



## **Licensing Sub Committee Hearing Panel**

Date: Monday, 2 September 2019  
Time: 10.10 am (or at the rise of the Licensing and Appeals  
Sub Committee Hearing Panel)  
Venue: Council Antechamber - Level 2, Town Hall Extension

Everyone is welcome to attend this committee meeting.

### **Access to the Council Antechamber**

Public access to the Council Antechamber is on Level 2 of the Town Hall Extension, using the lift or stairs in the lobby of the Mount Street entrance to the Extension. That lobby can also be reached from the St. Peter's Square entrance and from Library Walk.

**There is no public access from the Lloyd Street entrances of the Extension.**

## **Membership of the Licensing Sub Committee Hearing Panel**

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**Councillors** - Jeavons, Lynch and Stone

## Agenda

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**1. Urgent Business**

To consider any items which the Chair has agreed to have submitted as urgent.

**2. Appeals**

To consider any appeals from the public against refusal to allow inspection of background documents and/or the inclusion of items in the confidential part of the agenda.

**3. Interests**

To allow Members an opportunity to [a] declare any personal, prejudicial or disclosable pecuniary interests they might have in any items which appear on this agenda; and [b] record any items from which they are precluded from voting as a result of Council Tax/Council rent arrears; [c] the existence and nature of party whipping arrangements in respect of any item to be considered at this meeting. Members with a personal interest should declare that at the start of the item under consideration. If Members also have a prejudicial or disclosable pecuniary interest they must withdraw from the meeting during the consideration of the item.

**4. Summary Review of Premises Licence - Bliss Club, Albion Wharf, 19 Albion Street, Manchester, M1 5LN**

5 - 108

The report of the Head of Planning, Building Control & Licensing is enclosed.

**5. New Premises Licence - Determination - Steakout 212, 36B - 36C Derby Street, Manchester M8 8RY**

109 - 114

Document enclosed.

## Information about the Committee

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The Licensing and Appeals Committee fulfills the functions of the Licensing Authority in relation to the licensing of taxi drivers.

A procedure has been agreed which governs how the Panel will consider such applications.

Decisions made by the Panel will be under delegated authority and will not require to be referred to the Council for approval. Meetings are controlled by the Chair, who is responsible for seeing that the business on the agenda is dealt with properly.

Copies of the agenda are published on the Council's website. Some additional copies are available at the meeting from the Governance Support Officer.

The Council is concerned to ensure that its meetings are as open as possible and confidential business is kept to the strict minimum. When confidential items are involved these are considered at the end of the meeting at which point members of the public are asked to leave.

Smoking is not allowed in Council buildings.

Joanne Roney OBE  
Chief Executive  
Level 3, Town Hall Extension,  
Albert Square,  
Manchester, M60 2LA

## Further Information

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For help, advice and information about this meeting please contact the Committee Officer:

Andrew Woods  
Tel: 0161 234 3011  
Email: [andrew.woods@manchester.gov.uk](mailto:andrew.woods@manchester.gov.uk)

This agenda was issued on **Thursday, 22 August 2019** by the Governance and Scrutiny Support Unit, Manchester City Council, Level 3, Town Hall Extension (Mount Street Elevation), Manchester M60 2LA



## Manchester City Council Report for Resolution

Report to: Licensing Sub-Committee Hearing Panel – 2 September 2019

Subject: Bliss Club, Albion Wharf, 19 Albion Street, Manchester, M1 5LN -  
(App ref: Summary Review of Premises Licence 235574)

Report of: Head of Planning, Building Control & Licensing

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### Summary

Review of the premises licence under s53C of the Licensing Act 2003

### Recommendations

That the Panel consider what steps are appropriate for the promotion of the licensing objectives taking into account any change in circumstances since any interim steps were imposed, consider any relevant representations, and review the interim steps already taken.

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**Wards Affected:** Deansgate

Manchester Strategy Outcomes	Summary of the contribution to the strategy
A thriving and sustainable City: supporting a diverse and distinctive economy that creates jobs and opportunities	Licensed premises provide a key role as an employer, in regeneration, and in attracting people to the city. The efficient processing of applications as well as effective decision making in respect of them, plays an essential role in enabling businesses to thrive and maximise contribution to the economy of the region and sub-region.
A highly skilled city: world class and home grown talent sustaining the city's economic success	An effective Licensing regime will enable growth in our City by supporting businesses who promote the Licensing Objectives.
A progressive and equitable city: making a positive contribution by unlocking the potential of our communities	The Licensing process provides for local residents and other interested parties to make representations in relation to licensing applications. Representations have to be directly related to the licensing objectives.
A liveable and low carbon city: a destination of choice to live, visit and work.	An effective licensing system supports and enables growth and employment in our City with neighbourhoods that provide amenities suitable to the surrounding communities.

A connected city: world class infrastructure and connectivity to drive growth	
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**Full details are in the body of the report, along with any implications for:**

Equal Opportunities Policy  
Risk Management  
Legal Considerations

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#### **Financial Consequences – Revenue**

None

#### **Financial Consequences – Capital**

None

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#### **Contact Officers:**

Name: Fraser Swift  
Position: Principal Licensing Officer  
Telephone: 0161 234 1176  
Email: f.swift@manchester.gov.uk

Name: Patrick Ware  
Position: Technical Licensing Officer  
Telephone: 0161 234 4858  
Email: Premises.licensing@manchester.gov.uk

#### **Background documents (available for public inspection):**

The following documents disclose important facts on which the report is based and have been relied upon in preparing the report. Copies of the background documents are available up to 4 years after the date of the meeting. If you would like a copy please contact one of the contact officers above.

- Manchester City Council Statement of Licensing Policy 2016 - 2021
- Guidance issued under section 182 of the Licensing Act 2003, April 2018
- Licensing Act 2003 (Hearings) Regulations 2005
- Any further documentary submissions by any party to the hearing

## 1. **Introduction**

- 1.1 On 6 August 2019 an application was made by Greater Manchester Police under s53A of the Licensing Act 2003 for a Summary Review of the Premises Licence for Bliss Club, Albion Wharf, 19 Albion Street, Manchester, M1 5LN in the Deansgate ward of Manchester. A location map and photograph of the premises is attached at **Appendix 1**.
- 1.2 Summary reviews can be undertaken when the police consider that the premises concerned are associated with serious crime or serious disorder (or both). The summary review process allows interim conditions to be quickly attached to a licence and a fast track licence review.
- 1.3 A 10 working-day public consultation exercise has been undertaken in accordance with Licensing Act 2003 regulations; requiring the application to be advertised by the displaying of a blue notice at or on the premises and details of the application published on the Council's website.
- 1.4 Under section 53C of the Licensing Act 2003, the licensing authority must hold a full review of the premises licence and determine the review within 28 days after the day of receipt of the application.
- 1.5 Following the review under section 53C, the licensing authority must then review any interim steps that are in place and determine whether it is appropriate for the promotion of the licensing objectives for the steps to remain in place, or if they should be modified or withdrawn.

## 2. **The Application**

- 2.1 A copy of the application is attached at **Appendix 2**.
- 2.2 The application for a summary review was submitted on the grounds that the premises are associated with serious crime and serious disorder. The incident that triggered this summary review took place in the early hours of Saturday 3 August 2019. GMP received a 999 call to say that a male had been stabbed at Bliss Club. Police officers arrived at the scene and located a male with stab wounds on Albion Street who was bleeding heavily. The victim was taken to hospital by ambulance. A short time later two other males presented themselves at hospital with stab wounds, saying that they had been stabbed during the incident at Bliss Club. All three males stated they were inside the premises just prior to being attacked.
- 2.3 **Interim Steps pending the review**
  - 2.3.1 Within 48 hours of receiving a summary review application, under s53B of the Licensing Act 2003 the licensing authority must consider whether it is necessary to take interim steps pending the review of the licence for the promotion of the licensing objectives.
  - 2.3.2 On 8 August 2019 a Licensing Sub-Committee Hearing Panel held a hearing to consider taking such interim steps and the decision of the Panel was to

suspend the premises licence pending the final review hearing. The decision of the panel is included as **Appendix 3**.

- 2.3.3 The premises licence holder may make representations against the interim steps taken by the licensing authority. Under s53B of the Licensing Act 2003 the licensing authority must within 48 hours of the time of its receipt of the representations, hold a hearing to consider those representations.
- 2.3.4 At the time of preparing this Committee Report no representations have been received from the premises licence holder against the interim steps taken by the licensing authority. Please note that representations may be received at any time prior to the date of the review hearing.
- 2.3.5 On the date of the review hearing, the licensing authority is required to review any interim steps that are in place and consider whether it is appropriate for the promotion of the licensing objectives for the steps to remain in place, or if they should be modified or withdrawn.

### **3. Current Premises Licence**

- 3.1 A copy of the current licence is attached at **Appendix 4**.
- 3.2 The premises licence holder is Realand Ltd and has held the licence since 30/05/2019.
- 3.3 The designated premises supervisor is Mr Piotr Pawel Mitrega who has held this position since 11/07/2017.
- 3.4 The licensable activities permitted by the licence are:  
  
Supply of alcohol for consumption on the premises only:  
 Sunday to Thursday 12noon to 12midnight, Friday and Saturday 12noon to 4am  
  
Provision of regulated entertainment (Exhibition of Films, Live music, Recorded music)  
 Sunday to Thursday 12noon to 12midnight, Friday and Saturday 12noon to 4am  
  
Provision of late night refreshment  
 Sunday to Thursday 11pm to 12midnight, Friday and Saturday 11pm to 4am

### **4. Relevant Representations**

- 4.1 Representations may be made by any person or 'responsible authority' during the consultation period. To be 'relevant' and, therefore, able to be taken into account in determining the application, they must be relevant to one or more of the licensing objectives. Where representations are made by persons who are not a responsible authority, they must not be frivolous or vexatious.
- 4.2 A total of seven relevant representations have been received in respect of this application (**Appendix 5**). The personal details of all members of the public have been redacted. Original copies of the representations will be available to



the Panel at the hearing. One representation was received from MCC Licensing and Out of Hours Compliance Team and six from members of the public.

Summary of the representation:

Party	Grounds of representation	Recommends
<b>Licensing and Out of Hours Compliance</b>	<p>LOOH have serious concerns about the premises licence holder's ability and/or inclination to uphold the licensing objectives, namely the prevention of public nuisance, public safety and prevention of crime and disorder.</p> <p>There are shortcomings in relation to the management of the premises, the authorisation of door supervisors on duty at the premises, and a lack of due diligence demonstrated by the management in relation to the continuing non-compliance with the conditions of the premises licence.</p> <p>LOOH feel that if the premises were to be allowed to remain in its current form the lack of management of the premises would continue to cause a nuisance to those surrounding and there is likely to be another incident of crime and disorder.</p> <p>LOOH do not believe that the imposition of new conditions would be effective as the premises management have shown a disregard for those already imposed.</p>	Revocation of the premises licence
<b>Members of the public x 6</b>	All members of the public state that they are regular attendees at Bliss Club and state that the premises is safe and peaceful, and that they have never witnessed any violence there	No recommendation

## 5. Additional information

- 5.1 Additional information has been received from Licensing Out of Hours, attached as **Appendix 6**. LOOH have also submitted CCTV footage.

## **6. Key Policies and Considerations**

### **6.1 Legal Considerations**

- 6.1.1 Hearings under the Licensing Act 2003 operate under the Licensing Act 2003 (Hearings) Regulations 2005.

### **6.2 New Information**

- 6.2.1 In accordance with Regulation 18 of the Licensing Act 2003 (Hearings) Regulations 2005, the authority may take into account documentary or other information produced by a party in support of their application, representations or notice either before the hearing or, with the consent of all parties, at the hearing.

### **6.3 Hearsay Evidence**

- 6.3.1 The Panel may accept hearsay evidence and it will be a matter for the Panel to attach what weight to it that they consider appropriate. Hearsay evidence is evidence of something that a witness neither saw nor heard, but has heard or read about.

