

Licensing Panel (Licensing Act 2003 Functions)

Date: **22 September 2026**

Time: **10.00am**

Venue **Virtual**

Members: **Councillors:** Cattell, Czolak and Nann

Contact: **Francis Mitchell**
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AGENDA

1 TO APPOINT A CHAIR FOR THE MEETING

WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS

2 PROCEDURAL BUSINESS

(a) **Declaration of Substitutes:** Where Councillors are unable to attend a meeting, a substitute Member from the Licensing Committee may attend, speak and vote in their place for that meeting.

(b) **Declarations of Interest:**

- (a) Disclosable pecuniary interests;
- (b) Any other interests required to be registered under the local code;
- (c) Any other general interest as a result of which a decision on the matter might reasonably be regarded as affecting you or a partner more than a majority of other people or businesses in the ward/s affected by the decision.

In each case, you need to declare

- (i) the item on the agenda the interest relates to;
- (ii) the nature of the interest; and
- (iii) whether it is a disclosable pecuniary interest or some other interest.

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(c) **Exclusion of Press and Public:** To consider whether, in view of the nature of the business to be transacted, or the nature of the proceedings, the press and public should be excluded from the meeting when any of the following items are under consideration.

NOTE: Any item appearing in Part Two of the Agenda states in its heading the category under which the information disclosed in the report is exempt from disclosure and therefore not available to the public.

A list and description of the exempt categories is available for public inspection at Brighton and Hove Town Halls.

3 VALLEY SOCIAL CLUB- LICENSING PANEL (LICENSING ACT 2003 FUNCTIONS)

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Contact Officer: Charles Boufrahi
Ward Affected: Whitehawk & Marina

Date of Publication - Monday, 14 September 2026

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FURTHER INFORMATION

For further details and general enquiries about this meeting contact Francis Mitchell, (01273 294183, email Francis.Mitchell@brighton-hove.gov.uk) or email democratic.services@brighton-hove.gov.uk

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Licensing Panel (Licensing Act 2003 Functions)

Brighton & Hove City Council

Subject:	Application for a Club Premises Certificate under the Licensing Act 2003
Premises:	Valley Social Club, 31 Whitehawk Way, Brighton, BN2 5HE
Applicant:	Valley Social Club
Date of Meeting:	22nd September 2026
Report of:	Corporate Director for City Operations
Contact Officer: Name:	Corinne Hardcastle
Email:	corinne.hardcastle@brighton-hove.gov.uk
Ward(s) affected:	Whitehawk & Marina

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT AND POLICY CONTEXT

- 1.1 To determine an application for a New Club Premises Certificate under the Licensing Act 2003 for Valley Social Club

2. RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 2.1 That the Panel determine an application for a New Club Premises Certificate under the Licensing Act 2003 for Valley Social Club

3. CONTEXT/BACKGROUND INFORMATION & CONSULTATION

- 3.1 The application is for a New Club Premises Certificate under the Licensing Act 2003. The general description of the club proposes a bar and hall situated on ground floor with 2 fire exits.
- 3.2 Section 15 of the application is detailed in Appendix A and the plan of the premises is attached in Appendix B
- 3.3 Summary table of proposed activities

	Proposed
Indoor sporting Events	Monday – Saturday 18:00 -23:00 Sunday 12:00 – 18:00 On the Premises
Recorded Music	Monday – Saturday 18:00 -23:00 Sunday 12:00 – 18:00 On the Premises

Supply of Alcohol	Monday – Saturday 18:00 -23:00 Sunday 12:00 – 18:00 On the Premises
Hours premises are open to public	Monday – Saturday 18:00 -23:00 Sunday 12:00 – 18:00

3.4 The premises does not fall in the City Safety Area or the Special Stress Area.

Representations received

3.5 Details of the representations made are notified to applicants on receipt by the Licensing Authority using a pro-forma. A summary appears below:

3.6 6 representations were received. They were received from local residents.

3.7 Representations received had concerns relating to Prevention of Crime and Disorder, Prevention of Public Nuisance and Protection of Children from Harm. Full details of the representations are attached at Appendix C.

3.8 Conditions have been agreed between Sussex Police and the applicant. These are attached at Appendix D

3.9 A map detailing the location of the premises is attached at Appendix E.

4. COMMENTARY ON THE LICENSING POLICY

4.1 The following extracts from Brighton & Hove City Council Statement of Licensing Policy are considered relevant to this application and **are numbered as they appear in the policy**:

1 Introduction

1.1 This Statement of Licensing Policy has been prepared in accordance with the provisions of the Licensing Act 2003 (the Act) and having regard to Guidance issued by the Home Office under Section 182 of the Act.

This policy takes effect from the 5 January 2026. The licensing authority is Brighton & Hove City Council.

The purpose of this statement is to promote the licensing objectives and set out a general approach to making licensing decisions.

The discretion of the licensing authority in relation to applications under the act is only engaged if ‘relevant representations’ are made by other persons or responsible authorities.

This policy will inform the approach to be taken when deciding applications and imposing conditions when relevant representations are received. It is also intended as a guide for applicants as to what to include in their operating schedules, always recognising that if no representations are received, the application must be granted.

The licensing authority must carry out its functions with a view to promoting the licensing objectives and this policy is framed around those objectives. Each application will be given individual consideration on its merit.

The scope of this policy covers the following:

- Retail sales of alcohol.
- The supply of alcohol by or on behalf of a club, or to the order of, a member of the club.
- The provision of regulated entertainment.
- The provision of late night refreshment.

1.2 The licensing objectives are:

- (a) the prevention of crime and disorder.
- (b) public safety.
- (c) the prevention of public nuisance; and
- (d) the protection of children from harm.

1.3 Scope

1.3.1 Licensing is about regulating licensable activities on licensed premises, by qualifying clubs and at temporary events. Any conditions attached to various authorisations will be focused on matters which are within the control of individual licensees and others with relevant authorisations, i.e. the premises and its vicinity. Each application will be given individual consideration on its merit. Nothing in this policy shall undermine the right of any individual to apply under the terms of the act for a variety of permissions and to have any such application considered on its individual merits. Similarly, nothing in this policy shall override the right of any person to make representations on an application or seek a review of a licence or certificate where provision has been made for them to do so in the act.

3. Special Policies and Initiatives

3.4 The Matrix Approach

The Licensing Authority will support:

- 3.4.1 Diversity of premises: ensures that there is a mix of the different types of licensed premises and attracts a more diverse range of customers from different age groups, different communities and with different attitudes to alcohol consumption. It gives potential for positively changing the ambience of the city or an area of it. This will have a positive effect in reducing people's fear of crime and in increasing the number of evening visitors to the city centre. The Community Safety and Crime Reduction Strategy [Community safety and crime reduction](#)

[strategy 2023 to 2026](#) recognises that too many single uses in a confined area and patrons turning out onto the streets at the same time may create opportunities for violent crime and public disorder and therefore supports: mixed use venues encouraging a wider age balance.

