# IN THE MANCHESTER CITY TOWN HALL

#### **BETWEEN:**

THE CHIEF CONSTABLE
OF GREATER
MANCHESTER POLICE

**APPLICANT** 

AND

MESOB RESTAURANT

**RESPONDENT** 

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CJ Act 1967, s.9	<b>WITNESS STA</b> 9; MC Act 1980, ss.5A(3)(a) and 5E			edure Ru	les 2005, R	tule 27.1	
		URN					
Statement of: Alan Isherwo	ood						
Age if under 18: 18+ (if over 18 insert 'over 18') Occupation: Police Constable							
This statement (consisting of pages each signed by me) is true to the best of my knowledge and belief and I make it knowing that, if it is tendered in evidence, I shall be liable to prosecution if I have wilfully stated anything in it, which I know to be false, or do not believe to be true.							
Signature:	<u></u>		••••	Date:	26/7/2	1-2	
Check box if witness eviden	ice is visually recorded [] (supply	witness	details d	on last pa	ge)		

I am Police Constable 17659 Isherwood of the Greater Manchester Police, Licensing Officer for the City of Manchester Division, currently based in the Licensing Team at Manchester Town Hall Extension.

Part of my remit as licensing officer is to oversee all of the licensed premises on the City of Manchester Division. The objective of the role is to promote and maintain the 4 licensing objectives at licensed premises, those being the Prevention of Crime and Disorder, Public Safety, Prevention of Public Nuisance and the Protection of Children from Harm.

#### **Mesob Restaurant**

The premises are situated on Princess Road in the Moss Sie area of Manchester and the premises licence was issued on 23/12/2019. The Premises Licence Holder (PLH) and Designated Premises Supervisor (DPS) is Kidane Mokonen.

#### Incident

At 0504 hours on Sunday 3rd July 2022 GMP were contacted by Manchester City Council CCTV stating that there was a group of 10-15 males fighting outside Mesob Restaurant and were using roadside barriers as weapons.

The call went on to say that some of the males were using bricks as weapons and that the staff at Mesob were putting the shutters down. After about 5 minutes the CCTV operator stated that the males were dispersing and running away from the location.

At 0508 Hours GMP received another call from a member of the public who stated that they had just passed the location in a taxi and she had seen males fighting and one male had been injured by being thrown into some railings.

At 0509 Hours GMP officers arrived at the location and saw males running from the scene but that there was no fighting still ongoing, so they knocked on the shutters at Mesob Restaurant but got no reply.

The Manchester City Council CCTV has since been obtained from 0100 hours, which is the time that the premises should close and what it shows is alarming. The full breakdown of the comings and goings are included on the CCTV viewing log which can be found at page 5 of the bundle but over 40 persons are seen to be either entering or leaving the premises during the time frame. When the footage gets to just before 0500 hours there are a group of people outside the premises and several people duck under the shutters and leave

Signature: <del></del>	Signature witnessed by:	 	 	
2006/07 (1)	RESTRICTED (when complete)			
				18



the premises. As this is happening fighting breaks out between several of the people and this fighting carries on for several minutes during which plastic road barriers, bricks, belts and bottles are brandished or used as weapons.

One of the males who is seen exiting the premises at 0500 hours and is wearing a bright yellow top and a baseball cap, is seen to punch another male in the middle of Princess Road, knocking him out cold on a live carriageway, causing traffic to come to a standstill.

The male who is knocked out is then seen being almost dragged off the carriageway by his friends.

As the footage continues further, people are seen to exit from a side door of the premises and some also become involved in the fighting. A male, who is believed to be the PLH and DPS can be seen going back inside the premises about 2 minutes before the police officers arrive but despite the officer knocking at the shutters no one opened the shutters and spoke to them.

A report of Crime for Violent Disorder has since been submitted but unfortunately none of the offenders have been identified to date and nobody has come forward as a witness. A copy of the original incident report and a copy of the crime report can be found at pages 6-7 of the bundle.

What makes this whole incident even more concerning, is that it occurred at 0500 hours which is 4 hours after the premises should have been closed and 4 and a half hours after licensable activity should have stopped, in the middle of a residential area and on one of the main thoroughfares in Greater Manchester. This is exacerbated further by the fact that nobody, other than the CCTV control room, contacted GMP to report this mass brawl, this despite the PLH/DPS being present.

