

CERTIFICATE UNDER SECTION 53A(1)(b) OF THE LICENSING ACT 2003

I hereby certify that in my opinion the premises described below are associated with serious crime / serious disorder / both serious crime and serious disorder¹.

Premises²:
Society Night Club
Tower Street
Coventry

Premises licence number (if known):

Name of premises supervisor (if known): Mr Gurdeep Bassi

I am a Superintendent 1437 Edwards³ in the West Midlands Police Force police force.

I am giving this certificate because I am of the opinion that other procedures under the Licensing Act are inappropriate in this case, because⁴:

There has been a significant + grave incident of crime and disorder at this premises this week, and I have real concerns that should it remain open for business there may be further incidents. This is a venue that attracts patrons from the wider midlands region, it is not further afield therefore just because a serious incident occurred this week I can not assume the impact locally will act as a sobering mechanism to prevent similar incidents of a similar nature in the near future + until such time that threat can be safely + adequately mitigated.

¹ Delete as applicable.

² Include business name and address and any other relevant identifying details.

³ Insert rank of officer giving the certificate, which must be superintendent or above.

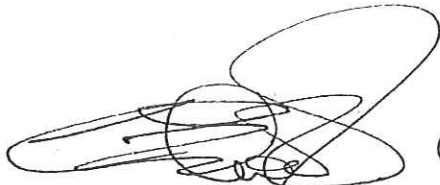
⁴ Give a brief description of why other procedures such as a standard review process are thought to be inappropriate, e.g. the degree of seriousness of the crime and/or disorder, the past history of compliance in relation to the premises concerned.

C. EDWARDS

SUIT 1437

18/3/15

(Signed)

A large, stylized handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of several overlapping loops and lines.

(Date)

18/3/18

C. ROWATTE

SUIT 1487

FORM FOR APPLYING FOR A SUMMARY LICENCE REVIEW

[Insert name and address of relevant licensing authority and its reference number (optional)]

Coventry Licensing Authority
3rd Floor, Broad Gate House
City Centre
Coventry
CV1 1NH

Application for the review of a premises licence under section 53A of the Licensing Act 2003 (premises associated with serious crime or disorder)

PLEASE READ THE FOLLOWING INSTRUCTIONS FIRST

Before completing this form please read the guidance notes at the end of the form. If you are completing the form by hand please write legibly in block capitals. In all cases ensure that your answers are inside the boxes and written in black ink. **Use additional sheets if necessary.**

I PC 4093 Joanne BOWES [on behalf of] the chief officer of police for the West Midlands police area apply for the review of a premises licence under section 53A of the Licensing Act 2003.

1. Premises details:

Postal address of premises, or if none or not known, ordnance survey map reference or description:

**Society
Tower Street
City Centre
License Number LN/**

Post town: Coventry

Post code (if known): **CV1 1JN**

2. Premises licence details:

Name of premises licence holder (if known): Mr Gurdeep BASSI

Number of premises licence holder (if known):

3. Certificate under section 53A(1)(b) of the Licensing Act 2003 [Please read guidance note 1]:

I confirm that a certificate has been given by a senior member of the police force for the police area above that in his opinion the above premises are associated with serious crime or disorder or both, and the certificate accompanies this application.

(Please tick the box to confirm)

4. Details of association of the above premises with serious crime, serious disorder or both:

[Please read guidance note 2]

At approximately 0200hours on Sunday the 15th March 2015 Ambulance were called to Society Night Club, Tower Street, Coventry at a report of a stabbing at the premises. It would appear that whilst inside the club two groups of males had an altercation in the downstairs bar area. This escalated and resulted in 3 males being stabbed. One male sustained stab wounds to the back, one sustained stab wounds to the arm, the other was stabbed to the neck and was pronounced dead a short while later. One of the males in question was only 17 years of age. Others involved in the disorder received injuries due to broken glass. This is being treated as a murder and double attempt murder investigation by the West Midlands Police.

This club has previously been involved in similar incidents of serious disorder, and it is felt that if it were to remain open it would pose a serious threat to the safety of the public. West Midlands Police have been made aware through dialogue with the premises owner that further events are planned to take place in the very near future. West Midlands Police remain extremely concerned that the inability of all involved to effectively manage the premise continues to create an unacceptable level of risk to the safety and wellbeing of patrons, staff and emergency users responding to incidents of disorder.

The Police therefore request that consideration be made for interim steps to be taken, and that the premises license be suspended pending a summary review.

Signature of applicant:

Date: 18/03/2015

Capacity: Superintendent

Contact details for matters concerning this application:

Address: **C/O Licensing and Planning Department
Coventry Central Police Station
City Centre
Coventry
CV1 2JW**

Telephone number(s): 02476 539097

Email: j.bowes@west-midlands.pnn.police.uk

Notes for guidance:

1. A certificate of the kind mentioned in the form must accompany the application in order for it to be valid under the terms of the Licensing Act 2003. The certificate must explicitly state the senior officer's opinion that the premises in question are associated with serious crime, serious disorder or both.

Serious crime is defined by reference to section 81 of the Regulation of Investigatory Powers Act 2000. In summary, it means:

- conduct that amounts to one or more criminal offences for which a person who has attained the age of eighteen and has no previous convictions could reasonably be expected to be sentenced to imprisonment for a term of three years or more; or
- conduct that amounts to one or more criminal offences and involves the use of violence, results in substantial financial gain or is conduct by a large number of persons in pursuit of a common purpose.

Serious disorder is not defined in legislation, and so bears its ordinary English meaning.

2. Briefly describe the circumstances giving rise to the opinion that the above premises are associated with serious crime, serious disorder, or both.



Mr G. Bassi,
C/o Society Nightclub,
1 Tower Street,
Coventry, CV1 1JN.

Your reference:
Our reference: L/MS/859

20th March 2015

Resources Directorate
Legal Services

4th Floor, Christchurch House
Greyfriars Lane
Coventry CV1 2QL

DX 18868 COVENTRY 2

Please contact: Mark Smith
Direct line 024 7683 3037
Fax 024 7683 3004
mark.smith@coventry.gov.uk

Dear Sir,

Licensing Act 2003 – Notice of Interim Steps

Application

Application by West Midlands Police for the summary review of the Premises Licence relating to Society Nightclub, 1 Tower Street, Coventry (S.53A Licensing Act 2003).

Date of Hearing

20th March 2015.

Interim Steps Decision

The Premises Licence is immediately suspended until the full review hearing which must take place no later than 15th April 2015.

Reasons

The sub-committee considered the written review application and oral submissions from the Police and written representations from the Licensee. It also had regard to the Secretary of State's 2012 Guidance on Summary Reviews.

In view of the serious incident which occurred on the premises on 15th March 2015 resulting in one fatal stabbing, two further stabbings and other persons being injured, previous incidents of disorder and Police concerns about how the premises have been managed and Police concerns about the risks to public safety involved in permitting forthcoming events to go ahead the sub-committee felt it was necessary that the licence should be suspended pending the hearing of the full review.

Date Decision Takes Effect

The decision took effect at 1400hrs on 20th March 2015.

Right of Appeal



Chris West
Executive Director Resources

The Act does not provide for a right of appeal against Interim Steps imposed pending a Summary Review. However, Section 53B of the Act provides a right for the licensee to request the Licensing Authority to review the Interim Steps imposed.

Yours faithfully

Mark Smith
Senior Solicitor
Place & Regulatory Team

Cc Police.