3.4.2 A 'Matrix' approach to licensing decisions has been adopted and is set out below. It provides a firm framework of what the licensing authority would like to see within its area and gives an indication of the likelihood of success or otherwise to investors and businesses making applications. It underpins the City Safety Policy (see above at 3.1).

Matrix approach for licensing decisions in a Statement of Licensing Policy (times relates to licensable activities)

	City Safety Area	Special Stress Area	Other Areas
Food & dining venues	1 am	1 am	1 am
Fast food premises	No	Midnight Deliveries until 2am	Midnight Deliveries until 2am
Cafe	10pm	10pm	10pm
Performance venues	Midnight	Midnight	Midnight
Grassroots Music venues	Midnight	1am	1am
Nightclubs	No	No	No
Public houses and bars	No	Midnight	Midnight
Non-alcohol led venues	Midnight	Midnight	Midnight
Off licences	No	No	Yes (Up to 11pm – (see note f below)
Shared workplaces, co-working offices	Midnight	Midnight	Midnight
Members' clubs	11pm	Midnight	Midnight

3.4.3 Explanatory notes on matrix

Definitions: each venue will be considered individually, and the below definitions may need to be applied flexibly depending on the business model of the specific venue

Food and dining venues	• Provide substantial table meals to customers dining at the premises • Food is prepared on site • Alcohol is sold to customers ancillary to a substantial table meal for consumption at the premises (or in an associated outdoor dining area) only • If takeaway service is provided, must be ancillary to provision of substantial table meals
Fast food premises	• Provide late night refreshment of fast food intended for immediate consumption on the premises or takeaway • Food is served in disposable packaging

Cafes	• Sell alcohol to customers for consumption on the premises in addition to other food and drink products • Food and drink is served to customers seated at a table including to any outdoor designated area • Food is prepared on site and the premises will have a fully operational kitchen • A full menu of the hot and cold food items available will be clearly on display within the premises. • Generally operate in the daytime and early evening only.
Performance venues	• Provide performances of live music, theatre, dance and other creative arts to entertain an audience • Includes live music venues, concert venues, cabarets and theatres • Does not include karaoke or Grassroots Music Venues
Grassroots Music Venues	• Grassroots Music Venues are small, typically local venues that provide a platform for emerging and independent musicians to perform. They are often pubs, clubs, or other small spaces where artists can hone their craft, gain experience, and connect with a local audience. These venues play a crucial role in nurturing talent and supporting the development of the music scene. • A member of Music Venues Alliance Brighton or Music Venues Trust or similar
Nightclubs	• Provide regulated entertainment and the sale of alcohol • Main licensable activity is recorded and live music with provision of dance floors, sound systems and light displays • Generally, operate at night and into early hours of the morning
Public houses and bars	• Sell alcohol to customers for consumption on the premises • Sale of alcohol takes place at the bar • Includes tap rooms and craft beer pubs • May also carry out other licensable activities • Does not include cafes
Non-alcohol led venues	• Cultural venues such as art galleries, museums, theatres • Experiential entertainment venues such as escape rooms and social gaming venues • Alcohol is sold to customers for consumption on the premises • Supply of alcohol is ancillary to entertainment offering • Does not include shared workplaces and co-working offices
Off licences	• Supermarkets and convenience stores which supply alcohol for consumption off the premises in addition to other retail products • Includes alcohol delivery services fulfilling remote orders for sale of alcohol

	• Restrictions on ABV% e.g. the Sensible on Strength 6% condition
Shared workplaces, co-working offices	• Office premises in which individual workstations and meeting rooms are rented to solo workers and small businesses
Members' clubs	• Premises authorised to carry out licensable activities under a club premises certificate

3.4.4 **Each application will be considered on its own merits.** However, the Licensing Authority will apply the Matrix Approach in all cases unless there are exceptional circumstances which justify a different approach.

- a). **Applications within the CSA** will be subject to a special policy requiring robust measures to be included in the operating schedule to promote safety. Applications within the SSA will be subject to the special stress policy set out in 3.3.
- b). **Exceptional circumstances.** The Licensing Authority will determine exceptional circumstances on a case-by-case basis. An example of exceptional circumstances could be where the applicant has provided sufficient assurances to the responsible authorities that they do not make relevant representations against the application. Another example is where the application is for a variation to an existing premises licence and the applicant satisfies the criteria for a "good operator".
- c). **Activities which the Licensing Authority values and wishes to encourage:** LGBTQ+ and TNBI venues; outdoor regulated entertainment; cafes; members' clubs; traditional pubs (outside the CSA); non-alcohol led licensable activities, especially within the city centre. The Licensing Authority will aim to permit these types of venues in appropriate locations, but will consider each case – including any relevant representations – on its own merits.
- d). **Location.** Consideration will be given to the character of the area of the venue in every case. In residential areas, the Licensing Authority will pay particular attention to the potential of a venue to cause public nuisance, especially noise disturbance, littering and anti-social behaviour. In these areas, an early closing time may be appropriate.
- e). **Food and dining venues.** The Licensing Authority will require conditions to ensure that these venues are food-led, such as: alcohol to be sold only to customers taking a substantial table meal; no takeaway service of food for immediate consumption (an ancillary meal delivery service is acceptable). Where the venue has an agreement to use an adjacent outdoor area, the Licensing Authority will require evidence that a pavement licence has been granted for use of the highway (for highway land) or landowner's consent (for land other than a highway).
- f). **Off licences.** Particular consideration will be given to applications for off-licences in areas which already have one or more off-licences in close proximity, due to concerns about street drinking, underage sales and anti-social behaviour. Where relevant representations are made raising these issues, the application is

likely to be refused or – if it is appropriate to grant the application – granted subject to a terminal hour in line with neighbouring off licences.

- g). **Outdoor events.** Outdoor events will generally be supported where they have been arranged through the Council's event planning process.

3.5 Good Operator Policy

3.5.1 Good operators of licensed premises are valuable partners in assisting the Licensing Authority to promote the licensing objectives in Brighton and Hove and contributing to our city's unique and vibrant culture. The Licensing Authority has therefore decided to introduce a new policy measure – the Good Operator Policy – to reward and incentivise the responsible management of licensed premises. Under the Good Operator Policy, there will be a presumption in favour of granting applications to vary premises licences which are submitted by good operators as defined by this policy. This includes variations to trading hours beyond the hours indicated by the Matrix Approach. In general, the Licensing Authority will consider granting such applications to be appropriate for promoting the licensing objectives – unless there is clear and compelling evidence they would be undermined by granting the application.

