



# HILLINGDON

LONDON

Claire Freeman  
Regulatory Services  
3S/09 Civic Centre

Reference; SW/14/

Your Reference;

Date; 11<sup>th</sup> December 2014

Dear Claire

**BLUE LAGOON, WOOD END GREEN ROAD, HAYES  
THE LICENSING ACT 2003**

With reference to the recent expedited review application and subsequent full review consultation in respect of the above premises, you are advised that I am writing to you as the Officer duly authorised to make representations on behalf of the Licensing Authority.

I have had the opportunity to assess the documentation contained within the Police application for the review and also to gather feedback from Licensing Officers on the premises.

Based on the assessment, I would to make representation to the Licensing Sub-Committee for the following reasons;

*Prevention of Crime & Disorder*

The information contained within the Police's Expedited Review application is concerning and it clearly demonstrates that the management practices at the premises were not to the standard expected by the Licensing Authority. The Licensing Authority would fully support the permanent imposition of the interim conditions imposed at the summary review hearing.

*Public Safety*

Upon assessment of the Inspecting Officers report, the Licensing Authority was concerned to learn of some of the current management practices which are undermining the Public Safety Licensing Objective. The Inspecting Officer has highlighted some fire safety concerns and has reported on the need for further training and the implementation of procedures regarding public safety in licensed premises.

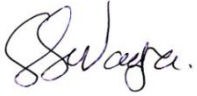


Protection of Children from Harm

The Licensing Authority are concerned that the 17 year old male involved in the incident on 30<sup>th</sup> November 2014 was, in the opinion of the attending Police Officers, very intoxicated.

I have exhibited statements from Inspecting Licensing Officers, Stephanie Waterford and Ian Meens who will also be present at the hearing.

Yours faithfully



Shabeg Nagra  
Public Protection Manager



**STATEMENT OF WITNESS**

*(Criminal Procedure Rules, r 27.2;  
Criminal Justice Act 1967, s. 9, Magistrates' Courts Act 1980, s.5B)*

STATEMENT OF: Stephanie Waterford

Age of witness: (if over 18 enter "Over 18") Over 18

Occupation of witness: Licensing Officer

This statement consisting of 4 pages 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 in it anything that I know to be false or do not believe to be true.

Dated the 11<sup>th</sup> day of December 2014 Signed: 

I am employed by the London Borough of Hillingdon as a Licensing Officer. I make this statement in response to the Expedited Premises Licence Review application made by the Metropolitan Police Service on 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2014 in respect of the Blue Lagoon Public House, Wood End Green Road, Hayes.

On Monday 24<sup>th</sup> November 2014 through a phonecall with Acting Police Sergeant Ian Wares, I was made aware of an incident at the Blue Lagoon Pub involving violent disorder. The incident was described to me as a pre planned attack on two males attending a family wedding which quickly escalated to a large brawl involving 20+ persons using a variety of weapons including bottles, glasses, garden forks, pick axe handles etc.

During the phonecall with Acting Sergeant Wares, I was aware of the involvement from the Central Police Licensing Unit and their preference to serve an expedited review application at that stage.

We discussed the incident and discussed the fact that there was very little that the Premises Licence Holder could have done to prevent the incident occurring as it appeared to be a pre-planned targeted attack against specific victims. We were, however concerned about some of the management

Signed: 

**Statement of:****Page 2**

practices in place at the premises and the general handling of the incident by the staff.

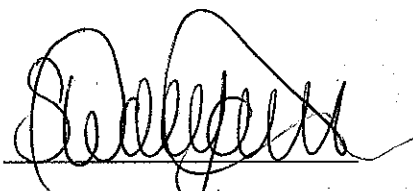
It was decided at that stage to carry out a joint visit with a view to getting a number of remedial conditions imposed upon the premises licence by way of a Minor Variation application. On Friday 28<sup>th</sup> November 2014, Acting Police Sergeant Ian Wares and myself, visited the premises and met with Mr Prashant Patel. We discussed the violent disorder incident at length and served him with a letter outlining a number of remedial conditions recommended by the Police and supported by the Licensing Service. This letter, dated 28<sup>th</sup> November 2014 is attached to Acting Police Sergeant Ian Wares' submissions in the Expedited Review application.

Mr Patel was grateful for the opportunity to remedy the situation by working with A/PS Wares and myself and avoid the formality of a review.

Mr Patel signed the letter to say that he was happy to adopt the proposed conditions on a voluntary basis pending the determination of a Minor Variation.

During our visit, I spoke to Mr Patel about his procedures for taking bookings for private functions and enquired what assessments he made of the clientele prior to bookings being confirmed.

Mr Patel explained that his processes were not as vigorous as they could be. I made a number of recommendations to him to assist with the vetting of bookings for private functions and explained that he should be making individual assessments based on the vetting process which would determine extra control/management measures that he may need to provide e.g. extra door staff/security. The recommendations included gaining information on; the age group of the persons attending the private function; the number of persons attending; the demographic of the persons attending i.e. families, all male parties etc.