What's more, it is clear that customers were entering and leaving the premises for 4 hours after the premises should have been closed and if it wasn't for their presence at the premises then this violent brawl would not have occurred.

It has also been established that the layout of the licensed area has been altered significantly form the plans submitted with the Premises Licence application. The bar is in a different place and the area described as the function room is now a hair dressers salon with a separate entrance. Therefore the premises have been in breach of their licence for a significant period of time.

#### Interim Steps Hearing

On Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> July 2022 I applied for a Summary Review of the Premises Licence on the grounds that the Premises were associated with Serious Crime. The certificate was signed by Superintendent Jones.

The Interim Steps hearing took place on Friday 8<sup>th</sup> July 2022 remotely and GMP outlined our concerns regarding the incident and showed the CCTV which we had to the committee. During this hearing the PLH/DPS informed the committee that he was serving alcohol until 1.00am and closed at 1.20am which is beyond his permitted hours.

We asked the committee to suspend the Premises Licence pending the outcome of the full review hearing and, after deliberation; the committee took the decision to suspend the Premises Licence pending the full review hearing on Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> August 2022.

Signature: ..

Signature witnessed by: ...

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#### **CCTV** Footage Requests

Since the incident I have requested the CCTV footage from all the cameras at the premises from 10pm on 2nd July until 1am on 3rd July 2022, which is the time that the PLH/DPS stated, at the Interim Steps that he would have turned off the CCTV cameras, as he does not have to have them operating after this time. This in itself is unusual as I have never known a licensed premises to switch off the CCTV overnight simply because they don't have to have it switched on.

I sent an email to the PLH/DPS on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> July requesting the footage and I have included a copy of the email which can be found at page 8 of the bundle. On 13<sup>th</sup> July I had still not heard back from the PLH/DPS so I sent another email requesting a response, a copy of this email can be found at page 9 of the bundle. Later on 13<sup>th</sup> July I received a phone call from the PLH/DPS informing me that an engineer was attending the premises on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> July so the footage would be downloaded then. I informed him that due to other commitments I couldn't attend on Friday but that I would attend at the premises on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> July at lunch time to collect it. I asked him if he would be there and he assured me he would be.

At 1230 hours on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> July I attended at the premises as arranged and found it shuttered up and despite repeated banging on both shutters and pressing intercom buttons near the side shutter I received no reply. I then rang his mobile phone and left a voicemail and sent him another email, a copy of which can be found at page 10 of the bundle.

By Thursday 21st July I had still had no contact from the PLH/DPS so I sent him a further email requesting the footage and reminding him of the condition on his premises licence. A copy of this email can be found at page 11 of the bundle.

I left another voicemail at 0933 hours on Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> July informing the PLH/DPS that I had not had any contact from him and that I had sent him several emails and that I would have to state that the CCTV has not been provided.

## Conclusion

It is abundantly clear that the PLH/DPS has no regard whatsoever to the 4 Licensing Objectives, the flagrant disregard for licensable hours, coupled with the repeated unanswered requests for CCTV footage are bad enough, but the extreme violence displayed by people who had been inside his premises for 4 hours after the premises should have been closed is truly shocking.

Therefore GMP have no confidence whatsoever in the PLH/DPS asks committee to Revoke the Premises Licence forthwith.

Signatur

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Signature: ....

2006/07 (1)