### **6.4 The Secretary of State's Guidance to the Licensing Act 2003**

- 6.4.1 The Secretary of State's Guidance to the Licensing Act 2003 is provided to licensing authorities in relation to the carrying out of their functions under the 2003 Act. It also provides information to magistrates' courts hearing appeals against licensing decisions and has been made widely available for the benefit of those who run licensed premises, their legal advisers and the general public. It is a key medium for promoting best practice, ensuring consistent application of licensing powers across England and Wales and for promoting fairness, equal treatment and proportionality.
- 6.4.2 Section 4 of the 2003 Act provides that, in carrying out its functions, a licensing authority must 'have regard to' guidance issued by the Secretary of State under section 182. The Guidance is therefore binding on all licensing authorities to that extent. However, the Guidance cannot anticipate every possible scenario or set of circumstances that may arise and, as long as licensing authorities have properly understood this Guidance, they may depart from it if they have good reason to do so and can provide full reasons.
- 6.4.3 Departure from the Guidance could give rise to an appeal or judicial review, and the reasons given will then be a key consideration for the courts when considering the lawfulness and merits of any decision taken.

### **6.5 Manchester Statement of Licensing Policy**

- 6.5.1 Section 4 of the 2003 Act provides that, in carrying out its functions, a licensing authority must 'have regard to' its statement of licensing policy.
- 6.5.2 The Licensing Policy sets out the vision the licensing authority has for the regulation of licensed premises throughout Manchester and outlines the

standards expected in order to ensure the promotion of the licensing objectives in the city. The Panel may depart from the policies should it consider doing so would benefit the promotion of the licensing objectives. Reasons are to be given for any such departure from the Policy.

- 6.5.3 There are a number of references in the Policy to the licensing authority's expectations of applicants. The licensing authority will not apply the Policy rigidly, but will always have regard to the merits of the case with a view to promoting the licensing objectives.
- 6.5.4 Relevant to this application, the Panel are recommended to have regard to the following sections of the Policy:

### ***Section 6: What we aim to encourage***

This section identifies certain types of venues and initiatives the licensing authority aims to encourage in order to promote an inclusive evening and night-time economy not simply focused on the consumption of alcohol. We aim to encourage:

- Premises that will extend the diversity of entertainment and attract a wider range of participants
- Live music, especially original material, which will provide a range of live performances and styles of music, provided that such entertainment does not undermine the licensing objectives
- National cultural institutions, global sports events and cultural festivals
- Non-drink-led premises, including restaurants, cafes, theatres and cinemas
- Communication and integration with local residents and businesses through licensees consulting with those in the local area prior to an application
- Participation in Pubwatches, off licence forums and other crime-reduction partnerships
- Engagement with the NITENET radio scheme and DISC secure information sharing platform by city centre venues through the Cityco Manchester Business Crime Reduction Partnership
- Designing out crime in the layout of the premises

### ***Section 7: Local factors***

This section sets out key issues that applicants are expected to take into account relevant to the individual characteristics of the premises and address any local factors relevant to their premises.

Having regard to this application, the Panel are recommended to have regard to the following Factors:

- Identified risk factors specific to the licensed premises
- Evidence of pre-existing problems in the area
- Consistency with relevant Council strategies
- The proximity of the premises to local residents and other local businesses, particularly in relation to the potential for nuisance
- Ability to clean and maintain the street scene

### ***Section 8: Manchester's standards to promote the licensing objectives***

This section identifies the standards that the licensing authority expects of licensed premises in Manchester. It is recognised that not all standards will be appropriate to apply in every situation to every premises. The degree to which standards would be appropriate is expected to be proportionate to the risk posed against the promotion of the licensing objectives having regard to the individual circumstances of the premises. The standards are not exhaustive and the licensing authority will have regard to any relevant issues raised in any representation that may fall outside them.

- MS1 Implement effective security measures at the premises
- MS2 Effective general management of the premises
- MS3 Responsible promotion and sale of alcohol
- MS4 Prevent the use of illegal drugs, new psychoactive substances (NPS) and the spiking of drinks at the premises
- MS5 Prevent on-street consumption of alcohol
- MS6 Provide a Duty of Care for intoxicated or vulnerable customers and medical emergencies
- MS7 Maintain a safe capacity
- MS8 Prevent noise nuisance from the premises
- MS9 Effectively manage exterior spaces (eg beer gardens, smoking areas, table and chair areas on the highway)
- MS10 Operate effective cleansing arrangements, including ensuring the premises and surrounding area are kept clean and free of litter, and adequate arrangements for the secure and responsible storage of refuse

MS12 Prevent underage sales of alcohol, including proxy sales

## 7. **Conclusion**

- 7.1 A licensing authority must carry out its functions under this Act (“licensing functions”) with a view to promoting the licensing objectives:
- the prevention of crime and disorder
  - public safety;
  - the prevention of public nuisance; and
  - the protection of children from harm.
- 7.2 In considering the matter, the Panel should take into account any representations or objections that have been received from responsible authorities or other persons, and representations made by the applicant. In reaching the decision, regard must also be had to relevant provisions of the national guidance and the Council’s licensing policy statement.
- 7.3 The Panel must consider what steps are appropriate for the promotion of the licensing objectives taking into account any change in circumstances since any interim steps were imposed, any relevant representations, and review the interim steps already taken.
- 7.4 In making its final determination, the steps the Panel can take are:
- a) To modify the conditions of the premises licence
  - b) To exclude from the scope of the licence any of the licensable activities to which the application relates;
  - c) To remove the designated premises supervisor from the licence;
  - d) To suspend the licence for a period not exceeding 3 months; and
  - e) To revoke the premises licence.
- 7.5 The conditions of the licence, with the exception of mandatory conditions in Appendix 1 of the licence, may be modified to alter or omit any of them or to add any new condition, including restricting the times at which licensable activities authorised by the licence can take place.
- 7.6 All licensing determinations should be considered on the individual merits of the application.
- 7.7 The Panel’s determination should be evidence-based, justified as being appropriate for the promotion of the licensing objectives and proportionate to what it is intended to achieve. Findings on any issues of fact should be on the balance of probability.

7.8 It is important that a licensing authority should give comprehensive reasons for its decisions in anticipation of any appeals. Failure to give adequate reasons could itself give rise to grounds for an appeal.

7.9 **The Panel is asked to determine what steps, as set out in 6.4 above, are appropriate for the promotion of the licensing objectives.**

Review of the interim steps

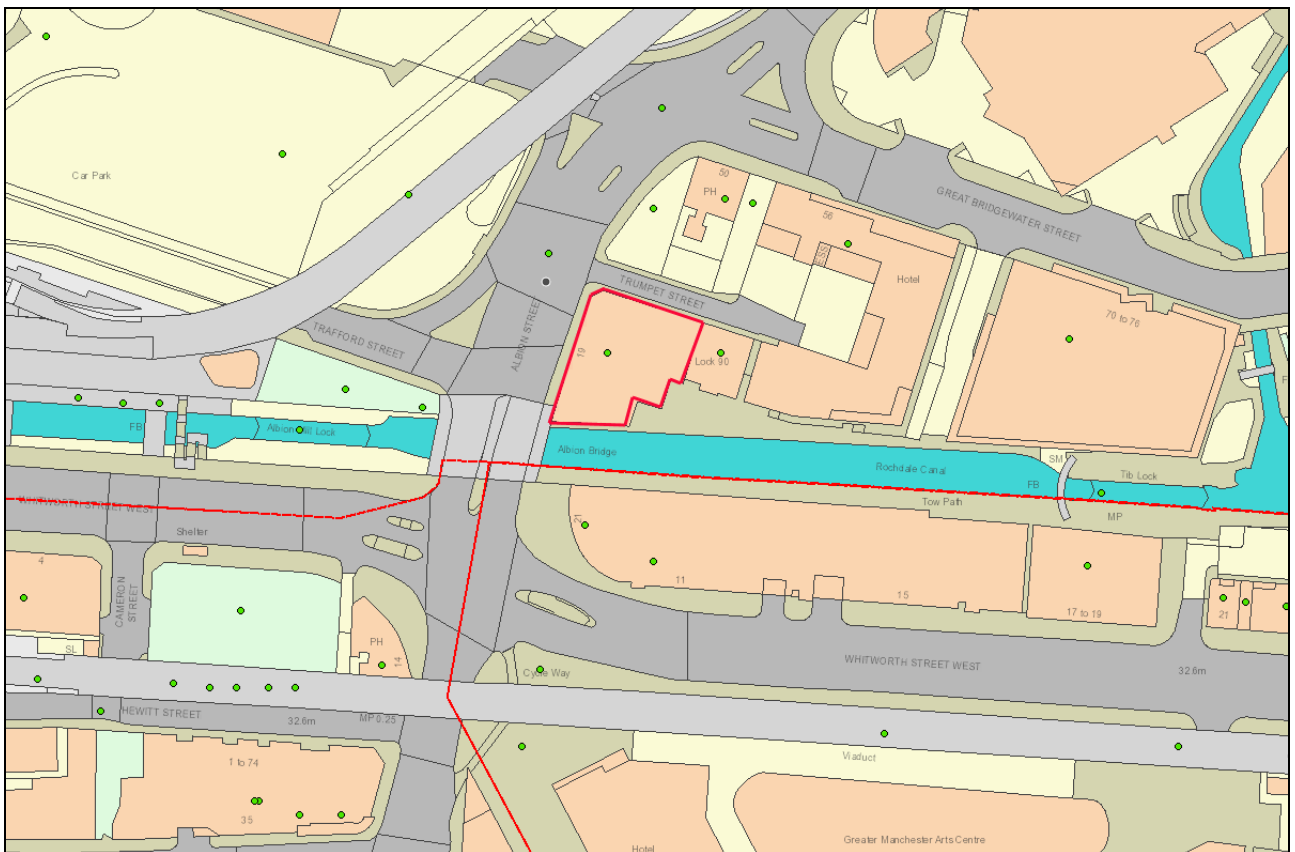
7.10 The Panel's determination of the review does not have effect until the end of the 21 day period given for appealing the decision, or until the disposal of any appeal that is lodged.

7.11 To ensure that there are appropriate and proportionate safeguards in place at all times, the licensing authority is required to review any interim steps that it has taken that are in place on the date of the final review hearing. This is to be done immediately after the determination of the review under s53C. In reaching its decision, the panel must consider any relevant representations made.

7.12 The steps available to the Panel are:

- a) To modify the conditions of the licence;
- b) To exclude the sale of alcohol by retail from the scope of the licence;
- c) To remove the designated premises supervisor from the licence;  
and
- d) To suspend the licence.

7.13 Upon the determination of the licence review, the Panel is asked to review the interim steps in place and determine whether it is appropriate for the promotion of the licensing objectives for the steps to remain in place, or if they should be modified or withdrawn.



<b>PREMISE NAME:</b>	Bliss Club
<b>PREMISE ADDRESS:</b>	Albion Wharf, 19 Albion Street, Manchester, M1 5LN
<b>WARD:</b>	Deansgate
<b>HEARING DATE:</b>	02/09/2019



By virtue of paragraph(s) 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A  
of the Local Government Act 1972.