3.5.2 A "good operator" is an applicant for an application to vary a premises licence who satisfies all of the following criteria:

- at the time of making the variation application, and at the time the application is determined, they are the holder of the premises licence subject to the application
- in the 3 to 5 year period prior to submitting the application, the applicant has not been subject to any formal intervention by the responsible authorities in connection with that [or any other] premises in Brighton and Hove.
- Formal intervention includes the following; a formal written warning; an application for review or summary review; a closure notice or closure order; a prosecution for an offence under the Licensing Act 2003; a penalty for employing illegal workers; or an abatement notice.

3.6 Live Music, Dancing and Theatre

3.6.1 This policy recognises the need to encourage live music, dancing and theatre for the wider cultural benefits of the community generally. In addressing such issues the potential for limited disturbance in neighbourhoods will always be carefully balanced with these wider benefits. The impact of licensing on regulated entertainment, particularly live music and dancing, will be monitored.

3.6.2 The Licensing Committee represents the general interests of a community in determining what conditions should be attached to licences and certificates as a matter of necessity for the promotion of the licensing objectives. All members of the Licensing Committee will be trained on Licensing Act 2003 and S182 Guidance. The Licensing authority is aware of the need to avoid measures which deter live music, dancing and theatre - such as imposing indirect costs out of proportion to the income of the licence holder and to the risks presented. Only

appropriate, proportionate and reasonable licensing conditions should impose any restrictions on such events.

3.10 Promoters and irresponsible drinks promotions

3.10.1 The Licensing Act 2003 makes no mention or provision for the use of promoters within licensed premises. Many of the late night bars and clubs within the Brighton & Hove area regularly hire promoters to sell nights at their venues. Issues that have been identified with the use of promoters within the nighttime economy, in recent years include individual promoters vouching for underage customers to get them inside licensed premises where they can access alcohol, providing flyers to passersby who throw them on the floor and irresponsible promotions for their nights. Many premises now have an agreement with their promoter for acceptable promotions and behaviour which includes the signing of a written contract of expectations. This shows premises evidencing their due diligence and ensures that promotion companies know what is expected of them. The contract could include obligations to pick up self-generated litter, verification of ages of their customers and users of their social media, promoters being over the age of 18 and responsible advertising on social media.

3.10.2 The Licensing Authority expect licensed premises to develop staff policy and training on recognising signs of drunkenness, spiking and vulnerability, for example, offering drinking water and tips for refusing customers who appear drunk. And discourage company policies that promote bonuses and sales incentives for selling alcohol. Licensing Authority will expect necessary precautionary processes to restrict drunkenness, e.g. Licensing Guidance states happy hours should not be designed to encourage individuals to drink excessively or rapidly.

6. Prevention of Crime and Disorder

The following details and measures are intended to address the need for the prevention of crime and disorder which may be associated with licensed premises and certificated club premises. Conditions attached to licences and certificates will, as far as possible, reflect local crime reduction strategies.

6.1.1 The licensing authority acknowledges that training and good management play a key part in preventing alcohol and drug related crime. The authority expects that all licensees of on-licensed premises attend training programs which will raise their awareness of the issues relating to spiking, drugs and violence in licensed premises, and that suitable training be extended to all bar staff and door supervisors so that drug dealers and users will be deterred from using licensed premises for illegal purposes and that incidents of violence in licensed premises will be reduced. Licensees are also encouraged to attend training programs to help identify children at risk and issues of basic child protection and vulnerable individuals. It is the duty of the designated premises supervisor (DPS) to train staff on induction concerning conditions on their premises licence and their responsibility to uphold all four licensing objectives.

- 6.1.2 It is expected that the DPS will spend a significant amount of time on the premises. When not on the premises it will be essential that the DPS is contactable, particularly should problems arise with the premises and that staff are authorised by the DPS
- 6.1.3 The location of violent attacks, anti-social behaviour and hate crime or related incidents may be used to justify closing times.

8. Prevention of Public Nuisance

The following details and measures are intended to address the need for the prevention of public nuisance which may be associated with licensed premises and certificated club premises:

- 8.1.1 In determining applications for new and varied licences, regard will be had to the location of premises, the type and construction of the building and the likelihood of nuisance and disturbance to the amenity of nearby residents by reason of noise from within the premises, as a result of people entering or leaving the premises or from individuals or groups of customers gathered outside (e.g. in order to smoke).
- 8.1.2 Applications for new licences or for the extension in size of licensed premises should not normally be granted if the premises will use amplified or live music and operate within or abutting premises containing residential accommodation except that occupied by staff of the licensed premises. A condition may be imposed on new licences that entertainment noise shall be inaudible in any residence. Noise emanating from within licensed premises should not normally be audible outside.
- 8.1.3 Installation of sound limiting equipment and sound insulation may be required to minimise disturbance to the amenity of nearby residents by reason of noise from the licensed premises.
- 8.1.4 Generally, regulated entertainment in the open air including tents and marquees should have a maximum closure hour of 2300. Earlier hours may be imposed in sensitive open spaces or near residential areas. The Licensing Authority will have regard to Noise Council guidance.
- 8.1.5 In determining applications for new licences or extensions in hours or terminal hours of licensed premises, regard will be had to late night public transport availability and location of taxi ranks to aid dispersal of customers.
- 8.1.6 Reasonable controls are available to all premises operators to minimise the impact of noise from customers outside. The council's Environmental Health Department has issued guidance on a number of steps that can be taken in this respect which are endorsed by this policy (see 8.2 below).

8.2 Smoking Advice

- 8.2.1 Premises licence holders will be expected to:

- Develop a management plan on how to manage smoking on their premises and ensure that all staff are aware of the contents of this plan, and that it is effectively implemented. Noise from people smoking and talking can be intermittent, vary in character and volume and be intrusive. An effective smoking management plan will help prevent neighbours being disturbed.
- Comply with any planning conditions restricting the use of outdoor areas.
- Ensure that any structures used by smokers comply with the design criteria detailed in the Health Act 2006 and that any structures, awnings, retractable canopies, etc have the relevant planning permission.
- Ensure any new lighting to outdoor areas must be designed so as not to cause a light nuisance to neighbours and again have the relevant planning permission and building control consent.
- Ensure that the conditions on the premises licence are complied with. There may be conditions restricting the hours of use of gardens and outdoor areas. Having reviewed the contents of the premises licence it may be necessary to request a variation of your licence.
- Licence tables and chairs on the Public Highway under the provisions of the Highways Act 1980. These licences may have conditions restricting the times that the area can be used.
- Ensure drinks, glasses and bottles are not taken onto the highway unless there is a tables and chairs licence permitting use. A system should be adopted to prevent theft and 'spiking' of drinks and reminding customers not to leave unattended items.
- Discourage smokers remaining in gardens and outdoor areas and determine terminal hours.
- Discourage smokers remaining outside by removing/disabling tables and chairs or prohibiting their use after a certain time. Lights and heaters will also be turned off.
- Introduce a system that after a certain time the number of smokers outside are restricted to a maximum number. Staff will be needed to manage this restriction.
- Employ staff and/or SIA registered door supervisors to manage doors and control customers and smokers entering and leaving the premises. Staff positioned on the doors can help to encourage customers not to cause a noise problem. It may be that staff are required to manage doors after a certain time, particularly during the hours when neighbouring residents are trying to sleep.
- Ensure door supervisors maintain order outside venues and protect customer safety. BCRP supports the use of Night Safe. Radio net and other pager systems and pub watch schemes can be used to provide for rapid police response and alert other venues where customers and staff are endangered.
- Position signs to remind customers that the premises is in an area where people live. It is not always obvious in busy commercial streets with flats above. By

changing the design and wording of signs customers do not forget. Signs can be located in and outside the premises and on tables.

- Use CCTV to manage outside areas.

8.2.2 Licensed premises should normally display prominent, legible signs at exits reminding customers to leave in a quiet, peaceful, orderly manner.

9. Protection of Children from Harm

The following details and measures are intended to address the need for the protection of children from harm; this includes emotional and physical harm which may be associated with licensed premises and certificated club premises (for example the exposure too early to strong language and sexual expletives, e.g. in the context of film exhibitions or where adult entertainment is provided). It is intended that the admission of children to premises holding a premises licence or club premises certificate should normally be freely allowed without restricting conditions (unless the 2003 Act itself imposes such conditions or there are good reasons to restrict entry or to exclude children completely).

- 9.1.1 Licensees should note the concern of the authority that drink related disorder frequently involves under 18's. To prevent illegal purchases of alcohol by such persons, all licensees should work with a suitable 'proof of age' scheme and ensure that appropriate identification is requested prior to entry and when requesting alcohol, where appropriate. Appropriate forms of identification are currently considered to be those recommended by the Home Office, police, trading standards officers and their partners (eg passport, photo driving licence or pass card). The advent of digital identification will bring new technologies and challenges which responsible authorities and licensees will need to be mindful of and have a personal responsibility to remain informed and trained on.
- 9.1.2 It is the licensing authority's expectation that all staff responsible for the sale of intoxicating liquor receive information and advice on the licensing laws relating to children and young persons in licensed premises. Licensed premises staff are required to take reasonable steps to prevent under age sales. The licensing authority will not seek to limit the access of children to any premises unless it is necessary for the prevention of emotional or psychological harm to them. Each application will be considered on its own merit but particular areas that will give rise to concern in respect of children are to be found in section 9.1.4 below.
- 9.1.3 To reduce alcohol-induced problematic behaviour by under 18 year olds, to enforce underage purchase and drinking laws and to assist in the protection of children from harm, the licensing authority supports the following measures: -
- a). Police should exercise powers (Confiscation of Alcohol (Young Persons) Act 1997) to remove alcohol from young people on the street
 - b). Police and trading standards should implement test purchasing to reduce sales to under 18s in on and off sales licensed premises
 - c). Further take-up of proof of age schemes will be promoted

d). In-house, mystery shopper type schemes operated by local businesses will be supported

e). Providers of events specifically catering for unaccompanied children should consider whether all staff at such events need to be DBS checked

f). Use of a PSPO in the City Centre

9.1.4 The licensing authority will not seek to require that access to any premises is given to children at all times – under normal circumstances this will be left to the discretion of the licensee. The following areas give rise to concern in respect of children, who will normally be excluded from premises:

- where there have been convictions for serving alcohol to minors or with a reputation for underage drinking;
- with a known association with drug taking or dealing;
- where there is a strong element of gambling on the premises;
- where entertainment of an adult or sexual nature is commonly provided;
- where premises are used primarily or exclusively for the sale and consumption of alcohol and there is little or no seating for patrons.

Options may include:

- limitations on the hours when children may be present;
- age limitations (below 18);
- limitations or exclusions when certain activities are taking place;
- requirements for an accompanying adult;
- full exclusion of people under 18.

9.1.7 Trading standards and the police undertake ongoing enforcement operations around under-age sales and test purchasing. Sussex Police and BCRP undertake work concerning proxy purchases and counterfeit ID as part of the partnership support work with Community Safety and Trading Standards.

9.1.8 Trading standards have a programme of business support including training for local businesses to avoid underage sales. Trading standards offer business support including for local businesses to avoid underage sales. The training also covers identifying fake ID's, Challenge 25, intoxication, proxy purchasing and implementing due diligence measures.

9.1.9 Trading Standards also supplies business support materials guidance and advice on the enforcement penalties on all age restricted products for example vapes, tobacco, fireworks etc.

10. Integration of Strategies

10.1 The licensing authority shall secure the proper integration of this policy with local crime prevention, planning policy, transport, tourism and cultural strategies by: -

- Liaising and consulting with Sussex Police, Community Safety Partnership Board, sustainability commission representatives and following the guidance in community safety and crime and disorder strategy
- Liaising and consulting with Public and Drug and Alcohol Programme Board
- Liaising and consulting with the East Sussex Fire & Rescue Service
- Liaising and consulting with the Safety Advisory Group (Emergency Planning)
- Liaising and consulting with the Planning authority
- Liaising and consulting with the Highways authority
- Liaising and consulting with local business and business associations. Having regard to any future documents issued relating to the Private Security Industry Act 2001, for example liaison or information sharing protocols
- Liaising and consulting with the Trading Standards Team, for example with regard to test purchasing codes of practice

10.1.1 In line with statutory requirements and the council's Public Sector Equality Duty, the Licensing Authority shall have due regard to the need to eliminate unlawful discrimination, and to promote equality of opportunity and positive relations between all people. This includes people who share protected characteristics, including but not limited to LGBTQIA+ people, disabled people, people from diverse ethnic and cultural backgrounds and people of all faiths and none.

10.1.2 This policy supports the aims of the tourism strategy, recognising the benefits for the tourism economy of creating a safer and more attractive city centre and improving competitiveness with other European cities. The Licensing Committee should receive any reports relevant to the needs of the local tourist economy and the cultural strategy for the area to ensure that it considers these matters.

10.1.3 The Licensing Committee should receive relevant information relating to the employment situation of the area and the need for new investment and employment where appropriate.

