 9.4.1 above any of the licensable activities to which the application relates.
 - 9.4.3 Refuse to specify a person in the Premises Licence granted under Para 9.4.1 as the premises supervisor.
 - 9.4.4 Reject the whole of the Application.
 - 9.4.5 Grant the Premises Licence subject to different conditions for different parts of the premises or the different /reduced licensable activities if this is considered appropriate and proportionate to promote the four licensing objectives and in response to the representations received).
- 9.5 The Sub-Committee is asked to note that it may not reject the whole or part of the application or attach conditions - merely because it considers it desirable to do so. It must actually be **appropriate and proportionate** in order to promote the 4 licensing objectives and be in response to the representations received and full reasons must be given for the Sub-Committees decision.

Conditions offered in the Operating Schedule

Prevention of crime and disorder

1. CCTV shall be installed to Home Office Guidance standards and maintained in a good working condition and recordings shall be kept for 31 days and shall be made available to police and authorised Officers from the council.
2. The CCTV system shall be capable of obtaining clear facial recognition images and a clear head and shoulders image of every person entering or leaving the premises.
3. The CCTV system shall display on any recordings, the correct date and time of the recording.
4. A member of staff trained in the use of the CCTV system shall be available at the premise at all times that the premises are open to the public.
5. A CCTV camera shall be installed to cover the entrance of the premises and further cameras installed to cover the internal area and servery counter.
6. A suitable intruder alarm complete with panic button shall be fitted and maintained.

7. An incident log shall be kept at the premises, and made available for Inspection on request to an authorised officer of the council or the Police, which will record the following:
 - (a) all crimes reported to the venue
 - (b) all ejections of patrons
 - (c) any complaints received
 - (d) any incidents of disorder
 - (e) all seizures of drugs or offensive weapons
 - (f) any faults in the CCTV system
 - (g) any refusal of the sale of alcohol
 - (h) any visit by a relevant authority or emergency service.
8. Staff training must be documented and based on legislation and operating procedures. All training shall be signed and dated, and a copy of such records will be available for inspection by Police and local authority enforcement officers.
9. All staff employed at the premises will have UK right to work status checked, once passed that stage they shall be offered employment.

Prevention of public nuisance

1. Notice displayed asking customers to leave quietly from premises also customers will be told in person to leave quietly and not to disturb the local neighbourhood
2. Strict policy in place to tell all staff not to serve alcohol to drunks at all
3. Appropriate signage will be displayed, in prominent position informing customers they are being recorded on CCTV.

Protection of children from harm

1. A challenge 25 policy will be in force, where any person looking under the age of 25 shall be asked to prove their age when attempting to purchase alcohol and signs to this effect will be displayed at the premises. Challenge 25 posters displayed where alcohol is sold.
2. The only acceptable ID will be those with photographic identification documents, including passport, photo-card, driving license or proof of age card bearing the PASS hologram.
3. A refusal book shall be kept at the premises and updated as and when required and made available for inspection on request to a Licensing Officer, Police or other responsible authority.
4. The licensee will ensure that staff are trained regularly as appropriate in respect to the Licensing Act 2003 legislation, staff to be trained regularly in underage sales prevention.
5. A sign stating “No proof of age – No sale” shall be displayed at the point of sale.

Informative/s -

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Background Papers:	Application Ref PR202306-323542 Licensing Act 2003, as amended Statement of Licensing Policy –Published February 2022. Home Office Guidance issued under Section 182 of the Licensing Act 2003, as amended.