Signed: 

**Statement of:**

During my inspection of the premises, I noted that a number of designated fire exits were locked either with chains and padlocks or with bolts and padlocks. I also noted that one of the designated fire escape/exit lobbies was being used as a storage area thus making the fire exit unavailable in the case of emergency. I also noted that the premises were open for trade and that one customer was on the premises as well as a number of cleaning and maintenance staff. I asked Mr Patel when the doors were opened as part of their opening up routine. At first he said that he does not open the doors for security reasons and then corrected himself and said that he opens the pair of double doors in the dance floor area when there are functions taking place. Mr Patel confirmed that it was not part of the opening up routine to unchain the doors. I expressed my concern to Mr Patel about the public safety risk to members of the public on the premises and advised very strongly that he ought to make the doors available immediately and whenever the premises are open to the public. I also made enquiries regarding the current Fire Safety Risk Assessment for the premises. Mr Patel was unaware of the existence of any such document.

Upon my return to the office, I contacted the local Fire Safety Officer and reported my findings for further investigation.

On 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2014, the Licensing Service were made aware of a further incident of violent disorder at the premises, taking place just after midnight on Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> November 2014. The Police were therefore compelled to serve an Expedited Review application which arrived at our office on Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2014.

My colleague, Ian Meens visited the premises on 3<sup>rd</sup> December in order to serve the notice of review and also to make a follow up inspection of the premises. Mr Meens was accompanied by the Fire Officer, Derek Bird.

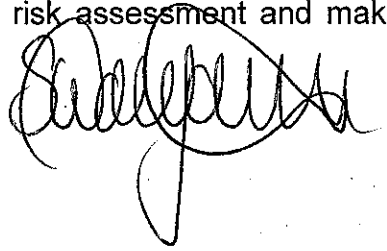
The findings of Mr Meens' visit are contained within his supporting statement.

On Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> December 2014, the Licensing Service received an update from Derek Bird where we were advised that the immediate fire safety

Signed: 

**Statement of:**

concerns had been addressed and that Mr Patel has employed a fire safety consultant to produce a risk assessment and make other recommendations regarding public safety.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'S. Patel', written over the end of the text.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

**STATEMENT OF WITNESS**

(Criminal Procedure Rules, r 27.2)  
 Criminal Justice Act 1967, s. 9, Magistrates' Courts Act 1980, s.5B)

STATEMENT OF: Ian Meens

Age of witness: (if over 18 enter "Over 18") Over 18

Occupation of witness: Licensing Officer

This statement consisting of 2 page(s) 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 in it anything that I know to be false or do not believe to be true.

Dated the 9th day of December 2014 Signed: Ian Meens

On the 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2014 at midday I visited the Blue Lagoon Pub Wood End Green Road Hayes. On arrival I found the pub locked with various lights on around the back and upstairs. I was joined at that time by Inspecting Officer Derek Bird from the London Fire Brigade. I had attended the venue to serve papers in-connection with a police application to the Licensing Authority for an expedited review. Unable to get into the premises or speak with any person I slid the papers under the front door. At this point a member of staff appeared and opened the door, I spoke to this man briefly before realising that he had a limited use of English but I was able to ask him to call the owner and see if they were able to attend. This he did and shortly after Mr Prashant Patel arrived. The pub had been opened and the first two customers had entered. This was a middle aged man with a woman. The man went to the bar ordered drinks and then sat at a table. The man appeared to have purchased a pint of lager; I was not able to see what drink the woman had chosen. They did not appear to order any food and in the whole time I was at the premise did any food arrive at their table.

The barman then proceeded to unlock the fire doors removing the padlocks. I explained to Mr Patel the procedures involved in an expedited review and we retrieved the letter and all the forms to assist the explanation. I then waited

Signed: Ian Meens

whilst Mr Bird spoke to Mr Patel about fire matters. During this time I noticed that there were three gaming machines situated in the premises. Two of the machines appeared to be class c machines and therefore properly registered. The third machine appeared to be a gaming machine with a £400 payout and the choice of different games such as roulette and poker. This type of machine is generally classed as a B3 machine and not permitted in Public Houses. The machine was switched on and all the lights and screen were working. I was able to select different games by touching the screen. I took a photo of this machine which I exhibit as IM1. It did not have the correct gambling warnings and I could not immediately see any classification on the machine. When I was again able to speak to Mr Patel and point out the concerns around this machine, I returned to the area where it had been situated and discovered that it had been moved. It was now located in the dancing area up against a wall divider and switched off. I pointed out the offence of having an authorised machine available for use to Mr Patel and he replied that he had only had it in the pub for four or so days and that the supplier had sent the wrong one by mistake and that he was waiting for it to be collected. I suggested therefore that it wouldn't be on the CCTV that has been seized by the police and he replied that it may have been there a bit longer than 4 days couldn't remember just how long. I didn't carry out any further examination of the machine. Having returned to the premises today, 9<sup>th</sup> December 2014, to deliver the decision notice, I checked over the premises whilst there and found that the illegally sited (£400) gaming machine was no longer in any of the public areas of the premises.

Signed: lan lewis



