#### **Trafford Council**

# The Licensing Act 2003

## **Responsible Authority Representation Form**

FAO The Licensing Service, Licensing Section, Trafford Town Hall, Talbot Road, Stretford, M32 0TH

#### **Section 1 - Application Details**

I wish to make a representation regarding the application for the review of a premises licence for the following premises:

Premises name: The Railway Public House

Premises name and address: 152 Manchester Road, Broadheath, Altrincham WA14 5NT.

Type of Application: Application for the Review of a Premises Licence

Application Number (if known):

PL000475

Section 2 – Responsible Authority's Details		
Responsible Authority's Details:		
Please tick appropriate box:		
X Chief Officer of Police		
Fire and Rescue Authority		
Local Planning Authority		
Health and Safety Authority		
Environmental Health Authority		
Bodies recognised as being responsible for protection of children from		
harm		
Local Authority Director of Public Health		
Local Weights and Measures Authority (Trading Standards)		
Licensing Authority		
Home Office Immigration Enforcement		
Other		
Full name: John LLOYD		
Job Title: Police Officer		
Tele number: 07391860064		
Email: john.lloyd@gmp.police.uk		

Address:

GMP Stretford Police Station, Talbot Road, Stretford. M32 0XB

### **Section 3 – Representations**

In relation to the review of a premises licence, if the licensing committee are minded to modify the terms of the licence, either immediately or after a period of suspension, we would like to see the conditions outlined in section 3B included on the licence for the reasons outlined in section 3A.

Section 3A – The Licensing Objectives				
To prevent	Please state your reasons:			
crime and				
disorder	On Thursday 25 <sup>th</sup> January 2024 Greater Manchester Police attended Manchester Magistrates Court and presented details to the court in the form of an application for a warrant. This warrant was granted by the courts under Section 1 & 2 of the Modern Slavery Act 2015 - Slavery, servitude and forced or compulsory labour - Human trafficking.			
	On the back of the warrant being granted GMP and partners (Trafford Council Community Safety Team) arranged to execute this on Tuesday 13 <sup>th</sup> February 2024.			
	The address in question was The Railway Public House 153 Manchester Rd, Broadheath, Altrincham WA14 5NT. This is a detached public house with public main entrance at the front accessed via pavement and at the rear a beer garden which backs onto the retail parks public parking. This has a gate which was unlocked with access the beer garden. The door leading out to the beer garden is a locked door and not used for access/egress unless the beer garden is being used. The rooms above the pub are accessed via a door inside the pub marked 'Staff Only'. To the best of my knowledge no person is registered as living at the property from Tax Records however one of the arrested parties has stated they have lived there for over two years on one of the rooms. The door leading from the			

APPENDIX ET
pub to the flats above marked 'Staff Only' was closed but unlocked upon my arrival.
In the pub at the time were three people the licensee Rebecca ELLIS, also present was the believed owner and finally a female who stated she was a friend of Rebecca ELLIS, her details were taken and allowed to leave.
A search of the full property was undertaken, In one of the six bedrooms upstairs a female was located and spoken to, she provided her details. This individual is a known sex worker. Upstairs was made of six bedrooms (some en-suite) each equipped with a bed and little other furniture. There was also a laundry room, no kitchen or living room. Within the upper property as mentioned in the representation from the Community Safety Team there were items found such as used condom, sealed condom bag containing boxes of new stockings. One of the rooms was clearly being used as a bedroom by someone.
Both individuals were arrested under an offence of Controlling Prostitution for Gain: Section 53 Sexual Offences Act 2003 or trafficking for the purposes of prostitution.
This is still a live criminal investigation and as such am mindful of disclosing details of the ongoing investigation in a public hearing and details of the arrested.
I can confirm the CCTV which covers the licensed premises was seized as possible providing evidence of offences, one of the conditions on the license would be for CCTV to be installed and working currently this has been removed by Greater Manchester Police.
There had been a report from September 2023 that it was suspected the business had been displaying BT / SKY programmes and avoiding the payment of the of the relevant commercial fee, I can confirm the licensed premises was advertising BT/SKY Sports on external signs (see attached Appendix E2 - JL1) and also electronic signs on the bar (see attached Appendix E4 - JL3), there were three SKY boxes plugged in and showing green power light (see attached Appendix E3 - JL2). At the time of entering the public house terrestrial TV was playing on the televisions.

### APPENDIX E1

	Following the arrest the Community Safety Team issued a closure notice for 24 hrs, the following day at Manchester Magistrates Court this was extended for one week until Wednesday 21 <sup>st</sup> February, then on Wednesday 21 <sup>st</sup> February this closure order was granted for three months.
	Along with the three-month court issued closure the current licensee has a Police imposed condition " <i>Not to apply for any</i> <i>new licenses at any public house, or to be involved in the</i> <i>running or employment of any licensed premises</i> " this is in place until 14 <sup>th</sup> May 2024. The licensee is also named as DPS for another City Centre licensed premises, I contacted the appropriate people to conduct a visit. On the door dated 19 <sup>th</sup> January 2024 was an enforcement letter from bailiffs that the business had been secured and closed, see attached. (see attached Appendix E5 - JL1 Bar 8).
	The Designated Premise Supervisor has a responsibility and obligation to keep within the law and to follow the licensing objectives. Having a known sex worker transported to and staying on the property, being found in the bedroom of someone associated with the running and ownership of the premise and access to these bedrooms is via the pub is concerning and casts doubt on how the business its operated.
	I believe this Pub is being run and operated in a manner which is not consistent with the licensing objectives, Greater Manchester Police had reason to apply for and execute a warrant. As a result, two persons present linked to the business were arrested and on Police Bail.
	Manchester Magistrates Court have been presented with a report from Trafford Council Community Safety Team and based on this issued a three-month closure order.
Public safety	Please state your reasons:

To prevent public nuisance	Please state your reasons:

The protection of children from harm	Please state your reasons:		
Section 3B – Suggestions/Further information			
Please give any suggested conditions that could be added to the licence to remedy			

Please give any suggested conditions that could be added to the licence to remedy the cause of your representations, or other considerations you would like the Licensing Sub-Committee to take into account.

I believe while the business is closed, combined with the Police investigation and bail conditions restricting the licensee from being involved in the running or employment of any licensed premises and the closure notice the license should be considered for revocation and DPS removed. This is to prevent the business reopening and trading in the way it has previously. I confirm that this representation may become a public document

Signed PC John LLOYD 18264 dated 28/02/2024

N.B if you do make a representation you will be expected to attend the Licensing Sub-Committee hearing and any subsequent appeal proceedings.

It is an offence, under section 158 of the Licensing Act 2003, to knowingly or recklessly make a false statement in connection with this representation. This is punishable, on summary conviction, by a fine not exceeding level 5 on the standard scale.

Please return this form along with any additional sheets to: The Licensing Service, Trafford Council; Trafford Town Hall, Talbot Road, Stretford, Manchester, M32 0HT or email to licensing@trafford.gov.uk.

This form must be returned within the Statutory Period. Please check with the Licensing Section by emailing licensing@trafford.gov.uk