10.1.4 Specific conditions may be attached to premises licences to reflect local crime prevention strategies. Such conditions may include the use of closed circuit television cameras, use of the NightSafe radio system or accredited scheme, the provision and use of shatterproof drinking receptacles, drugs and weapons search policy, the use of registered door supervisors, specialised lighting requirements, hours of opening. Certificates issued to club premises shall reflect local crime prevention strategies and may include any or all of the requirements listed above.

10.1.5 The licensing authority will have regard to the need to disperse people quickly and safely from the city centre to avoid concentrations which may produce disorder and disturbance.

5. FINANCIAL & OTHER IMPLICATIONS:

Financial Implications:

5.1 The licensing Act 2003 provides for fees to be payable to the licensing authority in respect of the discharge of their functions. The fee levels are set centrally at a level to allow licensing authorities to fully recover the costs of administration, inspection and enforcement of the regime.

Legal Implications:

5.2 The licensing authority must act to promote the four licensing objectives which are:

- The prevention of crime and disorder
- Public safety
- The prevention of public nuisance
- The protection of children from harm

The licensing authority must have regard to its statement of licensing policy and the guidance issued by the Secretary of State in carrying out its functions.

Lawyer Consulted: Rebecca Sidell

Date: 10/09/26

Equalities Implications:

5.3 Diversity is valued and strong, safe communities are vital to future prosperity. Licensing policy aims to protect children from harm including sale and supply of alcohol to children.

Sustainability Implications:

5.4 Licensing policy aims to prevent public nuisance and develop culture of live music, dancing and theatre.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

Appendices:

1. Appendix A – Section 15 of the Application
2. Appendix B – Plan of Premises
3. Appendix C – Representations
4. Appendix D – Conditions agreed between Sussex Police and the applicant
5. Appendix E – Map of area

Documents in Members' Rooms

Brighton & Hove City Council, Licensing Act 2003: Statement of Licensing Policy 2026
[Statement of Licensing Policy 2026](#)

Home Office, Revised Guidance issued under section 182 of the Licensing Act 2003, February 2026 [Revised guidance issued under section 182 of Licensing Act 2003 - GOV.UK](#)

Public Health Framework for Assessing Alcohol Licensing – July 2025

[Public Health Framework for Assessing Alcohol Licensing | Tableau Public.](#)

Background Documents

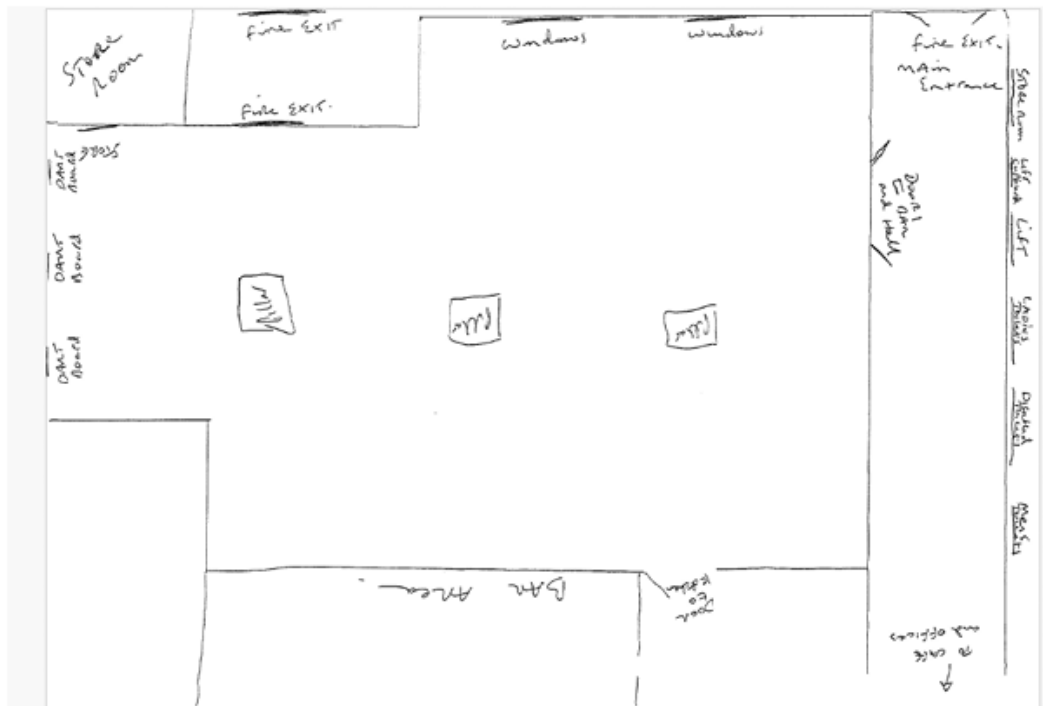
Brighton & Hove City Council, Licensing Act 2003: Statement of Licensing Policy 2026.

[Statement of Licensing Policy 2026](#)

Appendix A

Continued from previous page...
Section 15 of 17
LICENSING OBJECTIVES
Describe the steps you intend to take to promote the four licensing objectives:
a) General – all four licensing objectives (b,c,d,e)
List here steps you will take to promote all four licensing objectives together.
we will run as a family members club under 10's out by 9.
b) The prevention of crime and disorder
Zero tolerance on Drug use Plenty of signage and staff awareness. Challenge 25 notices
c) Public safety
Fire Extinguishers in prominent positions Fire Exits clearly marked STAFF TRAINED in First Aid.
d) The prevention of public nuisance
Challenge 2 notices no under age drinking leave premises quietly Rules given to every member
e) The protection of children from harm
2 staff on at all times Any child abuse will be reported to relevant Authority Safe guarding in place on premises
Section 16 of 17
NOTES ON REGULATED ENTERTAINMENT

Appendix B



Appendix C

REP A - CH valid on the Licensing Objectives of PCD and PPN

From: REDACTED

Sent: 24 August 2026 15:50

To: EHL Licensing <ehl.licensing@brighton-hove.gov.uk>

Subject: Objection to Valley Social Centre licence application – Ref 2026/02943/LAPRCN

Dear Licensing Team,

We are local residents and wish to formally object to the Valley Social Centre licence application, reference 2026/02943/LAPRCN.

The premises are located in a residential area surrounded by homes, families and children. We do not believe that a bar or nightclub-style venue operating until 11:00pm is appropriate for this residential neighbourhood.

We are concerned about noise and disturbance from customers arriving and leaving the premises and gathering outside, particularly in the evening. We are also concerned about litter and possible anti-social behaviour.

There is already pressure on parking in the area. A venue attracting additional customers and vehicles could make parking more difficult for local residents and increase traffic and congestion.