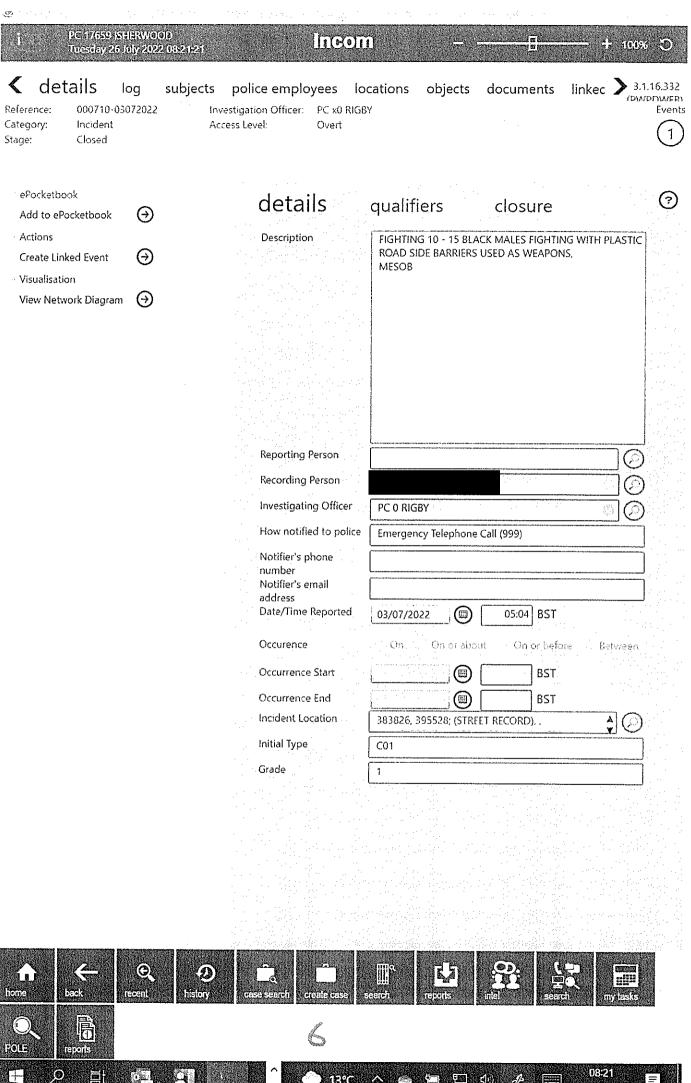
.... Signature witnessed by:......

# MESOB RESTAURANT CCTV VIEWING LOG

# <u>Time</u>

0155:27 – 2 males leave the premises via the front shutter
0159:30 – 3 males enter the premises via the front shutter
0210:45 – 3 males leave the premises via the front shutter
0219:00 – 2 males enter the premises via the front shutter
O225:00 – 1 male leaves the premises via the front shutter
0236:25 - 1 male leaves the premises via the front shutter
0236:49 – 2 males leave the premises via the front door, 1 gets into a taxi
0239:55 – 3 males leave the premises via the front shutter
0300:36 – 3 males enter the premises via the front shutter
0307:36 – 1 male leaves the premises via the front shutter and 3 males enter.
0312:25 – 2 males leave the premises via the front shutter
0330:00 – Side shutter is raised and 2 males and 2 females leave the premises
0337:26-1 male leaves the premises via the front shutter and 2 males and female are seen to get into a taxi
0348:00 – people appear to enter the premises via the side shutter
0356:34 – 4 males leave the premises via the front shutter
0412:00 1 males leaves the premises via the front shutter
0415:50 – Same male re-enters the premises via the front shutter
0416:40 – 1 male leaves the premises via the front shutter
0417:45 – People are standing at the open side shutter
0431:43 – 2 males leave the premises via the front shutter
0433:45 – 1 male leaves the premises via the front shutter
0440:00 – 1 male leaves the premises via the side shutter
0448:40 – 7 people enter the premises via the front shutter
0457:30-1 male and a male believed to be the PLH/DPS come out of the premises
0459:40 – 3 males leave the premises via the front shutter

0500:00 – Violent disorder begins and PLH/DPS is present.





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From:

Alan Isherwood

Sent:

To:

11 July 2022 06:47

Cc: Subject: Paul O'Donnell; Luke Solczak CCTV Footage

#### Good Morning Mr Mokonen,

As discussed during the Zoom hearing on Friday GMP requires the CCTV footage from the night of 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2022 from all the cameras at Mesob Restaurant from 10pm until 1am on Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> July which is the time that you stated the cameras were turned off.

You explicitly stated that you had this footage during the Zoom hearing so please can you make a copy of it and I will come to the premises at mid-day on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> July to collect it.

If there are any reasons as to why you cannot provide this footage please let me know via reply to this email.

#### Kind Regards

PC 17659 Alan Isherwood Divisional Licensing Officer Greater Manchester Police City of Manchester Division 1<sup>st</sup> Floor Manchester Town Hall Extension Lloyd Street Manchester M2 5DB

Follow us on Twitter: @gmpolice

\*NOT PROTECTIVELY MARKED\*

From:

Alan Isherwood 13 July 2022 10:31

Sent: To:

10:

Cc: Subject: · Office; Paul O'Donnell; Luke Solczak

**CCTV** Footage

Good Morning Mr Mokonen,

Following on from my email on Monday where I requested CCTV footage from all the cameras from Mesob from the  $2^{nd}$  July from 10pm until 1am on  $3^{rd}$ , I was just chasing up your response.

