

Licensing and Gambling Acts Sub Committee

26 August 2025

Application for a new premises licence for Lovitaly, 3 Church Street, Wimborne For Decision

Cabinet Member and Portfolio:

Cllr G Taylor, Health and Housing

Local Councillor(s):

Cllrs Bartlett and Morgan

Executive Director:

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Report Status: Public

Brief Summary: An application has been made for a new premises licence for Lovitaly, 3 Church Street, Wimborne, Dorset. The application has been out to public consultation. A Licensing Sub-Committee must consider the application and representations at a public hearing.

Recommendation: The Sub-Committee determines the application in the light of written and oral evidence and resolves to take such steps as it considers appropriate and proportionate for the promotion of the licensing objectives:

- a) The prevention of crime and disorder
- b) The prevention of public nuisance
- c) Public safety
- d) The protection of children from harm

Reason for Recommendation: The Sub-Committee must consider all the written representations, the oral representations, and any information given at the hearing before reaching a decision.

1. Background

- 1.1 Section 4 of the Licensing Act 2003 sets out the duties of the Licensing Authority, it sets out that a Council's licensing functions must be carried out with a view to promoting the four licensing objectives of:
- (a) the prevention of crime and disorder;
 - (b) public safety;
 - (c) the prevention of public nuisance; and
 - (d) the protection of children from harm.
- 1.2 All applications and decisions are made with due regard to the [Licensing Act 2003](#) (the Act), the [Revised Guidance issued under Section 182 of the Licensing Act 2003](#) (the Guidance) and the [Dorset Council Statement of Licensing Policy](#) (the Policy).

2. Details of the application

- 2.1 An application has been made for a new premises licence for Lovitaly, 3 Church Street, Wimborne, Dorset, BH21 1JH and has been submitted to the Licensing Authority by Lovitaly Wimborne Ltd. The application form is attached at Appendix 1.
- 2.2 The description of the premises given by the applicant is:
- The premises is a coffee shop spanning two floors with approximately 40 covers. The business intends to sell all types of alcohol.
- 2.3 The application is for:

Supply of alcohol (on and off the premises)

Monday to Sunday

0900-2300 hours

2.4 The operating schedule contains the steps which the applicant will take to promote the licensing objectives. These would need to be converted into enforceable conditions on a licence if it is granted and would include:

All staff engaged in licensable activity at the premises will receive training and information in relation to the following: i. The Challenge 25 scheme in operation at the premises, including the forms of identification that are acceptable. ii. The hours and activities permitted by the premises licence issued under the Licensing Act 2003 and conditions attached to the licence. iii. How to complete and maintain the refusal register in operation at the premises (in relation to the sale of alcohol). iv. Recognising the signs of drunkenness. v. The operating procedures for refusing service to any person who is drunk, under-age or appears to be under-age, or appears to be making a proxy purchase. vi. Action to be taken in the event of an emergency, including reporting an incident to the emergency services. Training shall be recorded in documentary form and shall be regularly refreshed at no greater than 12 month intervals. Training records shall be made available for inspection and copying at reasonable times upon request of an authorised officer of a responsible authority. Training records will be retained for at least 12 months.

An incident log shall be kept and maintained at the premises which will include a log of the following, including pertinent details: i. Any incidents of disorder or of a violent or antisocial nature; ii. All crimes reported to the venue, or by the venue to the police; iii. All ejections of patrons; iv. Any complaints received; v. Seizures of drugs or offensive weapons; vi. Any faults in the CCTV system; vii. Any visits by a responsible authority (under the Licensing Act 2003) or emergency service. Records must be completed within 24 hours of any incident, and will contain the time and date, the nature of the incident, the people involved, the action taken and details of the person responsible for the management of the premises at the time of the incident. The logs shall be kept for at least 12 months following the date of entry and be made available for inspection and copying upon request of an authorised officer of a responsible authority.

The premises shall install, operate, and maintain a comprehensive digital colour CCTV system to the satisfaction of the Police. All public areas of the licensed premises including entry and exit points will be covered. The system must record clear images permitting the identification of individuals, and in particular enable facial recognition images (a clear head and shoulder image) of every

person entering and leaving in any light condition. The CCTV system will continually record whilst the premises are open for licensable activities and during all times when customers remain on the premises. All equipment must have a constant and accurate time and date generation. All recordings will be stored for a minimum period of 31 days with date and time stamping. Recordings will be made available immediately upon the request of an authorised officer of a responsible authority throughout the entire 31 day period. The CCTV system will be capable of downloading images to a recognisable viewable format. The CCTV system will capture a minimum of 4 frames per second. The CCTV system will be fitted with security functions to prevent recordings being tampered with, i.e., be password protected.

All alcohol on display will be in such a position so as not to be obscured from the constant view of the staff.