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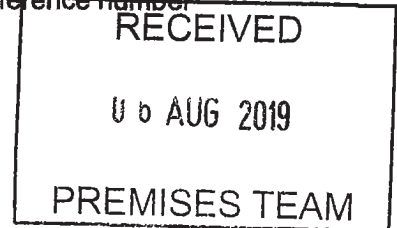
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ANNEX C

## FORM FOR APPLYING FOR A SUMMARY LICENCE REVIEW

[Insert name and address of relevant licensing authority and its reference number (optional)]

Manchester City Council



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

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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. **Use additional sheets if necessary.**

I Alan Isherwood [on behalf of] the chief officer of police for the Greater Manchester 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:

**Bliss Club  
19Albion Wharf**

Post town: Manchester

Post code (if known): **M1 5LN**

**2. Premises licence details:**

Name of premises licence holder (if known): Realand Ltd

Number of premises licence holder (if known): 10615157

**3. Certificate under section 53A(1)(b) of the Licensing Act 2003 [Please read guidance note 1]:**

I confirm that a certificate has been given by a senior member of the police force for

the police area above that in his 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:**

[Please read guidance note 2]

**The standard review of the premises licence under section 51 Licensing Act 2003 is inappropriate due to length of time a standard review would take, there are serious concerns as to the extreme violence which has occurred at the premises and the clientele frequenting the premises.**

**Greater Manchester Police (GMP) will say that the premises are associated with Serious Crime and Serious Disorder. Therefore due to the Serious Crime and Serious Disorder which has taken place at the premises GMP feel that it is necessary for an expedited review to take place.**

**Serious crime is defined within the statutory guidance as per section 81(3)(a) and (b) of the Regulation of Investigatory Powers Act 2000, which states that the conduct constitutes an offence for which a person 21 years of age or over with no previous convictions could reasonably be expected to be sentenced to imprisonment for 3 years or more.**

**The premises are situated at 19 Albion Wharf in the Deansgate Locks area of Manchester city centre and the premises licence was issued on 11/07/2017 . The Premises Licence Holder (PLH) is Realand Ltd and the Designated Premises Supervisor (DPS) is Piotr Pawel Mitrega who has held this position since May 2017 .**

**The incident which has triggered this Summary Review is as follows:**

**At 0429 hours on Saturday 3rd August 2019 GMP received a 999 call which stated that a male had been stabbed at Bliss Club.**

**A GMP Armed Response patrol who were in the city centre made straight to the location and CCTV reported that there was a lot of pushing and shoving taking place outside the premises.**

**Once the armed officers had arrived at the location they quickly located a male with stab wounds who was on Albion Street and was bleeding heavily. They commenced trauma first aid immediately and further patrols were requested to the location to help deal with the large crowds.**

**An ambulance attended the location a few minutes later and the male was taken to hospital for treatment for his stab wounds.**

**A short time later 2 other males attended at hospital each suffering from stab wounds and when they were spoken to they stated that they had been stabbed during the incident at Bliss Club.**

**All 3 males who were stabbed informed GMP that they had been inside the premises just prior to being attacked.**

**CCTV has been secured from the premises and it shows a fight start inside the**

premises at 0412 hours and one of the males involved is wearing an easily identifiable T-shirt. No call is made to the police whilst this large fight is taking place or immediately after.

As soon as the fight is broken up the club begins emptying and from the outside CCTV another larger fight then ensues on a car park next to the premises and at the end of the main fighting the same male with the identifiable T-Shirt is seen to be in the thick of the fighting.

It is at some point during this large scale fight that the 3 victims were stabbed in their torsos.

Thankfully after being treated overnight at the hospital the 3 victims were discharged and are expected to make a full recovery. 3 crimes for Section 18 Wounding with Intent have been submitted and enquiries are continuing to trace the offenders.

GMP clearly have serious concerns regarding this incident which took place as customers were leaving the premises and it is believed that, if the premises had contacted GMP when the first fight inside the premises occurred, it is unlikely that the outside fight would have taken place and therefore the 3 victims would not have been stabbed.

This incident could very easily have resulted in the loss of life or very serious injury and GMP are extremely concerned by the fact that the premises did not contact us when the first fight started. This suggests that the premises may have been trying to cover up the incident but whatever their reason it has resulted in a far more serious incident occurring.

The 3 victims are known to police and it is feared that some form of retribution will be sought by at least one of them and to allow the premises to remain open will potentially place customers and staff in grave danger.

On the morning of the incident the premises was closed by the time that GMP had established a scene outside the premises. The following night GMP licensing officers attended at the premises and found it was back open so they requested that the premises close voluntarily in light of what had occurred earlier that morning and the concerns of some form of retribution occurring.

The premises duly obliged and remained closed that night.

It is GMP's firm belief that the premises needs to remain closed pending the full review hearing.

The premises are also currently subject to an action plan from Manchester City Council Out of Hours team and on the night following the incident several breaches of the premises licence were discovered which heightens our concerns even further.

The powers contained under section 53A of the Licensing Act 2003 are necessary and proportionate in light of the association that the premises has to Serious Crime and Serious Disorder.

In the interim Greater Manchester Police would request that the Licensing Authority consider suspension of the Premises Licence until the full review is

heard before the committee. Serious Crime and Serious Disorder has occurred at the premises and until the Licensing Committee hear the full review and all the evidence that will be disclosed, to allow the premises to continue to operate as a licensed premises gives concerns that further violent incidents will occur at the premises and the safety of both customers and staff will be placed in jeopardy. Greater Manchester Police will say that the licensing objectives of the prevention of crime and disorder can only be promoted if the premises licence was suspended until the final determination of the summary review application.

The standard review of the premises licence under section 51 Licensing Act 2003 is inappropriate due to length of time a standard review would take. There are serious concerns as to the extreme level of violence that has occurred. Greater Manchester Police believe that Serious crime and Serious Disorder has occurred at the premises.

Signature of applicant:   
 Date: 6<sup>th</sup> August 2019  
 Capacity: Licensing Constable

**Contact details for matters concerning this application:**

Address:  
**Manchester Town Hall Extension**  
**Lloyd Street**  
**Manchester**  
**M2 5DB**

Telephone number(s): 0161 856 6017

Email: alan.isherwood@gmp.police.uk

**Notes for guidance:**

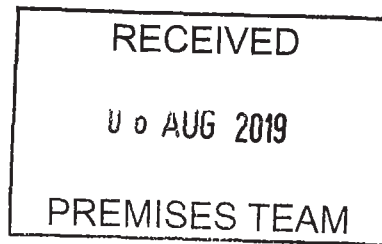
1. A certificate of the kind mentioned in the form must accompany the application in order for it to be valid under the terms of the Licensing Act 2003. The certificate must explicitly state the senior officer's opinion that the premises in question are associated with serious crime, serious disorder or both.  
 Serious crime is defined by reference to section 81 of the Regulation of Investigatory

Powers Act 2000. In summary, it means:

- conduct that amounts to one or more criminal offences for which a person who has attained the age of eighteen and has no previous convictions could reasonably be expected to be sentenced to imprisonment for a term of three years or more; or
- conduct that amounts to one or more criminal offences and involves the use of violence, results in substantial financial gain or is conduct by a large number of persons in pursuit of a common purpose.

Serious disorder is not defined in legislation, and so bears its ordinary English meaning.

2. Briefly describe the circumstances giving rise to the opinion that the above premises are associated with serious crime, serious disorder, or both.



ANNEX B

**CERTIFICATE UNDER SECTION 53A(1)(b) OF THE LICENSING ACT 2003**

I hereby certify that in my opinion the premises described below are associated with ~~serious crime / serious disorder~~ / both serious crime and serious disorder<sup>1</sup>.

**Premises<sup>2</sup>:**

Bliss Club  
19 Albion Wharf  
Manchester

Premises licence number (if known): 198158

Name of premises supervisor (if known): Piotr Pawel Mitrega

I am a <sup>CHIEF</sup> Superintendent<sup>3</sup> in the Greater Manchester police force.

I am giving this certificate because I am of the opinion that other procedures under the Licensing Act are inappropriate in this case, because<sup>4</sup>:

The standard review of the premises licence under section 51 Licensing Act 2003 is inappropriate due to length of time a standard review would take, there are serious concerns as to the extreme violence which has occurred at the premises and the clientele frequenting the premises.

Greater Manchester Police (GMP) will say that the premises are associated with Serious Crime and Serious Disorder. Therefore due to the Serious Crime and Serious Disorder which has taken place at the premises GMP feel that it is necessary for an expedited review to take place.

Serious crime is defined within the statutory guidance as per section 81(3)(a) and (b) of the Regulation of Investigatory Powers Act 2000, which states that

<sup>1</sup> Delete as applicable.

<sup>2</sup> Include business name and address and any other relevant identifying details.

<sup>3</sup> Insert rank of officer giving the certificate, which must be superintendent or above.

<sup>4</sup> Give a brief description of why other procedures such as a standard review process are thought to be inappropriate, e.g the degree of seriousness of the crime and/or disorder, the past history of compliance in relation to the premises concerned



the conduct constitutes an offence for which a person 21 years of age or over with no previous convictions could reasonably be expected to be sentenced to imprisonment for 3 years or more.

The premises are situated at 19 Albion Wharf in the Deansgate Locks area of Manchester city centre and the premises licence was issued on 11/07/2017 . The Premises Licence Holder (PLH) is Realand Ltd and the Designated Premises Supervisor (DPS) is Piotr Pawel Mitrega who has held this position since May 2017 .

The incident which has triggered this Summary Review is as follows:

At 0429 hours on Saturday 3rd August 2019 GMP received a 999 call which stated that a male had been stabbed at Bliss Club.

A GMP Armed Response patrol who were in the city centre made straight to the location and CCTV reported that there was a lot of pushing and shoving taking place outside the premises.

Once the armed officers had arrived at the location they quickly located a male with stab wounds who was on Albion Street and was bleeding heavily. They commenced trauma first aid immediately and further patrols were requested to the location to help deal with the large crowds.

An ambulance attended the location a few minutes later and the male was taken to hospital for treatment for his stab wounds.

A short time later 2 other males attended at hospital each suffering from stab wounds and when they were spoken to they stated that they had been stabbed during the incident at Bliss Club.

*All 3 males who were stabbed informed GMP that they had been inside the premises just prior to being attacked.*

CCTV has been secured from the premises and it shows a fight start inside the premises at 0412 hours and one of the males involved is wearing an easily identifiable T-shirt. No call is made to the police whilst this large fight is taking place or immediately after.

As soon as the fight is broken up the club begins emptying and from the outside CCTV another larger fight then ensues on a car park next to the premises and at the end of the main fighting the same male with the identifiable T-Shirt is seen to be in the thick of the fighting.

It is at some point during this large scale fight that the 3 victims were stabbed in their torsos.

Thankfully after being treated overnight at the hospital the 3 victims were discharged and are expected to make a full recovery. 3 crimes for Section 18 Wounding with Intent have been submitted and enquiries are continuing to trace the offenders.

GMP clearly have serious concerns regarding this incident which took place as customers were leaving the premises and it is believed that, if the premises had contacted GMP when the first fight inside the premises occurred, it is unlikely

that the outside fight would have taken place and therefore the 3 victims would not have been stabbed.

This incident could very easily have resulted in the loss of life or very serious injury and GMP are extremely concerned by the fact that the premises did not contact us when the first fight started. This suggests that the premises may have been trying to cover up the incident but whatever their reason it has resulted in a far more serious incident occurring.

The 3 victims are known to police and it is feared that some form of retribution will be sought by at least one of them and to allow the premises to remain open will potentially place customers and staff in grave danger.

On the morning of the incident the premises was closed by the time that GMP had established a scene outside the premises. The following night GMP licensing officers attended at the premises and found it was back open so they requested that the premises close voluntarily in light of what had occurred earlier that morning and the concerns of some form of retribution occurring.

The premises duly obliged and remained closed that night.

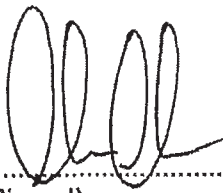
It is GMP's firm belief that the premises needs to remain closed pending the full review hearing.

The premises are also currently subject to an action plan from Manchester City Council Out of Hours team and on the night following the incident several breaches of the premises licence were discovered which heightens our concerns even further.

The powers contained under section 53A of the Licensing Act 2003 are necessary and proportionate in light of the association that the premises has to Serious Crime and Serious Disorder.