Have you copied and downloaded this footage for me and is it ready for collection?

#### Kind Regards

PC 17659 Alan Isherwood Divisional Licensing Officer Greater Manchester Police City of Manchester Division 1st Floor Manchester Town Hall Extension Lloyd Street Manchester M2 5DB



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\*NOT PROTECTIVELY MARKED\*

From: Sent: Alan Isherwood 18 July 2022 12:57

To:

Subject:

FW: Mesob CCTV

PC 17659 Alan Isherwood
Divisional Licensing Officer
Greater Manchester Police
City of Manchester Division
1st Floor
Manchester Town Hall Extension
Lloyd Street
Manchester
M2 5DB



Follow us on Twitter: @gmpolice

\*NOT PROTECTIVELY MARKED\*

From: Alan Isherwood < Sent: 18 July 2022 12:53

To:

Subject: Mesob CCTV

Dear Mr Mokonen

As previously arranged with yourself I attended at Mesob at lunchtime (1230 hrs) today to collect the CCTV and the premises was shuttered up and nobody answered when I repeatedly knocked on both shutters and pressed the intercom button.

I still require this footage so please can you advise when you will be at the premises for me to collect it. I am off tomorrow and Wednesday so please can you confirm it will be available for collection on Thursday 21st July.

Kind Regards

PC 17659 Alan Isherwood Divisional Licensing Officer Greater Manchester Police City of Manchester Division 1st Floor Manchester Town Hall Extension Lloyd Street

From:

Alan Isherwood 21 July 2022 08:57

Sent: To:

21 July 202

Cc:

- Office; Luke Solczak

Subject:

FW: Mesob CCTV

Dear Mr Mokonen,

Following on from my email on Monday regarding the collection of the CCTV from Mesob, I still haven't heard back from you in relation to this.

Please can you contact me ASAP to arrange for collection of the CCTV. As you will be aware production of the CCTV is a condition of your premises licence.

Kind Regards

PC 17659 Alan Isherwood Divisional Licensing Officer Greater Manchester Police City of Manchester Division 1st Floor Manchester Town Hall Extension Lloyd Street Manchester M2 5DB



Follow us on Twitter: @gmpolice

\*NOT PROTECTIVELY MARKED\*

From: Alan Isherwood Sent: 18 July 2022 12:57

To:

Subject: FW: Mesob CCTV

PC 17659 Alan Isherwood Divisional Licensing Officer Greater Manchester Police City of Manchester Division 1st Floor Manchester Town Hall Extension Lloyd Street Greater Manchester Police Central Park Northampton Road Manchester

### 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>: Mesob Restaurant 97 Princess Road Manchester M14 4TH

Premises licence number (if known): 239469

Name of premises supervisor (if known): Kidane Mokonen

I am a 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 lack of action from the premises.

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

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Delete as applicable.

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

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

<sup>&</sup>lt;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.

place.

The premises are situated on Princess Road in the Moss Side area of Manchester and the premises licence was issued on 23<sup>rd</sup> December 2019. The Premises Licence Holder (PLH) and Designated Premises Supervisor (DPS) is Kidane Mokonen who has held this position since the licence was issued.

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

At 0504 hours on Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2022 GMP were contacted by Manchester City Council CCTV stating that there was a group of 10-15 males fighting outside Mesob Restaurant and were using roadside barriers as weapons. The call went on to say that some of the males were using bricks as weapons and that the staff at Mesob were putting the shuters down. After about 5 minutes the CCTV operator stated that the males were dispersing and running away from the location.

At 0508 Hours GMP received another call from a memebr of the public who stated that they had just passed the location in a taxi and she had seen males fightng and one male had been injured by being thrown into some railings.

At 0509 Hours GMP officers arrived at the location and saw males running from the scene but that there was no fighting ongoing so they knocked on the shutters at Mesob Restaurant but got no reply.

The CCTV has since been seized and viewed and it shows that at 0500 hours there are a group of people outside the premises nd several people duck under the shutters and leave the premises. As this is happening fighting breaks out between several of the people and this fighting carries on for several minutes during which plastic road barriers, bricks, belts and bottles are used as weapons.