We respectfully ask the Licensing Committee to consider the residential character of the area, the presence of children and families, parking pressures, and the potential for noise and public nuisance.

We strongly object to the application in its current form and request that the licence is refused. Alternatively, we ask that strong conditions and an earlier closing time are imposed to protect local residents.

Thank you for considering our objection.

Kind regards,

REDACTED

REP B - CH valid on the Licensing Objectives of PCD and PPN

From: REDACTED

Sent: 23 August 2026 10:34

To: EHL Licensing <EHL.licensing@brighton-hove.gov.uk>

Subject: Valley Social Centre Alcohol Licence objection

Dear Licensing Team,

I am writing as a local resident living **REDACTED** the Valley Social Centre at 31 Whitehawk Way to submit my formal objection to the recent premises licence application for late-night alcohol sales and regulated music until 11:00 PM every night.

Reference number: 2026/02943/LAPRCN

My objection is based on two core Licensing Objectives: The Prevention of Crime & Disorder and The Prevention of Public Nuisance.

The Prevention of Crime & Disorder:

Our immediate area in Whitehawk already suffers from significant crime rates. Official police figures (data.police.uk) for the Whitehawk & Marina ward show an overall crime rate of 126 per 1,000 population—rating high at 7 out of 10 nationally. Violence and sexual offences stand at 45.6 per 1,000, while Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) stands at 25.3 per 1,000.

Introducing daily late-night alcohol sales into a location with high existing crime metrics will inevitably worsen these issues. Alcohol lowers inhibitions, and adding a 7-day supply right in the middle of a residential estate will fuel street drinking, aggressive altercations, and public disorder right outside our front doors.

The Prevention of Public Nuisance

Because this venue is situated directly **REDACTED**, allowing alcohol and amplified music every single night until 11:00 PM is completely inappropriate.

Dispersal Noise: When patrons leave at 11:00 PM after drinking, they do not leave quietly. We will face regular shouting, foul language, slamming car doors, and lingering crowds on the pavement.

Property Nuisance: Late-night alcohol consumption frequently leads to littering (empty cans and smashed glass), public urination on private property, and anti-social behaviour in front gardens.

Impact on Residents:

Operating 365 days a year means families with children, shift workers, and elderly neighbours will suffer constant sleep disturbance and reduced quality of life, with no break on weeknights.

In our household alone we have a **REDACTED** who works shifts, 1 **REDACTED** and another who is **REDACTED**. Our quality of life living here will decrease, just at a point where we are all doing really well.

We welcome the Vally Social centre to open for residents, and have seen a positive impact that the boxing club has had in the local area. However, we were told by a trustee that it would be used to enhance the lives of the community and that plans were being made to open a walk in health service. Opening a 7 days a week bar contradicts the image that was portrayed, alcohol does not increase the wellbeing of anyone. Especially not in an area with a historic well documented crime challenges. Including 2 murders linked to the previous Vally Social centre, fuelled by alcohol.

Allowing a late-night drinking establishment to operate daily in this specific residential spot will undermine local safety and disturb the peace of nearby homes. I urge the Licensing Committee to refuse this application.

Yours sincerely,

REDACTED

REP C - CH valid on the Licensing Objectives of PCD and PPN

From: **REDACTED**

Sent: 24 August 2026 18:11

To: EHL Licensing <ehl.licensing@brighton-hove.gov.uk>

Subject: Valley social center licence application ref

2226-02943-LAPRCN

REDACTED

To Whom it may concern ,

I wish to object to the licence application for the valley Social Club
on the following grounds

- * we already have a drug issue in the **REDACTED** that the police do nothing about we don't need more drugs being sold around the corner
- * last time there was a licensed club round there we had lots of fighting and anti social behaviour
- * some one was killed out side the club after an argument within it
- * We work and need to get up early for it and music and the distrupction that will be caused if the club is allowed to stay open every night until 11pm .

Yours sincerely

REDACTED

REP D - CH valid on the Licensing Objectives of PCD, PPN and PCH

From: REDACTED

Sent: 26 August 2026 16:42

To: EHL Licensing <ehl.licensing@brighton-hove.gov.uk>

Subject: RE. Formal Objection and Request for Further Information – Application 2026/02943/LAPRCN (Valley Social Centre)

Dear Licensing Team,

I am writing in my personal capacity as a local resident and homeowner to formally object to licensing application **2026/02943/LAPRCN** relating to the Valley Social Centre.

I live **REDACTED** the premises at **REDACTED** and have owned my home for over ten years. I am also employed **REDACTED** and regularly work unsocial hours. I am extremely concerned about the proposal to permit alcohol sales and live music until 11pm every day in a predominantly residential area.

My objection is based on the following licensing objectives:

Prevention of Public Nuisance

The proposed activities have the potential to cause significant noise and disturbance to residents living **REDACTED** to the venue. My family's home **REDACTED**

and we are therefore likely to experience any noise, disruption or late-night activity more acutely than many other residents.

REDACTED Noise associated with live music, customers arriving and leaving, conversations outside the venue, car doors, vehicle movements and general late-evening activity would have a significant impact on our ability to enjoy our home, sleep and study.

As **REDACTED** providing care to vulnerable patients, adequate rest between shifts is essential. Daily disturbance until 11pm has the potential to affect both my family's wellbeing and my ability to recover between shifts.

Prevention of Crime and Disorder

I am concerned that alcohol sales may increase the risk of anti-social behaviour, littering, noise nuisance and disturbances affecting residents in the surrounding streets, particularly during evening and late-night hours.

Protection of Children from Harm

There are many families and children living in the immediate area. My concerns include the impact of late-evening noise and disturbance on children's sleep, education and wellbeing. **REDACTED**

Community Concerns

I am also concerned that some residents may not have been fully aware of the application or may face barriers in engaging with the licensing process, meaning not all affected voices may be represented.

I respectfully request that these concerns be taken into account when determining the application.

I am submitting this representation within the consultation period to ensure my concerns are formally recorded. I reserve the right to submit further comments once I have reviewed the full application details.

In order to fully understand the proposal, I would be grateful if you could also provide or confirm the following:

1. The full licensing application and operating schedule.
2. The proposed hours for the sale of alcohol.
3. Whether alcohol consumption will be permitted indoors, outdoors or both.
4. The proposed hours and frequency of live music events.
5. Whether any live music will be amplified.
6. Whether live music will take place indoors, outdoors or both.
7. Whether recorded music is also included within the application.
8. The proposed maximum capacity of the venue.
9. Whether a noise assessment has been submitted.
10. Whether a noise management plan has been submitted.
11. Any proposed conditions relating to: noise control; customer dispersal at closing time; outdoor areas; litter management; and prevention of anti-social behaviour.
12. Whether Environmental Health has been consulted regarding potential impacts on neighbouring residential properties.