In the interim Greater Manchester Police would request that the Licensing Authority consider suspension of the Premises Licence until the full review is heard before the committee. Serious Crime and Serious Disorder has occurred at the premises and until the Licensing Committee hear the full review and all the evidence that will be disclosed, to allow the premises to continue to operate as a licensed premises gives concerns that further violent incidents will occur at the premises and the safety of both customers and staff will be placed in jeopardy. Greater Manchester Police will say that the licensing objectives of the prevention of crime and disorder can only be promoted if the premises licence was suspended until the final determination of the summary review application.

The standard review of the premises licence under section 51 Licensing Act 2003 is inappropriate due to length of time a standard review would take. There are serious concerns as to the extreme level of violence that has occurred. Greater Manchester Police believe that Serious crime and Serious Disorder has occurred at the premises.

 C.S. O'Neil  
Camp.  
6.8.2019  
-----  
(Signed) North Mer HO. (Date)

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By virtue of paragraph(s) 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A  
of the Local Government Act 1972.

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**Licensing Committee – 8 August 2019****Summary Review – Bliss Club, Albion Wharf, 19 Albion Street, Manchester**

Applicant – GMP – PC Alan Isherwood and PC Mackintosh in attendance

PLH – Piotr Pawel Mitrega DPS and [REDACTED]

Represented by [REDACTED]

The Committee considered the representations made on behalf of GMP and the Premises Licence Holder (PLH) and have taken both the written and oral representations into account.

In reaching its decision the Committee have also considered the Council's statement of Licensing Policy, the Licensing Act 2003, the Guidance issued by the Secretary of state under Section 182 of the Act and the licensing objectives.

Decision: Suspend the licence with immediate effect

**Reasons:**

The Committee were concerned by the evidence from GMP of the level of violence involved in the incidents in the early hours of Saturday 3 August 2019 involving three victims being stabbed following fighting both inside and then outside the premises. All three victims had confirmed to GMP that they were inside the premises just prior to being stabbed outside the premises.

The Committee viewed the CCTV and observed an incident starting inside the club with a large number of customers involved. The Premises said they did not see anyone being hit and did not think there was a fight inside the premises. The Committee did not accept this. On their viewing of the CCTV it was clear that a serious incident involving violence started within the club. They observed a belt being wrapped around knuckles as a possible weapon and crutches being used by one customer as weapon. Whilst the Committee were of the view it was the correct thing to do in turning off the music and putting the lights on when this incident occurred this also supported how serious it actually was including the fact they cleared the premises even though it could open until 6am under a Temporary Event Notice that night. Further around four or five door staff and the owner became involved again showing it was more than just an argument.

It was therefore very concerning to the Committee that given this incident inside the premises that no one at the premises had called the police when the fighting first started inside. A call was made over the radio by a police officer in the area at 04.29 that a male had been stabbed. However on viewing the CCTV the Committee noted that fighting had started within the premises at 04.12 when no call was made to the police.

It was observed that the fighting was broken up and the club starts emptying the people out however it was clear that this initial incident inside then continued and escalated outside involving the same people who were customers at the club. This then led to the three victims being stabbed in their torsos. The Committee accepted GMP's comments that this further fighting outside, and the three stabbing incidents, is likely to have been avoided if the premises had contacted the police when the initial fighting began inside the premises.

Whilst the premises state they were not responsible for what happened as it was not right outside their club and could have involved people from Deansgate locks, the Committee concluded that they have to take responsibility for what happens not only inside the club but also its immediate vicinity and they need to take action when an incident occurs of this nature outside their club involving their customers. At the very least they would be expected to call the police which they did not. Door staff were observed outside in full view of the fighting which was occurring near the premises and took no action and failed to call the police.

The Committee were informed that there are concerns over the general management of the premises and they are subject to an action plan following breaches of the premises licence being observed on the night following this incident. The Committee were informed by the premises they are co-operating with the Council and GMP and closed the following night voluntarily. Whilst the Committee accepted that an action plan is being implemented and a minor variation in relation to promoters at the premises had been put in on the night in question there were serious concerns over the training of staff and management of the premises. It was also clear that the premises has been using promoters for some time in breach of a direct condition on the licence not to use the same.

The premises said this was an isolated incident with no other issues of serious crime. It was accepted there was an incident in 2018 which was not as serious when there was a fight on the dance floor and police were called. The premises further stated they will not run this RnB night again or allow these people to attend the premises again. It was however not clear as to how they would ensure all the individuals involved in the fighting would not come back to the premises and the Committee were not at this time satisfied that the premises could prevent any further issues occurring given the current concerns with the running of the premises.

The committee considered whether any of the licence conditions could be modified to address their immediate concerns, as suggested by the premises, but considered this not to be the case. It was stated by the premises that further training would be undertaken and a condition could be put on the licence requiring this. The Committee agreed that this was clearly needed however did not think this sufficient addressed the current concerns of GMP and would also take time to implement at the premises.

The Committee viewed that there were failings in the operation and training of management and staff. These include the failures in understanding and training as to how to handle incidents of crime including when to call the police and the reporting and recording of such incidents.

The Committee therefore found that it was necessary and proportionate to suspend the licence with immediate effect pending the full review hearing to prevent serious crime and disorder occurring. The Committee viewed that the premises were currently failing to uphold licensing objectives of the prevention of crime and disorder and public safety.

For the purpose of Section 53B(5)(b) of the Licensing Act 2003 immediate notice of this decision was given orally to GMP and the PLH.

The PLH was advised of their right to make representations against the interim steps and it was confirmed that the matter will be listed for full review on 2 September 2019 at 10am.



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of the Local Government Act 1972.

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# MANCHESTER CITY COUNCIL

## LICENSING ACT 2003 PREMISES LICENCE

<b>Premises licence number</b>	<b>198158</b>
<b>Granted</b>	<b>11/07/2017</b>
<b>Latest version</b>	<b>Transfer 232038 granted 30/05/2019</b>

### Part 1 - Premises details

<b>Name and address of premises</b>
<b>Bliss Club</b> Albion Wharf, 19 Albion Street, Manchester, M1 5LN

<b>Licensable activities authorised by the licence</b>
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The sale by retail of alcohol*.</li> <li>The provision of regulated entertainment, limited to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Exhibition of films;</li> <li>Live music;</li> <li>Recorded music.</li> </ul> </li> <li>The provision of late night refreshment.</li> </ol> <p>* All references in this licence to "sale of alcohol" are to sale by retail.</p>

### The times the licence authorises the carrying out of licensable activities

Sale by retail of alcohol							
Standard timings							
Day	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
Start	1200	1200	1200	1200	1200	1200	1200
Finish	2400	2400	2400	2400	0400	0400	2400
The sale of alcohol is licensed for consumption on the premises only.							
<b>Seasonal variations and Non standard Timings:</b>							
<u>Valentine's Day, St George's Day, Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, Boxing Day and New Year's Day (when falling on Sunday, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday):</u> terminal hour 02:00							
When falling on Friday or Saturday the terminal hour will be 04:00.							
<u>On the Sundays preceding a Bank Holiday Monday:</u> terminal hour 04:00.							
<u>New Year:</u> From the start time on New Year's Eve to the terminal hour for New Year's Day.							
On the day British Summer Time commences: One additional hour following the terminal hour.							

Exhibition of films; Live music; Recorded music							
Standard timings							
Day	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
Start	1200	1200	1200	1200	1200	1200	1200
Finish	2400	2400	2400	2400	0400	0400	2400
Licensed to take place indoors only.							
<b>Seasonal variations and Non standard Timings:</b>							
<u>Valentine's Day, St George's Day, Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, Boxing Day and New Year's Day (when falling on Sunday, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday):</u> terminal hour 02:00							
When falling on Friday or Saturday the terminal hour will be 04:00.							
<u>On the Sundays preceding a Bank Holiday Monday:</u> terminal hour 04:00.							
<u>New Year:</u> From the start time on New Year's Eve to the terminal hour for New Year's Day.							
<u>On the day British Summer Time commences:</u> One additional hour following the terminal hour.							

Provision of late night refreshment							
Standard timings							
Day	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
Start	2300	2300	2300	2300	2300	2300	2300
Finish	2400	2400	2400	2400	0400	0400	2400
Licensed to take place indoors only.							
<b>Seasonal variations and Non standard Timings:</b> <u>Valentine's Day, St George's Day, Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, Boxing Day and New Year's Day (when falling on Sunday, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday): terminal hour 02:00</u> When falling on Friday or Saturday the terminal hour will be 04:00. On the Sundays preceding a Bank Holiday Monday: terminal hour 04:00. New Year: From the start time on New Year's Eve to the terminal hour for New Year's Day. On the day British Summer Time commences: One additional hour following the terminal hour.							

Hours premises are open to the public							
Standard timings							
Day	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
Start	1200	1200	1200	1200	1200	1200	1200
Finish	0030	0030	0030	0030	0430	0430	0030
<b>Seasonal variations and Non standard Timings:</b> <u>Valentine's Day, St George's Day, Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, Boxing Day and New Year's Day (when falling on Sunday, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday): terminal hour 02:00</u> When falling on Friday or Saturday the terminal hour will be 04:00. On the Sundays preceding a Bank Holiday Monday: terminal hour 04:00. New Year: From the start time on New Year's Eve to the terminal hour for New Year's Day. On the day British Summer Time commences: One additional hour following the terminal hour.							

## Part 2

Details of premises licence holder	
<b>Name:</b>	Realand Ltd
<b>Address:</b>	19 Albion Street, Manchester, M1 5LN
<b>Registered number:</b>	11701487

Details of designated premises supervisor where the premises licence authorises for the supply of alcohol	
<b>Name:</b>	Piotr Pawel Mitrega
<b>Address:</b>	[REDACTED]
<b>Personal Licence number:</b>	[REDACTED]
<b>Issuing Authority:</b>	[REDACTED]

Annex 1 – Mandatory conditions	
<b>Door Supervisors</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Only individuals licensed by the Security Industry Authority shall be used at the premises to undertake security activities, which include guarding against: -               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Unauthorised access or occupation (e.g. through door supervision),</li> <li>Outbreaks of disorder, or</li> <li>Damage,</li> </ol>               unless otherwise entitled by virtue of section 4 of the Private Security Industry Act 2001 to carry out such activities.             </li> </ol>	
<b>Supply of alcohol</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No supply of alcohol may be made under this premises licence:</li> </ol>	

- (a) At a time when there is no designated premises supervisor in respect of the premises licence or,
  - (b) At a time when the designated premises supervisor does not hold a personal licence or his personal licence is suspended.
3. Every retail sale or supply of alcohol made under this licence must be made or authorised by a person who holds a personal licence.
4. (1) The premises licence holder or club premises certificate holder must ensure that an age verification policy is adopted in respect of the premises in relation to the sale or supply of alcohol.
- (2) The designated premises supervisor in relation to the premises licence must ensure that the supply of alcohol at the premises is carried on in accordance with the age verification policy.
- (3) The policy must require individuals who appear to the responsible person to be under 18 years of age (or such older age as may be specified in the policy) to produce on request, before being served alcohol, identification bearing their photograph, date of birth and either –
- (a) a holographic mark, or
  - (b) an ultraviolet feature.
5. (1) A relevant person shall ensure that no alcohol is sold or supplied for consumption on or off the premises for a price, which is less than the permitted price.
- (2) For the purposes of the condition set out in (1) above–
- (a) “duty” is to be construed in accordance with the Alcoholic Liquor Duties Act 1979
  - (b) “permitted price” is the price found by applying the formula–
- $$P = D + (D \times V)$$
- where –
- (i) P is the permitted price,
  - (ii) D is the amount of duty chargeable in relation to the alcohol as if the duty were charged on the date of the sale or supply of the alcohol, and
  - (iii) V is the rate of value added tax chargeable in relation to the alcohol as if the value added tax were charged on the date of the sale or supply of the alcohol;
- (c) “relevant person” means, in relation to premises in respect of which there is in force a premises licence –
- (i) the holder of the premises licence,
  - (ii) the designated premises supervisor (if any) in respect of such a licence, or
  - (iii) the personal licence holder who makes or authorises a supply of alcohol under such a licence;
- (d) “relevant person” means, in relation to premises in respect of which there is in force a club premises certificate, any member or officer of the club present on the premises in a capacity which enables the member or officer to prevent the supply in question; and
- (e) “valued added tax” means value added tax charged in accordance with the Value Added Tax Act 1994.
- (3) Where the permitted price given by paragraph (2)(b) would (apart from this paragraph) not be a whole number of pennies, the price given by that sub-paragraph shall be taken to be the price actually given by that sub-paragraph rounded up to the nearest penny.
- (4) (a) Sub-paragraph (4)(b) applies where the permitted price given by paragraph (2)(b) on a day (“the first day”) would be different from the permitted price on the next day (“the second day”) as a result of a change to the rate of duty or value added tax.
- (b) The permitted price which would apply on the first day applies to sales or supplies of alcohol which take place before the expiry of the period of 14 days beginning on the second day.
6. (1) The responsible person must ensure that staff on relevant premises do not carry out, arrange or participate in any irresponsible promotions in relation to the premises.

