

Form For Applying For A Summary Licence Review Annex C

Brighton and Hove City Council, G39, Hove Town Hall, Norton Road, Hove, BN3 3BQ

Application for the review of a premises licence under section 53A of the Licensing Act 2003 (premises associated with serious crime or disorder)

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 the 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.

I, Superintendent James Collen on behalf of the chief officer of police for the Sussex police area apply for the review of a premises licence under section 53A of the Licensing Act 2003.

1. Premises details:

Postal address of premises, or if none or not known, ordnance survey map reference or description:

**Kings Arms
56 George Street**

Post town: **Brighton**

Post code (if known): **BN2 1RJ**

2. Premises licence details:

Name of premises licence holder (if known): **The Craft Union Pub Company Ltd.**

Number of premises licence holder (if known): **Registered Business
Number: 09429990**

3. Certificate under section 53A(1)(b) of the Licensing Act 2003

I confirm that a certificate has been given by a senior member of the police force for the police area above that in their opinion the above premises are

associated with serious crime or disorder or both, and the certificate accompanies this application.

(Please tick the box to confirm) ☒

4. Details of association of the above premises with serious crime, serious disorder or both:

An expedited review is sought by Sussex Police following a serious incident (Violent Disorder) that occurred within the Kings Arms Public House resulting in, at this time, several arrests of individuals who had been drinking in the venue. [REDACTED]

On Friday 25th September 2026 at 22:50, Police responded to a call over the Brighton Crime Reduction Partnership (BCRP) radio to reports of a large disorder in the Kings Arms, George Street, Brighton and they needed urgent police assistance. One (1) minute prior to this police received a call via 999 from the Designated Premises Supervisor, Gary WILSON.

Upon Police arrival, it was clear a large-scale disorder was occurring. [REDACTED]

The serious incident that occurred originated from a verbal altercation inside the premises with high intoxication and drugs, we believe, being a main factor for it. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] High intoxication levels can be seen on CCTV footage and by attending officers. Drug usage within the venue is evidenced by the discovery of "baggies" located within the male toilets and results from drug testing various surfaces.

A summary of the main incident (mostly obtained via CCTV):

Approximately 22:45, an altercation started inside the venue [REDACTED] This has ultimately escalated and resulted in violent disorder [REDACTED]

What started the argument is unknown. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Had [REDACTED] asked to leave at this point, this may have prevented what then occurred.

In clear view of the Designated Premises Supervisor (DPS) who was standing at the bar drinking from a bottle, the instigator has started an argument with [REDACTED] The DPS did not step in at this point to de-escalate the situation. [REDACTED]

The situation then quickly escalates [REDACTED] and it spills out onto the street. [REDACTED]

The premises voluntarily closed and did not reopen until today, 28th September 2026.

We appreciate that incidents inside licensed venues will occur however this one was particularly violent and could in our opinion have been easily prevented. From viewing CCTV it is clear that intoxication levels from alcohol and controlled drugs, in all probability were high. When there was an early opportunity to ask the main instigator to leave following a low-level altercation, this did not happen. The DPS did not see or act despite the warning signs around him as the argument started at the bar. Police Licensing attended the venue on Sunday 27th September 2026 due to intelligence around drug usage inside the premises. Drug swabbing confirmed traces [REDACTED] [REDACTED] and even more concerning within the male toilet's officers found hideouts for drugs. Personal use amount [REDACTED] was located above the toilet cistern and a number of empty bags [REDACTED] located in a picture frame, above a mirror and bathroom floor.

A betting slip found in the main bar area listed a number of general shopping items to purchase along with "9 grams of coke or an 8 ball" listed which is generally a term for illicit drugs often cocaine.

Our findings lead us to believe that the management do not have control of the premises. The venue is being used as a place to consume drugs. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] With bar prices set low, this is fuelling intoxication levels which is not being monitored by staff and management.

Prior to the main review panel hearing, Sussex Police will submit a more detailed timeline of the incident itself alongside any additional supporting evidence.

Signature of applicant: [REDACTED]

Date: 28th September 2026 [REDACTED]

Capacity: Superintendent James Collen CC576

Contact details for matters concerning this application:

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