In the event that an incident occurs for which the police have been called, the crime scene shall be preserved to enable police to carry out a full forensic investigation.

The maximum number of persons (including staff) allowed at the premises shall not exceed 50.

The collection of glasses and bottles shall be undertaken at regular intervals to ensure there is no build-up of empties on the premises.

All staff, supervisors and managers must be trained in the legality and procedure of alcohol sales, prior to undertaking the sale of alcohol and then at least every 12 months. Training shall be signed and documented. Training records must be kept on the premises and be made available for inspection and copying to an authorised officer of a responsible authority on request. The documentation relating to training should extend back to a period of at least 12 months and should specify the time, date and details of the persons both providing the training and receiving the training.

There will be in place a written age verification policy in relation to the sale or supply of alcohol, which will specify a Challenge 25 proof of age requirement. This means that staff working at the premises must ask individuals who appear to be under 25 years of age, attempting to purchase alcohol, to produce identification. The only acceptable identification documents will be: - A photo driving licence - A passport - An identification card carrying the PASS hologram Unless such identification is produced the sale of alcohol must be refused. This policy will include documented steps taken to

prevent adults from purchasing alcohol for or on behalf of children under 18.

The premises shall display prominent signage indicating at any point of sale that a Challenge 25 scheme is in operation.

An alcohol sales refusal register shall be kept at the premises and be maintained to include details of all alcohol sales refused. The register will include: i. the date and time of refusal ii. the reason for refusal iii. details of the person refusing the sale iv. description of the customer v. any other relevant observations The refusals register will be made available for inspection and copying on request of an authorised officer of a responsible authority. All entries must be made within 24 hours of the refusal.

3 Responsible Authorities

- 3.1 Section 13 of the Licensing Act contains the list of Responsible Authorities who must be consulted on each application. Dorset Police, Dorset and Wiltshire Fire Service, Public Health Dorset, the Immigration Authority, Dorset Council Trading Standards, Dorset Council Children's Services, Dorset Council Planning, Dorset Council Licensing, Dorset Council Environmental Protection and Dorset Council Health and Safety have all been consulted.
- 3.2 There were no representations received from any of the Responsible Authorities.

4 Representations from other persons

- 4.1 The Licensing Act 2003 Section 182 Guidance (the Guidance) sets out at 8.13 the role of "other persons":

"As well as responsible authorities, any other person can play a role in a number of licensing processes under the 2003 Act. This includes any individual, body or business entitled to make representations to licensing authorities in relation to applications for the grant, variation, minor variation or review of premises licences and club premises certificates, regardless of their geographic proximity to the premises. In addition, these persons may themselves seek a review of a premises licence. Any representations made by these persons must be 'relevant', in that the representation relates to one or more of the licensing objectives. It must also not be considered by the licensing authority

to be frivolous or vexatious. In the case of applications for reviews, there is an additional requirement that the grounds for the review should not be considered by the licensing authority to be repetitious. Chapter 9 of this guidance (paragraphs 9.4 to 9.10) provides more detail on the definition of relevant, frivolous and vexatious representations.

4.2 The Guidance states at paragraph 9.4 what a “relevant” representation is;

“A representation is “relevant” if it relates to the likely effect of the grant of the licence on the promotion of at least one of the licensing objectives. For example, a representation from a local businessperson about the commercial damage caused by competition from new licensed premises would not be relevant. On the other hand, a representation by a businessperson that nuisance caused by new premises would deter customers from entering the local area, and the steps proposed by the applicant to prevent that nuisance were inadequate, would be relevant. In other words, representations should relate to the impact of licensable activities carried on from premises on the objectives.”

4.3 There were two relevant representations received from members of the public. The representations were made on the licensing objectives of Prevention of Public Nuisance and Crime and Disorder due to noise and anti-social behaviour. These comments can be found at Appendix 2.

5 Relevant Sections of the Licensing Act 2003

5.1 Section 4 sets out the general duties of the Licensing Authority;

(1) A licensing authority must carry out its functions under this Act (“licensing functions”) with a view to promoting the licensing objectives.

(2) The licensing objectives are:

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

(3) In carrying out its licensing functions, a licensing authority must also have regard to:

- (a) its licensing statement published under section 5, and
- (b) any guidance issued by the Secretary of State under section 182.

6 **Relevant Sections of the Statutory Guidance issued under Section 182**

- 6.1 Paragraphs 1.2, 1.4 and 1.5 of the Revised Guidance issued under Section 182 of the Licensing Act 2003 issued in December 2023 (The Guidance) sets out the Licensing Objectives and aims;

The legislation provides a clear focus on the promotion of four statutory objectives which must be addressed when licensing functions are undertaken.

Each objective is of equal importance. There are no other statutory licensing objectives, so that the promotion of the four objectives is a paramount consideration at all times.