One of the males who is seen exiting the premises at 0500 hours is seen to punch another male in the middle of Princess Road, knocking him out cold on a main road.

As the footage continues further people are seen to exit from a side door of the premises and some also become involved in the fighting. A male can be seen going back inside the premises about 2 minutes before the police officers arrive but despite the officer knowcking at the shutters no one opened the premises and spoke to them.

Manchester City Council Licensing and Out of Hours officers have since attended the premises and been told that there is no CCTV footage from inside the premises on the morning of the incident which is a direct breach of their licensing conditions.

A report of Crime for Violent Disorder has since been submitted and enquiries to trace the offenders continue.

What makes this whole incident all the more concerning is that it occurred at 0500 hours which is 4 hours after the premises should have been closed and 4 and a half hours after licensable activity should have stopped, in the middle of a residential area and on one of the main thoroughfares in Greater manchester.

There are other concerns reagardig the premises from both GMP and Manchester City Council which will be disclosed at the subsequent full hearing.

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 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 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 violence will occur at the premises and the licensing objectives will be further undermined. Greater Manchester Police will say that the licensing objectives of the Prevention of Crime and Disorder and Public Safety can only be promoted if the premises licence was supsended 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 serious level of violence that has occurred. Greater Manchester Police believe that Serious Disorder has occurred at the premises.

#### 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)

#### 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:

Mesob Restaurant 97 Princess Road

Post town: Manchester

Post code (if known): M14 4TH

#### 2. Premises licence details:

Name of premises licence holder (if known): Kidane Mokonen

Number of premises licence holder (if known):

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 lack of action from the premises.

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

The premises are situated on Princess Road in the Moss Side area of Manchester and the premises licence was issued on 23rd December 2019. The Premises Licence Holder (PLH) and Designated Premises Supervisor (DPS) is Kidane Mokonen who has held this position since the licence was issued.

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

At 0504 hours on Sunday 3rd July 2022 GMP were contacted by Manchester City Council CCTV stating that there was a group of 10-15 males fighting outside Mesob Restaurant and were using roadside barriers as weapons. The call went on to say that some of the males were using bricks as weapons and that the staff at Mesob were putting the shuters down. After about 5 minutes the CCTV operator stated that the males were dispersing and running away from the location.

At 0508 Hours GMP received another call from a memebr of the public who stated that they had just passed the location in a taxi and she had seen males fighting and one male had been injured by being thrown into some railings.

At 0509 Hours GMP officers arrived at the location and saw males running from the scene but that there was no fighting ongoing so they knocked on the shutters at Mesob Restaurant but got no reply.

The CCTV has since been seized and viewed and it shows that at 0500 hours there are a group of people outside the premises nd several people duck under the shutters and leave the premises. As this is happening fighting breaks out between several of the people and this fighting carries on for several minutes during which plastic road barriers, bricks, belts and bottles are used as weapons.

One of the males who is seen exiting the premises at 0500 hours is seen to punch another male in the middle of Princess Road, knocking him out cold on a main road.

As the footage continues further people are seen to exit from a side door of the premises and some also become involved in the fighting. A male can be seen going back inside the premises about 2 minutes before the police officers arrive but despite the officer knocking at the shutters no one opened the premises and spoke to them.

Manchester City Council Licensing and Out of Hours officers have since attended the premises and been told that there is no CCTV footage from inside the premises on the morning of the incident which is a direct breach of their licensing conditions.

A report of Crime for Violent Disorder has since been submitted and enquiries to trace the offenders continue.

What makes this whole incident all the more concerning is that it occurred at 0500 hours which is 4 hours after the premises should have been closed and 4 and a half hours after licensable activity shoud have stopped, in the middle of a residential area and on one of the main thoroughfares in Greater manchester.

There are other concerns reagardig the premises from both GMP and Manchester City Council which will be disclosed at the subsequent full hearing.

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 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 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 violence will occur at the premises and the licensing objectives will be further undermined. Greater Manchester Police will say that the licensing objectives of the Prevention of Crime and Disorder and Public Safety can only be promoted if the premises licence was supsended 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 serious level of violence that has occurred. Greater Manchester Police believe that Serious Disorder has occurred at the premises.

Signature of applicant Date: 7/7/22

Capacity: Licensing Constable

Contact details for matters concerning this application:

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

Telephone number(s):	
Email:	

# 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.

