

A Summary Review (interim steps hearing)– Application under Section 53A of the Licensing Act 2003 brought by GMP

Name of the premises: Vision, Arch 58 , Whitworth Street West , Manchester M1 5WW
Date of Hearing: 14/06/2023

The committee has listened to and considered the representations made by

Body/ individual

GMP – Simon Braithwaite	X
Licensee/representative – Yongzhi Shao (DPS)	X
General Manager	X
Legal representative Solicitor	X

and has taken both the written and oral representations into account.

The Committee has also considered section 53B of the Licensing Act 2003, section 182 guidance, and the summary review guidance.

Decision

To suspend the licence with immediate effect, pending the full Review hearing to be heard on the 7th of July 2023, pursuant to s53B(3)(d) and S53B(5) of the Licensing Act 2003

Reasons

The Committee noted the representations made by GMP that a serious incident associated with serious crime and disorder had occurred in and around the premises in the early hours of Sunday 11th June 2023. A call had been received by GMP at approximately 0230 hours to advise that a fight had taken place outside the premises with 2 groups fighting and when

Police arrived it was established that a male had been stabbed in the leg and another in the back.

GMP advised that investigations revealed that a fight had commenced inside the premises and continued outside, with a blood stained knife being recovered nearby. During the initial brawl inside the premises 2 females received minor injuries whilst another male was punched in the face resulting in cuts and bruising and a laceration to his elbow.

Committee was also reminded that the premises was subject to a summary review hearing on the 28th of April 2023 when its licence was modified to include a condition that a knife wand be used at the premises to ensure that patrons entering and re-entering the premises were searched for possession of a weapon in full view of CCTV cameras.

The Premises accepted that a serious incident had occurred at the premises and did not oppose the suspension of the licence pending the final review hearing, apologising for the fact that a second incident had occurred with the space of 3 months.

However, whilst it accepted that a fight had broken out inside the premises between 2 groups it stated that there was no evidence that a knife had been brought in and used at the premises.

It was pointed out that no first aid was administered by door staff inside the premises but that this had been carried out outside to the victims of the stabbings.

The DPS explained that it was himself who had made the call to GMP that fighting was going on outside the premises and that he had instructed the music to be turned off and the premises to be closed. It was claimed that the stabbings took place outside the premises and an allegation made that the assailant had put gloves on as he was leaving the premises.

It appeared to the DPS that the incident may have been football related following the Champions League Cup Final with one group involved in the fighting appearing to be wearing Manchester City football shirts / light blue shirts.

In arriving at its decision, the Committee considered the summary review guidance, and the representations of both parties in deciding whether any interim steps to be imposed were appropriate for the promotion of the licensing objections.

It determined that it was appropriate to suspend the premises licence pending the final review hearing pursuant to Section 53B(3)(d) of the Licensing Act 2003.

Both parties were then invited by the Committee to make representations on the interim steps decision taking effect immediately given the serious crime or disorder / public safety incidents that had occurred recently at the premises. No representations were made by either party and Committee confirmed that this would apply pursuant to Section 53B (5) Licensing Act 2003