



Coventry City Council

Application for the review of a premises licence or club premises certificate under the Licensing Act 2003

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 this 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. You may wish to keep a copy of the completed form for your records.

I Andrew Tandy, Trading Standards Officer, Coventry City Council

(Insert name of applicant)

apply for the review of a premises licence under section 51 / apply for the review of a club premises certificate under section 87 of the Licensing Act 2003 for the premises described in Part 1 below (delete as applicable)

Part 1 – Premises or club premises details

Postal address of premises or, if none, ordnance survey map reference or description SPS News & Wine - 84b Dawlish Drive, Coventry, West Midlands,	
Post town Coventry	Post code (if known) CV3 5NA

Name of premises licence holder or club holding club premises certificate (if known) Juren JAGAMOHAN
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Number of premises licence or club premises certificate (if known) Premises Licence number LN/207000399

Part 2 - Applicant details

I am

Please tick ✓ yes

1) an individual, body or business which is not a responsible authority (please read guidance note 1, and complete (A) or (B) below)

2) a responsible authority (please complete (C) below)

3) a member of the club to which this application relates
(please complete (A) below)

(A) DETAILS OF INDIVIDUAL APPLICANT (fill in as applicable)

Please tick ✓ yes

Mr Mrs Miss Ms Other title
(for example, Rev)

Surname

First names

I am 18 years old or over

Please tick ✓ yes

**Current postal
address if
different from
premises
address**

Post town

Post Code

Daytime contact telephone number

**E-mail address
(optional)**

(B) DETAILS OF OTHER APPLICANT

Name and address

Telephone number (if any)

E-mail address (optional)

(C) DETAILS OF RESPONSIBLE AUTHORITY APPLICANT

Name and address

Andrew Tandy – Trading Standards Officer

Trading Standards
Regulatory Services
Coventry City Council
PO Box 7097
Council House
COVENTRY
CV6 9SL

Telephone number (if any)

E-mail address (optional)

trading.standards@coventry.gov.uk

This application to review relates to the following licensing objective(s)

- | | Please tick one or more boxes ✓ |
|---|-------------------------------------|
| 1) the prevention of crime and disorder | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 2) public safety | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3) the prevention of public nuisance | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 4) the protection of children from harm | <input type="checkbox"/> |

Please state the ground(s) for review (please read guidance note 2)

The premises have been subject to inspection by officers of the Trading Standards Team at Coventry City Council and 8 bottles of 1 litre High Commissioner Whisky on sale were seized from behind the serving counter as there appeared to be a counterfeit rear label on the bottles.

A representative of the producer, the Head of Governance at Loch Lomond Group Scotland has stated that based on the lot code on the bottles, the bottles have genuine liquid, bottle, closure and front label, but the rear label has been replaced / covered with a counterfeit UK duty back label after being dispatched from the company. The bottles were for export.

Previously on the 25th June 2024 an inspection at the premises resulted in a seizure of 78 illicit vapes. Subsequently, the premises licence holder agreed to a minor variation to the premises licence so that it contained the condition: -

"All alcoholic, nicotine inhaling products (vapes) and tobacco products will be purchased from legitimate traceable sources. Alcohol will be obtained from suppliers registered with the Alcohol Wholesaler Registration Scheme (AWRS) that provide receipts to confirm purchased items. Nicotine inhaling products (vapes) in the form of a disposable electronic cigarette, a single use cartridge, or a tank will have a capacity no greater than 2ml (refills will be no greater than 10ml). Goods sold will not breach the intellectual property rights of the owner nor evade any duty or taxes and should be authentic goods that are sold in compliance with legislation for consumption or use in the UK market. Where required by legislation, alcoholic products will display a duty stamp on its label. All receipts and records for items on sale or in storage will be made available to officers of Licensing and Business Compliance team at Coventry City Council or West Midlands Police for inspection when requested by an authorised officer."

As the bottles were for export they will not have had duty paid on them and will not have been supplied through a HMRC registered supplier under the AWRS scheme and thus this condition has been breached.

Offences have also been committed under the;

Licensing Act 2003 – Section 136 and 144 – Schedule 4 Clause 9

The Excise Goods (Holding, Movement and Duty Point) Regulations 2010

The Customs and Excise Management Act 1979

Digital Markets, Competition and Consumers Act 2024 – Part 4 – Section 226/237

The sales of these products undermine fair competition with legitimate local traders who are complying with the law. There is also a failure to pay duty and VAT which undermines the taxation system reducing revenue two run services in the UK.

A letter was sent to the premises licence holder on 4th December 2025 seeking his comments on the duty evaded alcohol taken from his premises and an email response stated the bottles were in the premises at the time he took over the business and has no invoices for the bottles. He had no reason to believe the product was non-duty paid and this was the first time it was brought to his attention.