- (2) In this paragraph, an irresponsible promotion means any one or more of the following activities, or substantially similar activities, carried on for the purpose of encouraging the sale or supply of alcohol for consumption on the premises –
- (a) games or other activities which require or encourage, or are designed to require or encourage, individuals to –
    - (i) drink a quantity of alcohol within a time limit (other than to drink alcohol sold or supplied on the premises before the cessation of the period in which the responsible person is authorised to sell or supply alcohol), or
    - (ii) drink as much alcohol as possible (whether within a time limit or otherwise);
  - (b) provision of unlimited or unspecified quantities of alcohol free or for a fixed or discounted fee to the public or to a group defined by a particular characteristic in a manner which carries a significant risk of undermining a licensing objective;
  - (c) provision of free or discounted alcohol or any other thing as a prize to encourage or reward the purchase and consumption of alcohol over a period of 24 hours or less in a manner which carries a significant risk of undermining a licensing objective;
  - (d) selling or supplying alcohol in association with promotional posters or flyers on, or in the vicinity of, the premises which can reasonably be considered to condone, encourage or glamorise anti-social behaviour or to refer to the effects of drunkenness in any favourable manner;
  - (e) dispensing alcohol directly by one person into the mouth of another (other than where that other person is unable to drink without assistance by reason of disability).

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

8. The responsible person must ensure that –

- (a) where any of the following alcoholic drinks is sold or supplied for consumption on the premises (other than alcoholic drinks sold or supplied having been made up in advance ready for sale or supply in a securely closed container) it is available to customers in the following measures –
  - (i) beer or cider: ½ pint;
  - (ii) gin, rum, vodka or whisky: 25 ml or 35 ml; and
  - (iii) still wine in a glass: 125 ml;
- (b) these measures are displayed in a menu, price list or other printed material which is available to customers on the premises; and
- (c) where a customer does not in relation to a sale of alcohol specify the quantity of alcohol to be sold the customer is made aware that these measures are available.

For the purposes of conditions 6, 7 and 8 above, a responsible person in relation to a licensed premises means the holder of the premise licence in respect of the premises, the designated premises supervisor (if any) or any individual aged 18 or over who is authorised by either the licence holder or designated premises supervisor. For premises with a club premises certificate, any member or officer of the club present on the premises in a capacity that which enables him to prevent the supply of alcohol.

#### **Exhibition of films**

9. The admission of children under the age of 18 to film exhibitions permitted under the terms of this certificate shall be restricted in accordance with any recommendations made:

- (a) by the British Board of Film Classification (BBFC) where the film has been classified by that Board, or
- (b) by the Licensing Authority where no classification certificate has been granted by the BBFC, or where the licensing authority has notified the club which holds the certificate that section 20 (3) (b) (74 (3)(b) for clubs) of the Licensing Act 2003 applies to the film.

**Annex 2 – Conditions consistent with the operating schedule**

None

**Annex 3 – Conditions attached after hearing by the licensing authority**

1. Staff shall be trained in the requirements of the Licensing Act 2003 with regard to the Licensing Objectives.
2. A CCTV system shall be maintained and operated at the premises with cameras positioned both internally and externally.
3. Recorded CCTV images will be maintained and stored for a period of thirty one days and shall be produced to the Police or Licensing Authority upon request.
4. CCTV will be in operation at any time a person is in the premises. Where CCTV is recorded onto a hard drive system, any DVDs subsequently produced will be in a format so it can be played back on a standard PC or DVD player.
5. Any person left in charge of the premises must be trained in the use of any such CCTV equipment, and be able to produce CCTV images to an officer from a responsible authority upon request.
6. Plans indicating the position of CCTV cameras to be submitted to the Police prior to the premises opening.
7. SIA registered door staff shall be employed at the premises on Fridays and Saturdays at a ratio of 1:75 customers from 10pm until close.
8. At all other times, SIA registered door staff shall be employed at the premises, in accordance with a risk assessment, to be carried out by the DPS. When employed, door staff will wear high visibility armbands.
9. When employed, a register of those door staff employed shall be maintained at the premises and shall include:
  - i. the number of door staff on duty;
  - ii. the identity of each member of door staff;
  - iii. the times the door staff are on duty.
10. Sales of alcohol for consumption off the premises shall not permitted.
11. Staff will be trained in the laws relating to under age sales, and that training shall be documented and repeated at 6 monthly intervals.
12. A refusals book will be maintained at the premises, and made available to an officer of a responsible authority upon request.
13. A first aid box will be available at the premises at all times.
14. Regular safety checks shall be carried out by staff.
15. Management shall liaise with the Fire Authority as necessary to ensure compliance with all necessary fire regulations.
16. The premises shall maintain an Incident Log and public liability insurance.
17. The Premises Licence Holder/DPS will not engage the services of an external promoter.
18. Noise from amplified music or voices shall not be such as to cause a noise nuisance to occupants of nearby premises.
19. No noise shall emanate from the premises nor vibration be transmitted through the structure of the premises which gives rise to a nuisance.
20. The exterior of the building shall be cleared of litter at regular intervals.
21. Notices will be positioned at the exits to the building requesting customers to leave in a quiet manner.
22. Doors and windows at the premises are to remain closed after 11pm, save for access and egress.
23. A Dispersal and Smoking Policy will be implemented and adhered to (see attached).
24. The emptying of bins into skips, and refuse collections will not take place between 11pm and 8am.

25. Except in cases of emergency, patrons will not be permitted to access the canal side area at any time.
26. There will be no external speakers.
27. The canal side elevation (including the extension roof) will be soundproofed and the external canal side windows will be covered to ensure there will be no opportunity for any sound or light pollution to Hacienda residents.
28. Prior to the premises opening to the public the Premises Licence Holder will consult the City Council's Environmental Health Team to check the sound levels in order to ensure compliance with the "no nuisance" conditions.
29. A "Challenge 25" Policy shall be implemented in full and appropriate identification sought from any person who appears to be under the age of 25. The only acceptable forms of identification shall be photographic driving licences, passports, HM forces cards, or a form of identification with the "PASS" hologram.
30. Staff training will include the Challenge 25 Policy and its operation. In particular, staff shall be trained to take such action as is necessary to prevent the sale of alcohol to persons over the age of 18 where those customers are engaged in the distribution of alcohol to persons under the age of 18. The training must be given to a new member of staff before they commence employment and all staff must receive refresher training every 6 months.
31. Notices advising what forms of ID are acceptable must be displayed.
32. Notices must be displayed in prominent positions indicating that the Challenge 25 policy is in force.
33. Persons under the age of 18 shall not be permitted access to the premises.

#### **Annex 4 – Plans**

See attached



By virtue of paragraph(s) 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A  
of the Local Government Act 1972.

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Premises Licensing &lt;premises.licensing@manchester.gov.uk&gt;

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**Bliss Club Licence suspension**1 message

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[REDACTED]  
To: premises.licensing@manchester.gov.uk

19 August 2019 at 21:19

Hello

&gt;

&gt; My name is [REDACTED] and I write this letter in my own name as a regular customer of Bliss club.

&gt; In reference to the article in the Manchester Evening News regarding the Bliss club whose license has been suspended.

&gt; I have been to the bliss club many times at events organized there.

&gt; I am certain to say that this club is a very peaceful place, I have never noticed a single incident there which caused my concern.

&gt; I would like to point out that as a person running two businesses I would not choose a place that could raise doubts in me.

&gt;

&gt; The club is a peaceful place that I can certainly recommend to anyone who wants to enjoy themselves in a peaceful and safe environment.

&gt; Recognizing this place as a place where violence exists is very wrong and not true.

&gt;

&gt;

> Best Regards  
[REDACTED]



Premises Licensing &lt;premises.licensing@manchester.gov.uk&gt;

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**Reopen the club**

1 message

---

[REDACTED] 19 August 2019 at 23:05  
To: premises.licensing@manchester.gov.uk, [REDACTED]

Good Afternoon

My name is [REDACTED]

I am a regular visitor of bliss Club club at events organized there on Saturday in the form of Salsa.

I am asking you to consider my request not to deprive Bliss club of licenses.

We as salsa dancers feel fantastic and completely safe in the club.

We have never identified any incident that could endanger our security.

Parties with salsa dancers are the quietest events in the city.

Salsa is a dance of love and positive vibrations, and that's how they are present in the club.

I have never said that I can feel insecure there, which I can't say about other places in Manchester.

Therefore, I can say with all firmness that Bliss is a very safe and peaceful place.

Best regards [REDACTED]



Premises Licensing &lt;premises.licensing@manchester.gov.uk&gt;

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**Bliss**

1 message

---

[REDACTED]  
To: premises.licensing@manchester.gov.uk

19 August 2019 at 23:04

Good Afternoon

I received information that the Bliss club in which I had the pleasure to party every weekend was deprived of the license.

I would like to describe my impressions of my experiences from my cyclical visits to the Bliss club.

I would definitely like to assure you that Bliss club is the most peaceful place in all of Manchester.

I have never found any incident associated with violence or any threat.

There is always a nice and peaceful atmosphere.

People who create the local community are nice people, polite, not looking for a reason for any conflict.

I never saw any buoys there.

I don't think closing this place is a good idea because you will deprive us of a place where the whole peacefull community has fun every weekend

without any problem or conflict.

The club is a very safe place and to say that this place where violence is simply not true.

Best Regards [REDACTED]

[Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPhone](#)



Premises Licensing &lt;premises.licensing@manchester.gov.uk&gt;

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**Bliss club**1 message

---

19 August 2019 at 23:24

 premises.licensing@manchester.gov.uk

To whom it may concern,

My name is  I am a regular customer at bliss club in Manchester town centre. Every time I have been in bliss club I regularly make new friends which make me feel welcome. I have never witnessed bliss club being a dangerous environment as I always feel safe and secure when I pay my visits unlike some other clubs nearby. It would be very sad to see this amazing club close down and I am hope for use to take time to consider my request.

Thank you



Premises Licensing &lt;premises.licensing@manchester.gov.uk&gt;

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**Club bliss**

1 message

20 August 2019 at 00:04

To: "premises.licensing@manchester.gov.uk" <premises.licensing@manchester.gov.uk>, [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Good afternoon, I am [REDACTED] and I am writing with hope that my favourite club could be re-opened again, first of all I would like to say how much of a well mannered club bliss, is every time I have visited I have felt comfortable with the people around me whilst being there and I have never once had trouble with anybody and I have been visiting bliss roughly 2/3 times a month for the past year and half. Club bliss is the only club in Manchester I have visited where I like to take my girlfriend with me and have a good night without worrying, because I always feel safe in club bliss and Bliss has the environment that a lot of clubs in the Manchester area are missing! Every time I have visited I have always met new friends who are also know my girlfriends friend as well, this is why we love club bliss because we can socialise and have a brilliant night without worrying like we do in many other clubs! I just hope that somebody takes mine and my girlfriends thoughts into account and let us carry on with our great nights out at club bliss, without club bliss I would not know where to go and have such a great night,

Kind regards [REDACTED]



Premises Licensing &lt;premises.licensing@manchester.gov.uk&gt;

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**BLISS**

1 message

---

[REDACTED]  
To: premises.licensing@manchester.gov.uk

20 August 2019 at 18:32

Dear Sir/Madam

I am a regular visitor of bliss Club club at events organized there on Saturday in the form of bhangra  
I am asking you to consider my request not to deprive Bliss club of licenses.  
We feel completely safe in the club.  
We have never identified any incident that could endanger our security.  
I have never said that I can feel insecure there, which I can't say about other places in Manchester.