However, the legislation also supports a number of other key aims and purposes. These are vitally important and should be principal aims for everyone involved in licensing work. They include:

- protecting the public and local residents from crime, anti-social behaviour and noise nuisance caused by irresponsible licensed premises;
- giving the police and licensing authorities the powers they need to effectively manage and police the night-time economy and take action against those premises that are causing problems;
- recognising the important role which pubs and other licensed premises play in our local communities by minimising the regulatory burden on business, encouraging innovation and supporting responsible premises;
- providing a regulatory framework for alcohol which reflects the needs of local communities and empowers local authorities to make and enforce decisions about the most appropriate licensing strategies for their local area; and
- encouraging greater community involvement in licensing decisions and giving local residents the opportunity to have their say regarding licensing decisions that may affect them.

- 6.2. Paragraph 1.16 of the Guidance sets out how conditions should be formulated;

Conditions on a premises licence or club premises certificate are important in setting the parameters within which premises can lawfully operate. The use of wording such as “must”, “shall” and “will” is encouraged. Licence conditions:

- must be appropriate for the promotion of the licensing objectives;
- must be precise and enforceable;
- must be unambiguous and clear in what they intend to achieve;
- should not duplicate other statutory requirements or other duties or responsibilities placed on the employer by other legislation;
- must be tailored to the individual type, location and characteristics of the premises and events concerned;
- should not be standardised and may be unlawful when it cannot be demonstrated that they are appropriate for the promotion of the licensing objectives in an individual case;
- should not replicate offences set out in the 2003 Act or other legislation;
- should be proportionate, justifiable and be capable of being met;
- cannot seek to manage the behaviour of customers once they are beyond the direct management of the licence holder and their staff, but may impact on the behaviour of customers in the immediate vicinity of the premises or as they enter or leave; and
- should be written in a prescriptive format.

6.3. Paragraph 1.19 states;

While licence conditions should not duplicate other statutory provisions, licensing authorities and licensees should be mindful of requirements and responsibilities placed on them by other legislation.

6.4 Paragraphs 9.42 – 9.44 of the Guidance set out how the Licensing Authority will determine an application;

Licensing authorities are best placed to determine what actions are appropriate for the promotion of the licensing objectives in their areas. All licensing determinations should be considered on a case by-case basis. They should take into account any representations or objections that have been received from responsible authorities or other persons, and representations made by the applicant or premises user as the case may be.

The authority'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.

Determination of whether an action or step is appropriate for the promotion of the licensing objectives requires an assessment of what action or step would be suitable to achieve that end. While this does not therefore require a licensing authority to decide that no lesser step will achieve the aim, the authority should aim to consider the potential burden that the condition would impose on the premises licence holder (such as the financial burden due to restrictions on licensable activities) as well as the potential benefit in terms of the promotion of the licensing objectives. However, it is imperative that the authority ensures that the factors which form the basis of its determination are limited to consideration of the promotion of the objectives and nothing outside those parameters. As with the consideration of licence variations, the licensing authority should consider wider issues such as other conditions already in place to mitigate potential negative impact on the promotion of the licensing objectives and the track record of the business. Further advice on determining what is appropriate when imposing conditions on a licence or certificate is provided in Chapter 10. The licensing authority is expected to come to its determination based on an assessment of the evidence on both the risks and benefits either for or against making the determination."

7 Options

7.1 The Sub-Committee will determine the application in the light of all of the written representations and any oral evidence from the hearing. They will take such steps as it considers appropriate and proportionate for the promotion of the licensing objectives of;

- a. The prevention of crime and disorder
- b. The prevention of public nuisance
- c. Public safety
- d. The protection of children from harm

The steps that the Sub-Committee may take are:

- a. to grant the licence subject to such conditions as the authority considers appropriate for the promotion of the licensing objectives and the mandatory objectives
- b. to exclude from the scope of the licence any of the licensable activities to which the application relates;

- c. to refuse to specify a person in the licence as the designated premises supervisor;
- d. to reject the application

8 Financial Implications

Any decision of the Sub Committee could lead to an appeal by any of the parties involved that could incur costs.

9 Environmental Implications

None.

10 Well-being and Health Implications

None.

11 Other Implications

None.

12 Risk Assessment

- 12.1 HAVING CONSIDERED: the risks associated with this decision; the level of risk has been identified as:

Current Risk: Low

Residual Risk: Low

13 Equalities Impact Assessment

Not applicable

14 Appendices

Appendix 1 – Application form

Appendix 2 – Representations from Interested Parties

15 Background Papers

[Licensing Act 2003](#)

[Home Office Guidance issued under Section 182 of the Licensing Act 2003](#)

[Dorset Council Statement of Licensing Policy 2021](#)