The applicant on behalf of the trading standard team state the grounds for this review are therefore based upon the possession of duty evading alcohol products and a breach of a premises licence condition.

Please provide as much information as possible to support the application (please read guidance note 3)

On 18th November 2025 an inspection was undertaken in partnership with West Midlands Police, at the premises which resulted in 8 bottles of 1 litre High Commissioner Whisky on sale being seized. Officers noted that the rear labels contained a duty stamp that did not react to UV light, and some bottles had clear signs of another label beneath the rear label. In a telephone conversation with the premises licence holder during the visit he stated that the bottles were old stock which had been purchased at the time he purchased the business.

Photographs of the labels, lot code details and carton images were emailed to the Loch Lomond Group. On 28th November 2024 the Head of Governance at Loch Lomond Group - 7 Laigh Road Catrine KA56SR Scotland (the producer of this product) stated that High Commissioner 1 litre whisky, with the lot code L3 203 25 22 07 2025 13:48 were bottled at Loch Lomond Group, Glen Catrine Bonded Warehouse as a general export sku, with a Gen Ex back label. So, these bottles have genuine liquid, bottle, closure and front label, but the rear label has been replaced / covered with a counterfeit UK duty back label post-despatch from LLG. This means that the bottles found had export labels on the rear of the bottles when they left the factory. The rear labels that the officers found were counterfeit and indicated by means of a duty stamp that duty had been paid. But this stamp was counterfeit and thus the bottles were duty evading alcohol (smuggled).

The lot code L3 203 25 22 07 2025 13:48 shows that the bottle was produced on 22nd July 2025 at 13:48 and is therefore recently produced. This lot number is etched into the bottle and therefore is difficult to tamper with.

Previously on the 25th June 2024 an inspection at the premises resulted in a seizure of 78 illicit vapes. As a result, a condition was added to the license which was:

"All alcoholic, nicotine inhaling products (vapes) and tobacco products will be purchased from legitimate traceable sources. Alcohol will be obtained from suppliers registered with the Alcohol Wholesaler Registration Scheme (AWRS) that provide receipts to confirm purchased items. Nicotine inhaling products (vapes) in the form of a disposable electronic cigarette, a single use cartridge, or a tank will have a capacity no greater than 2ml (refills will be no greater than 10ml). Goods sold will not breach the intellectual property rights of the owner nor evade any duty or taxes and should be authentic goods that are sold in compliance with legislation for consumption or use in the UK market. Where required by legislation, alcoholic products will display a duty stamp on its label. All receipts and records for items on sale or in storage will be made available to officers of Licensing and Business Compliance team at Coventry City Council or West Midlands Police for inspection when requested by an authorised officer."

A letter was sent to the premises licence holder on 4th December 2025 seeking his comments on the duty evaded alcohol taken from his premises and an email response stated the bottles were in the premises at the time he took over the business and has no invoices for the bottles. He had no reason to believe the product was non-duty paid and this was the first time it was brought to his attention.

The lot code L3 203 25 22 07 2025 13:48 shows that the bottle was produced on 22nd July 2025, the premises licence was issued on 13th March 2023 thus your officers believe that the bottles were purchased this year after the business was taken over by the current premises licence holder.

Offences may have been committed under the;

Licensing Act 2003 – Section 136 and 144 – Schedule 4 Clause 9
The Excise Goods (Holding, Movement and Duty Point) Regulations 2010
The Customs and Excise Management Act 1979
Digital Markets, Competition and Consumers Act 2024 – Part 4 – Section 226/237

From the 1st of April 2017 all alcohol for retail sale Must be purchased from a supplier that is registered with HMRC under the alcohol wholesale registration scheme (AWRS). Each supplier will have a unique number. Any supplier will have to go through a 'fit and proper test' before approval is given. To check that a supplier is registered the retailer can use an online service or can check the supplier's unique registration number. The retailer should show due diligence by

maintaining records that all stock was purchased from a registered supplier and retained details of the unique number of that supplier. This could not have occurred based upon what was found on the premises during the inspection. HMRC Macy stock supplied from an unapproved UK wholesaler, apply penalties of up to £10,000, or prosecute. (Excise notice 2002 - Alcohol Wholesaler Registration Scheme).

Conclusion

The alcoholic products found on the premises were not produced for the UK market and would not have had VAT or duty paid on them (i.e. smuggled.) The current premises licence holder has not provided evidence that he purchased stock from a warehouse that is registered with HMRC under the alcohol wholesaler registration scheme.