Therefore, I can say with all firmness that Bliss is a very safe and peaceful place.

Kind regards  
[REDACTED]



Licensing & Out of Hours Compliance Team - Representation	
Name	Signe Johansen
Job Title	Licensing & Out of Hours Compliance Officer
Department	Licensing and Out of Hours Compliance Team
Address	Level 1, Town Hall Extension, Manchester, M60 2LA
Email Address	Signe.johansen@manchester.gov.uk
Telephone Number	0161 234 1220

Premise Details	
Application Ref No	R/639955
Name of Premises	Bliss
Address	Albion Wharf, 19 Albion Street, Manchster. M1 5NL

Representation
Outline your representation regarding the above application below. This representation should describe the likely effect of the grant of the licence/certificate on the licensing objectives and on the vicinity of the premises.
<p>The Licensing and Out of Hours Team (LOOH) are writing to support the application to review the premises licence by Greater Manchester Police (GMP).</p> <p>The premises is situated on Albion Street within a building containing an Army Recruitment Centre and offices. To the side on Trumpet Street there is a car park, public</p>

house and the Jurys Inn Hotel. The nearest residential property is the Hacienda complex which is a building of 200 apartments directly across and within very close proximity from the residential premises on Whitworth Street, separated only by a canal. The club is on a main commuter route into and out of the city centre.

The premises licence was granted on 11 July 2017 to the applicant Horeca Investments Ltd as the Premises Licence Holder (PLH) with Piotr Pawel Mitrega as the Designated Premises Supervisor (DPS). On 30 May 2019 a variation was granted to vary the Premises Licence Holder to Realand Limited of 19 Albion Street Manchester M1 5LN with Piotr Mitrega still remaining in position as DPS. The registered company address for Realand Ltd is the premises address 19 Albion Street M1 5LN.

The LOOH team have been working very closely with the management namely Piotr Mitrega the DPS and [REDACTED] [REDACTED] since November 2017. There has been a minimal contact from the PLH, Horeca Investments or recently Realand Ltd. The PLH were informed of the inspections and the subsequent Multi Agency action plan meetings. At the most recent Pre Review meeting a representative was sent when LOOH insisted it would not go ahead without contact from the PLH, Realand Ltd. The premises have had two full Licensed Premises Inspections and the premises are currently on their second Action Plan intervention within the past six months due to the poor management of the premises.

LOOH have serious concerns about the premises licence holder's ability and/or inclination to uphold the licensing objectives, namely the prevention of public nuisance, public safety and prevention of crime and disorder.

### **Initial Concerns - 01 December 2017**

GMP received intelligence that a crowd were attending the premises previously associated with a serious incident resulting in the closure of another City Centre premises. A multiagency visit was conducted and on the night a number of concerns were raised and premises licence conditions breached. No staff training records were available or signs for challenge 25 were erected, this is a breach of licence condition:

#### **Annex 3 - Condition 11**

- *Staff will be trained in the laws relating to under age sales, and that training shall be documented and repeated at 6 monthly intervals.*

An in house security team was being used. The door security signing in sheet was an A4 lined piece of blank paper, this was a breach of licence condition:

#### **Annex 3 Condition 9**

*When employed, a register of those door staff employed shall be maintained at the premises and shall include*

- *the number of door staff on d*
- *the identity of each member of the times the door staff are on duty.*

- *The times the door staff are on duty*

During the visit the DPS could not work the CCTV as he was unaware of the password. It was also noted that the main entrance camera was not working. This is a breach of

### **Annex 3 Condition 5**

- *Any person left in charge of the premises must be trained in the use of any such CCTV equipment, and be able to produce CCTV images to an officer from a responsible authority upon request.*

There was no dispersal or smoking policy available on site which is a breach of condition

### **Annex 3 condition 23.**

*A Dispersal and Smoking Policy will be implemented and adhered to.*

The premises did not have any way of recording the number of patrons entering or leaving the premises on the night, the DPS advised clickers to manage capacity were on order. Due to the poor management on the night and lack of understanding of the licence and conditions breached, a letter was sent to the management notifying of a Licensed Premises Inspection on 6/12/2017.

**6 December 2017** - LOOH carried out a full premises licence inspection of the premises with the DPS. A number of licence conditions were identified as not being complied with

### **Annex 3 Condition 6**

- *Plans indicating the position of CCTV cameras to be submitted to the Police prior to the premises opening.*

### **Annex 3 Condition 23**

- *A Dispersal and Smoking Policy will be implemented and adhered to.*

### **Annex 3 Condition 28**

- *Prior to the premises opening to the public the Premises Licence Holder will consult the City Council's Environmental Health Team to check the sound levels in order to ensure compliance with the "no nuisance" conditions.*

On inspection it was noted that there was no fire risk assessment held for the premises since opening. Following these findings on inspection, a warning letter was sent to the management of the premises outlining the non compliance of the premises licence conditions which a follow up licensing visit was arranged to ensure compliance. LOOH continued to work very closely with the DPS to ensure the premises licence was understood and to uphold the Licensing Objectives.

### **Public Nuisance**

The premises have continually shown to be unable to manage the outside area external areas specifically the smoking area and queue management undermining the public nuisance licence objectives after repeated interventions from LOOH. Observations and

interventions have been made by LOOH and noted the occasions listed below how the premises have failed to uphold the licensing objective Prevention of Public Nuisance.

On 3 occasions, **27 January 2018**, **17 April 2018** and **23 May 2018**, the premises management were spoken to regarding the litter build up outside the premises around the smoking area. Following these discussions a meeting with management was held to reiterate their obligation to uphold the public nuisance licensing objective and breach of condition below.

#### **Annex 3 - Condition 20**

- *The exterior of the building shall be cleared of litter at regular intervals.*

**20 June 2018**, LOOH received a complaint from a local resident reporting noise from the external areas including loud music and people noise from the rear of the premises. This was followed up with a meeting with the management to remind them of their obligation to uphold the public nuisance licence objective and that this is a breach of condition:

#### **Annex 3 - Condition 18**

- *Noise from amplified music or voices shall not be such as to cause a noise nuisance to occupants of nearby premises.*

There have been a significant number of incidents relating to the poor management of people in the external areas of the venue and undermining of the Licensing Objectives.

**04 November 2018** at approximately 04:18 hours, LOOH observed a large group of 20 plus patrons outside the premises and the area not being managed, officers and other pedestrians were forced to walk into the road to pass undermining the public safety licensing objective.

**30 January 2019** - Facebook pictures uploaded by Bliss showing queue and people walking into the road undermining the public safety licensing objective, see attached [Exhibit SJ1](#)

**11 February 2019**, LOOH received a complaint regarding customers spilling out onto the street causing noise disturbance for the surrounding residential properties and the hotel. It was reported, Bliss customers were openly smoking cannabis and issues with staff and customer parking.

**17 February 2019**, shows a Facebook photograph uploaded by the venue Bliss showing queue of people obstructing the road with no SIA present to control the external areas, see attached [Exhibit SJ2](#)

**10 March 2019** at approximately 07:50 hours, it was noted by LOOH there was a significant amount of litter build up in the external areas of Bliss and on Trumpet Street.. Email sent to DPS with photos which clearly demonstrate litter is from the premises, feathers, cigarette butts and wrist bands. The DPS was reminded again of his conditions

on the licence and failure to uphold the public nuisance licensing objective

**Annex 3, Condition 20**

*The exterior of the building shall be cleared at regular intervals and Condition 23 A Dispersal and Smoking Policy will be implemented and adhered to.*

**29 March 2019**, a multi agency meeting was held with GMP, LOOH and Piotr DPS. to discuss the poor management of the venue and failure to uphold licensing objectives . see attached an agreed pre review action plan agreed with the premises as **Exhibit SJ3** There were further significant issues resulting in premises licence breaches from externally promoted events on **08 June 2019** at the Case Closed event detailed below and on **02 August 2019** DJ Silva Birthday Bash, exhibit **SJ6** which resulted in the serious incidents which led to the Summary Review.

**It is clear that the venue was not operating in accordance with Section 8 of the Council's Statement of Licensing Policy (Manchester's Standards to promote the Licensing Objectives), which provides:**

*Manchester Standard MS1- Implement effective security measures at the premises.*

*Controlling entry to the premises. Consideration should be given to how:*

*-Queues to the premises will be managed*

*Effectively managing queues outside the premises*

*Any queues are expected to be managed effectively to prevent any nuisance or disorderly behaviour...*

*Manchester Standard MS8- Prevent noise nuisance from the premises- "Licenced premises need to ensure the orderly conduct of customers from the premises. Relevant considerations include:.....- Preventing customers from congregating outside.....The role of door supervisors in managing persons leaving."*

*Manchester Standard MS9- Effectively manage exterior spaces. Where the premises include any exterior areas, licensees should demonstrate the measures in place to prevent issues that may give rise to problems. Relevant considerations should include:*

- A limit on the number of patrons in such areas*
- How premises will be kept clean and free of litter, particularly at the end of trading.*
- The type of supervision to be put in place*
- How to avoid customers causing noise disturbance.*

**Case Closed Event - 7 June 2019 / 8 June 2019**

**08 June 2019**, LOOH visited the premises at 00:55 and noted the entrance to Bliss was inhibited by patrons. Customers going into the club chaotically crowded the public highway around the entrance along Trumpet Street and Albion Street.

LOOH officers noted and indicated to a male who appeared to be carrying out supervisory /security roles within the smoking area. LOOH spoke to him when he indicated he would get Piotr DPS who struggled to get through the crowd around the door to meet us. Piotr DPS advised the event was not an externally organised event, However LOOH believe that external promoters were used and advertised on

ticket buying websites. Piotr DPS stated that he did not see a problem. LOOH noted more patrons arriving and advised to management there were unlicensed door staff working on the venue and the congregation of people needed addressing before someone got hurt. Piotr DPS response to LOOH was ineffective and only one member of door staff was seen to be trying to get people out of the road.

After some time there was no change to the congregation of patrons, assistance was requested from GMP Licensing Officer, PC Abbott as the situation was becoming unsafe with more people arriving and people becoming very crowded. PC Abbott and a colleague arrived, body cams were deployed. DPS was told to close all doors until the queue was back under control. During the time two of the door staff were noted trying to organise a queue the fire escape was opened and patrons let in by that entrance by people viewed to be associated with the club including the man with the baseball hat. The front door was opened and a male who appeared to be a promoter let patrons in to the venue where PC Abbott removed alcohol from customers arriving and joining the queue. It was also noted a lorry drove down Albion Street nearly hitting patrons on Trumpet Street and was clear the management were not upholding the public safety licensing objective. During this observation a young man who was excessively intoxicated sat on the kerb being helped by his friends as he could not stand. There did not appear to be any effective management of congregation, queue or staff the DPS Piotr was advised that this would be discussed in a formal setting. LOOH noted a number of licence conditions breached on the night of 'Case Closed'

#### **Annex 1 Condition 1.**

- *Only individuals licensed by the Security Industry Authority shall be used at the premises to undertake security activities, which include guarding against: -*

#### **Annex 3 Condition 14**

- *Regular safety checks shall be carried out by staff.*

#### **Annex 3 Condition 17.**

- *The premises will not engage the services of an external promoter.*

#### **Annex 3 Condition 18.**

- *Noise from amplified music or voices shall not be such as to cause a noise nuisance to occupants of nearby premises.*

Following the event a request for CCTV was made to the premises management to investigate the night. CCTV footage for only part of the evening was submitted, however it still displayed unlicensed persons carrying out security duties. Exhibit the CCTV footage as **SJ4**

#### **Use of Unlicensed door staff.**

**14 October 2018,** LOOH officers observed male security staff member without a SIA authorisation badge checking queuing patrons. When questioned the male advised he did not have a badge he had applied for it, however he did not have any paperwork to show he applied. Head door security arrived and advised this male was not working for the company. Officers spoke to DPS and he confirmed the male checking ID was working for Bliss management as a steward helping door staff with managing patrons queuing and control of the smoking area on the highway. Officers advised stewards are

not trained to do door security duties and that it was not acceptable their door security staff informed officers the male checking ID was not employed by Bliss.