13. Details of any Licensing Panel hearing and how residents may register to speak.

14. Confirmation that this representation has been received and accepted.

Thank you for your time and consideration. I look forward to hearing from you. May I ask kindly for confirmation of receipt.

Yours faithfully,

REDACTED

REP E - CH valid on the Licensing Objectives of PCD, PPN, PCH & PS

From: REDACTED

Sent: 31 August 2026 19:07

To: EHL Licensing <ehl.licensing@brighton-hove.gov.uk>

Subject: Formal Objection to Valley Social Centre Licence Application – Reference 2026/02943/LAPRC

Dear Licensing Team,

I am writing to formally object to the application for a premises licence for the **Valley Social Centre**, reference number **2026/02943/LAPRCN**, particularly in relation to the proposed sale of alcohol and provision of live music every day of the week until 11pm.

My name is **REDACTED**. I am writing both as a local resident and as **REDACTED**, which is situated **REDACTED** to the Valley Social Centre. My family home is **REDACTED**, and I am **REDACTED**.

I want to make clear from the outset that I am not opposed to the Valley Social Centre being a positive and thriving space within our community. I particularly recognise the positive contribution made by the boxing club, which provides opportunities for people, including young people and women, to improve their physical health and wellbeing, build confidence and self-esteem, and develop positive relationships within the community.

My objection is specifically to the proposed **alcohol and live music licence**, and to the potential impact that operating in this way every day until 11pm could have on the people living **REDACTED** the premises and on the wider community.

Prevention of public nuisance

My greatest concern is the potential impact of noise and disturbance on the surrounding residential area.

The Valley Social Centre is situated **REDACTED** people's homes, **REDACTED**. A licence allowing alcohol and live music every evening until 11pm has the potential to cause significant and ongoing disruption.

My concern is not simply the noise created by live music itself. There is also the inevitable noise associated with people arriving and leaving the premises, standing outside, smoking, talking, shouting, getting into cars or taxis, and dispersing at the end of the evening.

This would be particularly difficult for families with young children, people who work shifts, older residents and those who need to get up early for work.

REDACTED, I am particularly concerned about the impact that regular late-night noise and disturbance could have on our family life, and that of our neighbours lives, and for all of us to be able to enjoy our homes peacefully.

I am concerned that granting permission for alcohol and live music could fundamentally change the character of life for those living **REDACTED** to the Valley Social Centre.

Crime, disorder and anti-social behaviour

I am also concerned about the potential for an alcohol-led venue to increase anti-social behaviour and disorder in the immediate area.

Whitehawk is a wonderful community with enormous strengths, resilience and generosity. However, it is also a community where many people face significant challenges, including poverty, addiction, poor mental health and other complex difficulties.

Through my role as **REDACTED**, I see many of these challenges firsthand and understand the impact that alcohol and addiction can have not only on individuals but also on families and the wider community.

I want to be clear that I am not suggesting that everyone who drinks alcohol behaves anti-socially, nor am I suggesting that the people making this application intend to create problems.

However, alcohol can contribute to disorder, anti-social behaviour and violence, and these are legitimate considerations when deciding whether a licence should be granted.

There are already concerns among local residents about the possibility of increased noise, anti-social behaviour and disruption in the streets surrounding the premises. Given the proximity of the Valley Social Centre to residential homes, I believe these concerns should be taken seriously.

Impact on families and children

The proposed licence would operate in the middle of a residential community where many families and children live

REDACTED, I am particularly concerned about the impact that live music and the presence of a licensed alcohol venue operating until 11pm every evening could have on our family and on other residents living nearby.

Children need to be able to sleep peacefully, and families should be able to enjoy their homes without regular late-night disturbance.

I am also concerned about what may happen outside the venue, particularly later in the evening when people are leaving. Even where a venue itself is well managed, noise and disruption can move outside into the surrounding streets and affect the people who live there.

The potential impact on children and families living **REDACTED** to the Valley Social Centre should, in my view, be given very careful consideration.

Parking and disruption to the surrounding area

I am also concerned about the potential impact on parking and traffic.

The Valley Social Centre is surrounded by residential streets where parking is already limited. A venue offering alcohol and live music could attract visitors from outside the immediate neighbourhood, creating additional pressure on parking and potentially causing disruption for residents.

There is also the potential for increased traffic and noise later in the evening as people arrive and leave the premises.

For those of us living **REDACTED** the Valley Social Centre, this would not simply be an occasional inconvenience but could become a regular part of daily life.

Building community without causing harm to community

One of the reasons I feel strongly about this application is because I genuinely believe in the importance of community spaces.

Whitehawk needs places where people can meet, build friendships, develop confidence and feel that they belong. The positive activities already taking place at the Valley Social Centre demonstrate how valuable such a community space can be.

However, I do not believe that an alcohol licence and live music licence operating every day of the week until 11pm is necessarily the same thing as building a stronger community.

A successful community space should bring people together while also respecting and supporting the people who live around it.

My concern is that, if this licence is granted as proposed, the increased noise, disruption, parking pressures and potential for anti-social behaviour could create tension between the Valley Social Centre and its immediate neighbours. That would be deeply regrettable and could have the opposite effect to the creation of a stronger and more connected community.

My objection

For these reasons, **I formally object to the granting of this premises licence.**

I believe that the proposed sale of alcohol and provision of live music seven days a week until 11pm could have an unacceptable impact on the surrounding residential community, particularly in relation to:

- the prevention of crime and disorder;
- the prevention of public nuisance;
- public safety; and
- the protection of children from harm.

I respectfully ask the Licensing Authority to **refuse the application.**

I would very much like to see the Valley Social Centre continue to be a positive and valuable community asset, and I strongly support the positive activities already taking place there, including the boxing club.

My objection is specifically to the proposed alcohol and live music licence and the likely impact of this on those living immediately around the premises.

As both a local resident and **REDACTED**, I feel a responsibility to raise these concerns on behalf of my family, myself and the wider community. I hope that the Licensing Authority will give full and careful consideration to the potential impact that this application could have on the residents who live **REDACTED** the Centre.

Thank you for taking the time to consider my objection.

Yours faithfully,

REDACTED

REP F - CH valid on the Licensing Objectives of PCD & PPN

21 Aug 2026, 19:50 by **REDACTED**

Re licence application- 2026/02943/LAPRCN

Dear Licensing Team,

I am writing to formally object to the premises licence application for the Valley Social Centre (31 Whitehawk Way, BN2 5HW) to serve alcohol and play live music. This is on the grounds of the prevention of public nuisance, including noise nuisance and anti-social behaviour.

