

Report To:	SPEAKERS PANEL (LIQUOR LICENSING)
Date:	7 July 2021
Executive Member / Reporting Officer:	Emma Varnam – Assistant Director, Operations and Neighbourhoods
Subject:	APPLICATION FOR AN EXPEDITED REVIEW OF A PREMISES LICENCE (INTERIM STEPS DECISION) – THE SNIPE, 387 MANCHESTER ROAD, AUDENSHAW, M34 5RP
Report Summary:	Members are requested to decide what, if any, interim steps to take in respect of the application
Recommendations:	<p>Having regard to the application from Greater Manchester Police, Members are requested to decide what, if any, interim steps to take as it considers appropriate for the promotion of the licensing objectives. The steps available are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Modification of the conditions of the licence b) The exclusion of the sale of alcohol by retail from the scope of the licence c) Remove the designated premises supervisor d) The suspension of the licence.
Links to Corporate Plan:	Living Well – Improve satisfaction with local community
Policy Implications:	Members are provided with policy guidelines to assist in the decision making process.
Financial Implications:	There are limited financial implications for the Council, as detailed in the report, however, any legal challenge to a policy decision may potentially incur costs.
(Authorised by the Borough Treasurer)	
Legal Implications:(Authorised by the Borough Solicitor)	<p>Any decision to impose interim steps following an application for an expedited review may be challenged by way of representations from the premises licence holder (in the first instance) to the Speaker’s Panel (Liquor Licensing).</p> <p>In exercising its powers under the Licensing Act 2003 the Panel will have regard to the Summary Review Guidance issued by the Home Office</p>
Risk Management:	Failure to give full consideration to the determination of licensing issues has the potential to impact on public safety, and also the right of an individual to earn a living
Access to Information	<p>The author of the report is Mike Robinson, Regulatory Services Manager (Licensing):-</p> <p> Telephone - 0161 342 4122</p> <p> e-mail: mike.robinson@tameside.gov.uk</p>

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 Section 53A of the Licensing Act 2003 outlines the procedure whereby the police may apply to the Licensing Authority for an expedited review of a premises licence.
- 1.2 Section 53A of the Licensing Act 2003 requires the licensing authority, on receipt of an application for an expedited review, within 48 hours of the time of its receipt, to consider under section 53B whether it is necessary to take interim steps pending the determination of a review of the premises licence.
- 1.3 The interim steps the licensing authority must consider taking are:
 - (a) The modification of the conditions of the premises licence;
 - (b) The exclusion of the sale of alcohol by retail from the scope of the licence;
 - (c) The removal of the designated premises supervisor from the licence,
 - (d) The suspension of the licence.

2. REPORT

- 2.1 At approximately 06:00 on Tuesday 6 July 2021, Greater Manchester Police executed search warrants at a number of premises linked to the tenant of The Snipe Inn, 387 Manchester Road, Audenshaw. One of the addresses searched was The Snipe Inn.
- 2.2 During the search of the premises, Officers found a cannabis farm in the upstairs accommodation of the premises with ten mature plants being grown. The electricity meter has been bypassed and a substantial sum of money has been seized by Police.
- 2.3 The Designated Premises Supervisor, Geoffrey Lee, who resides on site at The Snipe, 387 Manchester Road, Audenshaw was present at the premises at the time the warrant was executed. Mr Lee is currently in custody having been arrested for being concerned in the production of controlled drugs.
- 2.4 Greater Manchester Police have concerns that the management of the premises are failing to promote the licensing objective of the prevention of crime and disorder due to serious crime regarding the cultivation of Cannabis being present on the premises.
- 2.5 At approximately 12:50pm on Tuesday 6 July 2021, PC Martin Thorley from Greater Manchester Police submitted an application to the Licensing Authority for an expedited review of the premises licence in accordance with s53A of the Licensing Act 2003. A copy of PC Thorley's application is attached at **Appendix 1**.
- 2.6 In addition, PC Thorley also submitted a certificate in accordance with s53A(1)(b), signed by Superintendent Rachael Harrison, to the effect that the premises is associated with serious crime. A copy of the certificate is attached at **Appendix 2**.

3. CONCLUSION AND OPTIONS FOR THE PANEL

- 3.1 Panel are requested to consider whether it is necessary to take interim steps pending the determination of a full review hearing, which is required to take place within 28 days of the submission of the application.
- 3.2 The interim steps the licensing authority must consider taking are:
 - (a) The modification of the conditions of the premises licence;

- (b) The exclusion of the sale of alcohol by retail from the scope of the licence;
- (c) The removal of the designated premises supervisor from the licence, (d) The suspension of the licence.