**Annex 1 - Mandatory Condition 1.**

Only individuals licensed by the Security Industry Authority (SIA) shall be used at the premises to undertake security activities which guard against -

- (A) Unauthorised access or occupation (e.g. through door supervision),
- (B) Outbreaks of disorder, or
- (C) Damage,

Unless otherwise entitled by virtue of section 4 of the Private Security Industry Act 2001 to carry out such activities.

02 February 2019 LOOH conducted a walk through of the venue after observing heavily intoxicated female outside and unofficial road closure. A lot of people were noted heavily intoxicated inside with some passed out in the VIP area of the premises. Four official door staff in total. 2 males were observed who were classed by DPS as 'organisers' but were carrying out the duties of security without the appropriate licence on display. It is clear that in this situation, the venue was not operating in accordance with Section 8 of the Council's Statement of Licensing Policy (Manchester's Standards to promote the Licensing Objectives), which provides:

***MS6 Provide a duty of care for intoxicated or vulnerable customers and medical emergencies***

*Procedures are expected to be in place at the premises to initiate 999 calls when an emergency concerning a person's physical safety is in progress.*

*It is expected that premises licensed to sell alcohol for consumption on the premises, especially those trading during later hours, and takeaways implement appropriate measures, which could include the employment of designated welfare staff and trained first aiders, as well as steps to identify vulnerable person(s) and respond to accidents, injuries and other immediate harms such as unconsciousness, alcohol poisoning, and drug intoxication.*

CCTV was requested on 05 February 2019 for footage of the whole evening. Emails had to be sent to the DPS to chase up this footage and a report dated **27 February 2019** stated that "Unfortunately recovery of the files is impossible. Possible explanation for this is heat build up within the DVR/HDD or extreme electrical failure". This is a breach of

**Annex 3 Condition 3.**

1. *Recorded CCTV images will be maintained and stored for a period of thirty one days and shall be produced to the Police or Licensing Authority upon request.*



**09 February 2019** - Visit by GMP. Officers statement refers to a door supervisor not displaying a badge. He claimed he had lost it. His identity was checked which confirmed he has a valid and active badge. Officer informed him he should not be working if he did not have it with him, this was reiterated to DPS.

**19 June 2019** LOOH referred to SIA from premises for breaches of this condition and concerns relating to the consistent use of unlicensed door staff. Their investigation remains ongoing.

### **Variations**

**15 November 2018** an application was received for Bliss to extend their operational hours from 04:00 to 06:00 hours. LOOH objected on the grounds that the grant of this application would be likely to lead to issues of public nuisance and was likely to lead to increased noise from patrons due to the extension in operational hours and an increase in litter in the vicinity of the premises.

The committee refuse to grant the application-

- *Committee was not satisfied that the Applicant would be capable of upholding the licensing objectives.*
- *It felt that whilst the Premises had always appeared willing to work with the Responsible Authorities there were areas of its business practice that needed to be more robust in addressing concerns.*
- *Committee noted that the Premises had inadvertently breached conditions on its licence without fully appreciating the consequences of such breaches.*
- *On numerous occasions Public Nuisance had been observed by LOOH and it was apparent that the premises had not heeded advice given to address this issue.*  
*It also noted the concerns expressed in representations made by a neighbouring hotel and resident.*
- *Furthermore, it was apparent that there had been incidents outside the premises that had been highlighted by GMP and this has been exacerbated by the fact that the Premises was not keeping accurate records about door supervision and ensuring that such supervisors were displaying SIA accredited badges.*
- *Committee was also not satisfied that the Designated Premises Supervisor or an appropriate member of staff was capable of providing or arranging for suitable training to be given to staff.*

### **Annex 3 - Condition 17 :**

*The Premises Licence Holder/ DPS shall not engage the services of an external promoter.*

The interpretation of this condition was discussed in front of the Licensing Sub Committee on **15 November 2018** as part of the variation of licence application. LOOH and the premises disagreed with the meaning of the condition. LOOH stated that it referred to companies such as Latin Party UK and Bollywood UK who are external to the club and uses the premises for their event. The premises maintained it referred to leaflet distributors with a boombox. The Licensing Sub Committee agreed that a breach of the licence had been made.

This condition was again discussed with the premises management at the Multiagency



Action Plan meeting on **29 March 2019**. The management advised they understood it to be referred to the previous occupants who apparently used a speaker and leaflet distributors. LOOH disputed the fact and that this was their understanding due to the discussion at committee and the fact that the premises had applied for leaflet distribution consent. Immediate action was expected by the premises and if no action was forthcoming the matter would be escalated as a breach of **Annex 3, Condition 17** on their premises licence.

**14 April 2019** a Multi Agency visit to the premises, where it was noted a Latin Party UK event was held. LOOH advised they were breaching their licence as they had an external promoter for the Latin night, the management advised they were going to put a variation in to remove the condition

**17 April 2019**, LOOH sent an email to the premises management with a link to model conditions for agreed wording to assist them in applying for the variation of Condition 17.

**28 May 2019**, LOOH sent an email to the DPS stating condition 17 had been breached approx eleven times since the last email and reminded of obligations to adhere to conditions. If no application was received within ten working days an application for review would be submitted.

On **29 May 2019**, LOOH received an email from the DPS informing that an application had been made on **25 April 2019** however the premises had failed to inform Manchester City Council of the change of PLH to Realand Ltd. The amendment to the PLH had to be completed before the change could take place. On **06 June 2019** the management applied for a Minor Variation to vary Condition 17. Again the application was returned due to incorrect and unenforceable wording provided in the application. The precise wording was provided at the Multi Agency meeting on **27 June 2019**.

There were several issues with the Minor Variation application where the application was returned to the applicant, stopped and restarted numerous times due to issues such as the incorrect wording, notice not displayed correctly and the premises failed to inform Premises Licensing that they had displayed the notice. Throughout the applications the variation application drew two objections from local residents

At time of review this condition has been breached approximately **twenty six** times since the Action Plan meeting in March 2019.

LOOH feels that this long-running issue has not been resolved either by lack of understanding by the management which there has been significant time to address, or the management disregard for the importance of complying with the conditions imposed on the licence.

### **TENs**

Fifteen Temporary Event Notices have been applied for since the premises opened. Of these 4 were not monitored by LOOH and it is believed at least 3 were not run.

**01 March 2018** at approximately 00:36 x 30 people attending. Management informed officers that they were not expecting to run the full TEN.

**01 April 2018** at approximately 0:40 hours, LOOH officers attended the premises and noted from the premises congregate on Trumpet Street using Nitrous Oxide balloons and drinking from alcohol from spirit type bottles. The observations were brought to the attention of DPS who requested the door staff to remove the bottles from the street. LOOH advised the management to monitor the queues on entry and requested for management to customers who were causing noise outside the premises causing a public nuisance. Observations noted the traffic management was also an issue along Trumpet Street due to patrons parked on double yellow lines and causing obstruction of the highway. Officers attended at 02:45 and observed street drinking by patrons

**24 February 2019** at approximately 4:00 hours, LOOH observed and noted 30+ people stood outside the premises, some spilling out into the road dispersal did not appear to be managed.

#### **Multiagency Meetings**

A Multi-agency meeting with the premises was called on **29 March 2019** due to an accumulation of concerns raised by LOOH and the ongoing failure of management to address these concerns. The meeting was attended by Piotr Mitrega (DPS), [REDACTED] PC Chirstian Abbott (GMP), Gemma Hunt (LOOH) and Signe Johansen (LOOH)

In response to the continuing poor management, breach of licence conditions and potential for crime and disorder witnessed at the 'Case Closed' event a meeting was held between GMP and LOOH to establish next steps. Officers considered application for a standard review of the premises licence, an application to remove DPS or final Action Plan. Guided by Manchester City Council Corporate Enforcement Policy :

- The Principles of Good Regulation says that we will exercise our activities in a way which is proportionate. The approach to dealing with non-compliance should be open, fair and proportionate.
- Advice given regarding the non-compliance, the actions required and the decisions taken will be clearly explained.
- An opportunity to discuss the Councils course of action will be provided to ensure actions are proportionate and consistent, the opportunity for discussion may not be given where there is a serious breach or public health or safety is at risk.
- Principle set out in the Macrory Review is to be proportionate to the nature of the offence and harm caused.

The officers agreed to invite the premises management in for a pre review meeting on 27/06/19 with a view to set a Multi Agency Action Plan, to clearly state our concerns and reinforce the consequences of non-compliance being that LOOH will look to apply for a standard review of the licence. In attendance at the meeting was Piotr Mitrega

(DPS), [REDACTED] PC Chirstian Abbott (GMP) and Signe Johansen (LOOH) and [REDACTED], a representative from Realand Ltd. Concerns from the Case Closed night, continued use of unlicensed door staff, continued use of external promoters and breach of Condition 17, lack of management of the outdoor area and fly posting relating to an externally promoted event were discussed. Action plan was agreed and it was made very clear to attendees that it would be LOOH intention to apply for a standard review of the licence if the issues were not addressed.

The second action plan drawn up was simplistic and achievable. A Polish translated copy was provided for guidance, as it was clear the representative from Realand Ltd the PLH did not have a good understanding of English. I exhibit a copy of the Multiagency Action Plan agreed at the meeting as **SJ5**.

### **DJ Silva Party Incident - 3 August 2019 - exhibit SJ6**

At 04:20am LOOH noted there was a large congregation of people outside the premises and there appeared to be no management of the external areas. They said that it looked like a large fight, officers spoke to the Inspector on duty who advised he had just received a call from his GMP officers and that there had been a stabbing. GMP were in attendance. This incident triggered a summary review.

The following morning On 3 August 2019 at approximately 22:30 hours a multi agency visit was carried out to the premises. GMP carried out an inspection of the premises where a number of breaches were noted. These included:

#### **Annex 3 Condition 1**

*Staff shall be trained in the requirements of the Licensing Act 2003 with regard to the Licensing Objectives.*

#### **Annex 3 Condition 17.**

*The Premises Licence Holder/DPS will not engage the services of an external promoter.* Which were breaches identified in the inspection on 25/6/19.

The incident log was also inspected from the said incident, where the 3 stabbings were logged in the minor incident book and written as “**minor incident downstairs -club closed.**” This reiterated how a clear failure of the management at the premises to understand the seriousness of the incidents. Officers were told that the door staff were from Manit door company, however documentation used was from a range of companies. The premises agreed to voluntary closure as GMP Sgt Coombs informed the management GMP were not satisfied the premises could run safely.

### **Conclusion**

Having regard to the matters raised above and the management of the incident at the DJ Silva night which lead to 3 people being stabbed LOOH are not satisfied that the management of Bliss are operating in a manner that will uphold the licensing objectives. LOOH have no faith in the PLH as we have not received any contact, despite being invited to inspections and Multi Agency meetings.

The premises management namely the DPS Piotr Mitrega has received a stepped approach by agencies from the onset of opening the premises until the incident on **3 August 2019**. LOOH and GMP have had a significant amount of input, over the amount you would expect of a premises able to operate without intervention.