My family and I live **REDACTED** the Valley Social Centre in **REDACTED**. We are not opposed to the building being used. In fact, the recent opening of Brighton Boxing Academy on the upper floor of the Valley Social Centre has been a real

blessing to the community. It has been encouraging to see the building brought back into use and many of our friends are taking part in boxing and fitness classes.

However, we believe that opening a bar and live music venue on the ground floor of the building is likely to lead to increased anti-social behaviour, noise nuisance and potentially drug-related activity. This is consistent with the issues experienced when the building was previously used as a bar. Residents who have lived in the area for many years are convinced that the same problems will return.

In addition, **REDACTED** has experienced disproportionate levels of anti-social behaviour in recent years. Police records will show the number of call-outs relating to domestic violence, drug dealing and noise nuisance in **REDACTED**

REDACTED has frequently had to sleep in a different room because of shouting and fighting in the street directly **REDACTED**. While the situation has improved somewhat over the past year, we are concerned that the introduction of alcohol sales and live music events will reintroduce many of the issues residents have previously endured and make the area a gathering point for disruptive groups.

There are many positive developments taking in Whitehawk. However, this proposal is not going to improve the lives of local residents. Families **REDACTED** with school-age children, as well as carers and other key workers who work shifts in the street, are likely to be adversely affected by the increased noise and disturbance that may spill onto the street late into the evening.

If the license is granted, I respectfully request that the committee imposes stricter conditions, including a closing time of 9:00 pm and appropriate soundproofing measures for the building. **REDACTED** is home to many children who travel across town to get to school and shift workers who need to get up early for school and work.

Yours faithfully,

REDACTED

APPENDIX D

Proposed Conditions Valley Social Centre

For the prevention of crime and disorder:

1. Subject to GDPR guidance and legislation:
 - (a) Digital CCTV and appropriate recording equipment to be installed in accordance with Home Office Guidelines relating to UK Police Requirements for Digital CCTV System (PSDB Publication Number 09/05), operated and maintained throughout the premises internally and externally to cover all public areas, including the entrances/exits to the premises as well as any outside space. The system shall be on and recording at all times the premises licence is in operation.
 - (b) The CCTV cameras and recording equipment must be of sufficient quality to work in all lighting levels inside the premises at all times.
 - (c) CCTV footage will be stored for a minimum of 31 days
 - (d) The management will give full and immediate cooperation and technical assistance to the Police in the event that CCTV footage is required for the prevention and detection of suspected or alleged crime.
 - (e) The CCTV images will record and display dates and times, and these times will be checked regularly to ensure their accuracy.
 - (f) The management of the premises will ensure that key staff are fully trained in the operation of the CCTV, and will be able to download selected footage onto a disk (or other electronic portable device acceptable to Police e.g. USB) or provide footage via an online link as initiated by Police, without difficulty or delay and without charge.
 - (g) Any breakdown or system failure will be notified to the police immediately & remedied as soon as practicable. This can be via email - brighton.licensing@sussex.police.uk
 - (h) In the event of the CCTV system hard drive being seized as evidence as part of a criminal investigation by Police or for any other reason, the premises will be expected to install a replacement hard drive or a temporary replacement drive as soon as practicable.
2. SIA licensed door supervisors shall be employed on any occasion when a requirement is identified by the licence holder's written risk assessment or requested by Sussex Police in writing at least 48 hours in advance. The written risk assessment will be reviewed at least once every calendar year. In addition to risk assessing events being held at the premises, the risk assessment will consider information or guidance offered by the police and also considering busy periods such as Bank Holidays, Season Variations and

other City Events e.g. Football, Pride, Music Events. The written risk assessment will be available on the premises for inspection by police and authorised officers of the Licensing Authority.

3. (a) An incident and refusals log (book or electronic) will be maintained by the premises showing a detailed note of incidents and refusals that occur in the premises. The logs will be inspected and signed off by the club secretary (or a person with delegated authority) at least once a month.

(b) The logs should be kept on the premises for at least twenty four (24) months and be available for inspection at all times the premises are open by authorised officers of the Licensing Authority or the police. An incident will be defined as being one which involves an allegation of a criminal offence. Refusals of alcohol for reasons such as underage, no ID and intoxication.
4. When not being made available for sale, all alcohol will be stored securely.
5. The management will have an absolute zero tolerance policy towards drugs and drug misuse. Any illegal drugs seized will be stored in a secure 'drugs box' and periodically the management will request the police to come and remove all drugs in the 'drugs box' for destruction.

For the protection of children from harm:

6. (a) The club secretary (or a person with delegated authority) shall ensure that all staff members engaged or to be engaged in selling and or serving of alcohol shall receive induction training. If this training is to be conducted in electronic form, it will at a minimum also include a face-to-face discussion session. This training will take place prior to the selling and or serving of such products and will include:

*The lawful selling of age restricted products:

Including but not limited to, the requirement for the staff member conducting the transaction to ensure they do Challenge 25 checks regardless of any other staff member / door staff checks that may already have taken place.

*Refusing the sale of alcohol to a person who is drunk

* Identifying persons who are vulnerable which could include but not limited to, their age or due to intoxication and or drugs as well as identifying potential perpetrators.

* National schemes such as but not limited to Ask for Angela & Stamp out Spiking

* Conflict management.

The operator will have a policy in place assisting staff in how to deal with such situations.

(b) Further verbal reinforcement/refresher training covering the above will be carried out thereafter at intervals not to exceed 8 weeks, with the date and time of the verbal reinforcement/refresher training documented.

(c) All such training undertaken by staff members shall be fully documented and recorded. All training records shall be made available to Sussex Police, officers of the local authority and officers from the Trading Standards team upon request.

7. The premises will operate a "Challenge 25" policy whereby any person attempting to buy alcohol who appears to be under 25 will be asked for photographic ID to prove their age. The recommended forms of ID that will be accepted are passports, official Photographic Identity Cards issued by EU states bearing a hologram or ultraviolet feature, driving licenses with a photograph, photographic military ID or proof of age cards bearing the 'PASS' mark hologram.

Additionally, digital proof of age will be permitted when such a scheme has been approved by Government. Digital proof of age will only be permitted by way of a certified Digital Verification Service (DVS) to be listed on the statutory GOV.UK register.

The list of recommended forms of ID may be amended or revised with the prior written agreement of Sussex Police, the Licensing Authority and Trading Standards without the need to amend the licence or conditions attaching to it.

8. Signage advertising the "Challenge 25" policy will be displayed in prominent locations in the premises.
9. Under 18's will be supervised by a responsible adult. From 21:00, no under 10-year-olds will be permitted inside the premises.

Appendix E