In our experience and as identified by the examples provided in this representation, there are shortcomings in relation to the management of the premises, the authorisation of door supervisors on duty at the premises, the lack of due diligence demonstrated by the management in relation to the continuing non-compliance with the conditions of the premises licence.

LOOH feel that if the premises were to be allowed to remain in its current form the lack of management of the premises would continue to cause a nuisance to those surrounding and there is likely to be another incident of crime and disorder. LOOH do not believe that the imposition of new conditions would be effective as the premises management have shown a disregard for those already imposed. For this reason we ask the Committee to consider a full revocation of the licence.

Recommendation: Revocation of the Premises Licence

By virtue of paragraph(s) 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A  
of the Local Government Act 1972.

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# Licensing Multi-agency Action Plan

Premises	Bliss
Address	Albion Wharf, 19 Albion Street, Manchester, M1 5NL
Premises Licence Number	198158

## OVERVIEW & PURPOSE

This Action Plan has been established and agreed with the premises licence holder as a voluntary means of introducing enhanced measures at the premises to achieve the promotion of the licensing objectives.

This is the second Action Plan meeting with Bliss, the first being 29 March 2019. From the Action Plan agreed at that meeting the problems surrounding litter and CCTV have been rectified. However Action 1- All staff carrying out security and crowd duties must be SIA registered and Action 4- A variation will be applied for to condition 17 or promoted events will cease, have not.

Condition 17 has been breached approximately 22 times since that meeting. There has not been a follow up inspection to ensure there is a customer care policy and that staff training has been refreshed.

Manchester City Council Licensing Out of Hours Team, Greater Manchester Police and Greater Manchester Fire Service have visited and raised concerns following their interventions, contact with DPS and proactive patrols of the City.

On 8/6/2019 Licensing Out of Hours officers and Greater Manchester Police officers attended in reaction to very poor management of the outside area. The event was run through an external promoter. Patrons were blocking the pavement and highway with no clear queuing system or way of managing the ingress and egress. There was severe crowding around the door. DPS and management did not have control of the situation and were slow to react. Males were witnessed appearing to carryout door security duties without SIA on display. Patrons were drinking open containers of alcohol in the outside areas. CCTV footage was obtained and supports this.

## IDENTIFIED ISSUES

- Poor management of outside area. Patrons blocking the pavement and road. No apparent queuing system.
- Unlicensed persons carrying out security duties.
- General poor management of the club. DPS has had a lot of input from agencies in tasks that should be premises led.
- Breach of Conditions Annex 1- Mandatory 1, Annex 3- 7, Annex 3- 14, Annex 3 – 17, Annex 3- 18. Smoking Policy 6 &7.
- Greater Manchester Fire Service have received a high number of call outs.
- Fly posting in regards to events at Bliss.

## OBJECTIVES

- Premises adhering fully to the licence conditions and upholding the licensing objectives.
- No nuisance to the surrounding area from patrons or the club.
- Minimal input from agencies.
- Safe environment for patrons.
- Management to have a full understanding of the licence and licensing objectives.

## STEPS TO BE IMPLEMENTED

1. Model Condition “Any queue to enter the premises that forms outside the premises shall be kept orderly and supervised by licensed door supervisors to ensure that there is no public nuisance or obstruction to the public highway” to be added to the licence.
2. Model Condition “28 days notice shall be given to Greater Manchester Police and Manchester City Council of any events held that are organised by an external promoter, including full details of the nature of event and promoter” to be added to the licence.
3. All conditions within the licence to be fully adhered to with particular attention paid to: Annex 3- 7, Annex 3- 14, Annex 3- 15, Annex 3 – 17, Annex 3- 18. Smoking Policy 6 &7.
4. All staff carrying out door supervision duties as detailed as Licensable Activities by the Security Industry Authority to hold an appropriate licence.
5. Full license inspection to be carried out.



## PERIOD THE ACTION PLAN SHALL BE EFFECTIVE

- Steps 1 to be applied for before 11 July 2019
- Step 2 to be applied for before 11 July 2019.
- Steps 3 with **immediate effect**.
- Step 4 with **immediate effect**.
- Step 5 inspection to be carried out 25<sup>th</sup> July 2019 at 1pm.

## DATE OF REVIEW

The plan will be subject to ongoing monitoring by involved agencies.

If the premises licence holder is found to be contravening the agreed terms of this Action Plan, it is expected that the responsible authorities will seek a review of the licence.

## ANY NOTES FROM MEETING FOR FUTURE REFERENCE

Persons present: Signe Johansen (Licensing Out of Hours Team), PC Chris Abbott (Greater Manchester Police), Piotr Mitrega (DPS Bliss), [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

All actions agreed. Premises are clear in the consequences of not adhering to the licence.

The issue of unlicensed door staff has been referred to SIA and may lead to follow up work by them.

Inspection by Greater Manchester Fire Service is due on 4<sup>th</sup> July.

Name: Signe Johansen

Agency: Manchester City Council. Licensing and Out of Hours

A handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of a stylized 'S' followed by a horizontal line and a small flourish.

Signed:

Date: 28 June 2019

Name:

Role at venue:

Signed:

Date:

SJ01

Photograph redacted

SJ02

Photograph redacted

Bliss- Piotr Mitrega, Martin

LOOH- Signe Johansen, Gemma Hunt

GMP- PC Christian Abbott

#### Security Staff

Mandatory condition 1. Annex 3, Conditions- 7, 9

Discussed the males officers have witnessed on several occasions who appear to be unlicensed security staff. Bliss said that all staff are SIA registered now. Bliss stated that this is a member of staff who checks if the bar is working properly. LOOH and GMP find this unlikely and it was discussed at length. There was a parking steward also, GMP reminded them that anyone taking part in 'crowd control' would need to be SIA registered. Explained how to check for themselves that staff are registered.

The outside queue has been observed to be going into the road or forcing passers by into the road. Bliss said that they believe things have got better but will monitor.

There are usually between 4-6 door staff for nights, ratios are worked out on previous events.

A register of door staff is kept. Door company is Mani.

#### CCTV

Annex 3 ,Condition 2,3,4,5

The CCTV is working again now. Bliss had realised it was broken when the request came in. LOOH advised that it will be coming up to 31

days since then. Bliss will check it has been recording. LOOH will carry out a follow up visit.

Emphasised the importance of producing CCTV when it has been requested.

#### Litter

Annex 3, Condition 20, 23. Smoking Policy point 3 and 4.

LOOH reiterated the number of observations that have been made in regards to the litter outside of the club. Bliss said that people are using the side street to street drink and are depositing litter outside the club. LOOH believe that majority of the litter seen is directly related to the club as it is cigarette ends in the smoking area and wristbands/debris associated with events on at the club. Bliss will carry out and complete a check list at the end of the night. They said that customers are not allowed to take drinks outside.

#### External Promoter

Annex 3, Condition 17

Lengthy discussion surrounding the meaning of the condition. Bliss believe that it was related to the previous club who used a speaker and leaflet distributors and excluded them from doing this. LOOH and GMP explained their belief that this is a person or company external to the club who use the venue for events or nights such as Latin Party UK. Leaflet distribution is a separate matter and LOOH believe

Bliss have applied for Leaflet Distribution Consent in the past.

Bliss are currently in breach of this condition on a regular basis, as such immediate action is expected. If a variation is applied for thought must be given to the wording. If no action is forthcoming the matter will be escalated as a breach of condition.

Other business.

Staff training- all staff are trained using Peninsular. This should be refreshed eve 6 months and documented. Training covers- C25, serving to drunks, ID checking and measures.

Metal detectors- Bliss does not have a metal detector at the door however it does have a search policy.

Vulnerable people- Bliss stated that there is a process for intoxicated people that may appear vulnerable. They are not served further, asked to leave and put into a taxi. Door staff monitor them when they are placed on the chairs by the door.

#### Action Plan

All staff carrying out security and crowd duties must be SIA registered.

CCTV will be checked on Bliss return to the club. LOOH will carry out a spot check.

A documented checklist for the end of the night will be put in place.

This will ensure that the front area has been cleaned when patrons have dispersed.

A variation will be applied for to condition 17 or promoted events will cease.

A customer care policy will be written and documented.

Staff training will be refreshed.

All actions will be in effect immediately.

Documentation of policies and application for the variation will be done within 2 weeks from the meeting- 12th April 2019.

SJ06

DJ Silva – external promoter







## Licensing Act 2003 (Hearings) Regulations 2005

**Reference:** 234557  
**Name:** Steakout 212  
**Address:** 36B-36C Derby Street, Manchester, M8 8RY  
**Ward:** Cheetham  
**Application Type:** Premises Licence (new)  
**Name of Applicant:** SW212 Ltd  
**Date of application:** 16/07/2019

Agreement has been reached between the applicant and all parties that submitted relevant representations.

The Sub-Committee is asked to grant the application subject to the modifications agreed between the parties without the need for a hearing.

If the Sub-Committee is not minded to grant the application as above, it is requested to adjourn the matter for a full hearing to be held to determine the application.

### Proposed licensable activities and opening hours to be granted

Provision of late night refreshment: Indoors only

Mon to Sun 11pm to 2am

Opening hours:

Mon to Sun 11am to 2am

### Representations received

Licensing & Out of Hours  
Compliance (LOOH)

LOOH have concerns that the conditions proposed by the applicant are not sufficient enough to uphold the licensing objectives to prevent further issues that are currently a problem in the area such as waste, street drinking and criminal activity.

## Agreements between parties

- 1) All public areas of the licensed premises, including all public entry and exit points, and the street environment will be covered, enabling facial Identification of every person entering in any light condition. The CCTV Cameras shall continually record while the premises are open to the public and recording shall be kept available and unedited for a minimum of [28] days with the date and time stamping.

A staff member who is conversant with the operation of the CCTV system shall be present on the premises at all times when they are open to the public and must be able to produce/download/ burn CCTV images upon reasonable request by a police officer or an authorised officer of the licensing authority.

Any footage must be in a format that can be played back on a standard personal computer or standard DVD player.

- 2) At the end of trading each day, the pavement from the building line to the kerb edge immediately outside the premises, including gutter/channel at its junction with the kerb edge, shall be swept or washed, and litter and sweepings collected and stored in accordance with the approved waste storage arrangements.
- 3) All takeaway packaging and wrappers shall clearly identify the premises, ie. by way of company logo or name.
- 4) The premises and immediate surrounding area shall be kept clean and free from litter at all times the premises are open to the public. Litter bins shall be provided at the premises in sufficient capacity to ensure that customers can adequately dispose of any litter.
- 5) Deliveries to the premises shall be conducted in a manner that will not Cause a nuisance to the occupiers of any residential properties surrounding the delivery address and deliveries shall be made at a time which will not lead to any public nuisance.
- 6) All employees will be vigilant and monitor the area immediately outside the shop to ensure that members of the public do not cause annoyance by congregating.
- 7) Licence holder shall ensure all licensing objectives are known to employees and followed.
- 8) The Premises Licence holder will operate a zero tolerance approach towards drunken and anti-social behaviour.
- 9) The Premises Licence holder will ensure that prominent, clear and legible notices are displayed at all exits to the premises requesting the public to

respect the needs of local residents and to leave the premises and the area quietly.

10) The Premises Licence holder will ensure that no children under the age of 16 will be allowed on the premises after 23:00hrs unless accompanied by adult.

11) All training will be documented, signed and dated and refreshed at least every 12months, and will be made available to authorised officers upon request.

Training shall consist of the following.

- Recognising signs of drunkenness and Drugs
- how to refuse service
- Conflict Management

**Background documents (available for public inspection):**

- Manchester City Council Statement of Licensing Policy 2016 - 2021
- Guidance issued under section 182 of the Licensing Act 2003, April 2017
- Original application form
- Representations made against application and respective agreements





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