It is the opinion of the applicant that:

- The premises licence holder did not adhere to the licencing objectives of the prevention of crime and disorder and has illegal products in the premises which is very concerning have brings into question their fitness to hold a premises licence.
- There was a failure to comply with the alcohol wholesaler registration scheme operated by HMRC to prevent the avoidance of duty payment on alcoholic products
- The circumstances of this case should be considered particularly seriously as detailed in [paragraph 11.27 of the statutory guidance](#) in relation to smuggle goods.

The officer requests the following action to be considered in this instance

1. Revoke the premises licence, or
2. Suspend the premises licence for a period of three months if the premise is that licence holder can provide reassurance and evidence that they will only buy alcoholic products from AWRS approved supplier.

Have you made an application for review relating to the Premises before?

Please tick yes / no

If yes please state the date of that application

Day Month Year

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If you have made representations before relating to the premises please state what they were and when you made them

Please tick ✓ yes

- I have sent copies of this form and enclosures to the responsible authorities and the premises licence holder or club holding the club premises certificate, as appropriate
- I understand that if I do not comply with the above requirements my application will be rejected

IT IS AN OFFENCE, UNDER SECTION 158 OF THE LICENSING ACT 2003, TO MAKE A FALSE STATEMENT IN OR IN CONNECTION WITH THIS APPLICATION. THOSE WHO MAKE A FALSE STATEMENT MAY BE LIABLE ON SUMMARY CONVICTION TO A FINE OF ANY AMOUNT.

Part 3 – Signatures (please read guidance note 4)

Signature of applicant or applicant’s solicitor or other duly authorised agent (please read guidance note 5). **If signing on behalf of the applicant please state in what capacity.**

Signature 

Date 15/12/2025

Capacity Trading Standards Officer (Agency)

Contact name (where not previously given) and postal address for correspondence associated with this application (please read guidance note 6)	
Post town	Post Code
Telephone number (if any)	
If you would prefer us to correspond with you using an e-mail address your e-mail address (optional)	

Notes for Guidance

1. A responsible authority includes the local police, fire and rescue authority and other statutory bodies which exercise specific functions in the local area.
2. The ground(s) for review must be based on one of the licensing objectives.
3. Please list any additional information or details for example dates of problems which are included in the grounds for review if available.
4. The application form must be signed.
5. An applicant’s agent (for example solicitor) may sign the form on their behalf provided that they have actual authority to do so.
6. This is the address which we shall use to correspond with you about this application.

Schedule

Image 1 – A seized bottle next to a price marked bottle (legitimate) found on the same shelf



Image 2 – A seized bottle next to a price marked bottle (legitimate) with rear labels showing differences in design



Images 3 – Seized bottles with evidence of previous rear label



Image 4 View of rear label(s) through the bottle



Image 5 Google Streetview of Premises (May 2019)



Comments made by the Premises Licence Holder

I am writing in response to your letter dated 05 December 2025 regarding the inspection on 18 November 2025 at my premises.

Thank you for informing me about this matter. I take licensing and Trading Standards compliance very seriously, and I want to clarify the situation fully.

The 1-litre High Commissioner Whisky bottles that were seized were already present in the shop when I took over the business.

I did not purchase this stock myself, nor was I aware that it may have been duty-diverted or had counterfeit labels. As the new owner, I inherited some existing stock from the previous owner, and these bottles were part of that.

I had no reason to believe that the product was non-duty paid, and this is the first time this has been brought to my attention.

Unfortunately, I do not have any invoices for this whisky because the stock was already on the premises when I purchased the business. The previous owner did not supply me with invoices for every individual item, and I was unaware that this particular product required additional verification.

If you require any documents relating to the shop purchase itself, I am happy to provide them.

I am fully committed to ensuring all stock in the premises meets Trading Standards requirements. Going forward, I will make sure that:

all alcohol products are purchased only from duty-paid, reputable suppliers
invoices are kept and available for inspection at all times

Please let me know if you require any further information or if there are any additional steps I should take.

Kind regards,
Juren Jagamohan
SPS News and Wine

Revised guidance issued under section 182 of the Licensing Act 2003 (November 2025) (accessible version)

11.27 There is certain criminal activity that may arise in connection with licensed premises which should be treated particularly seriously. These are the use of the licensed premises:

- for the sale and distribution of drugs controlled under the Misuse of Drugs Act 1971 and the laundering of the proceeds of drugs crime;
- for the sale and distribution of illegal firearms;
- for the evasion of copyright in respect of pirated or unlicensed films and music, which does considerable damage to the industries affected;
- for the illegal purchase and consumption of alcohol by minors which impacts on the health, educational attainment, employment prospects and propensity for crime of young people;
- for prostitution or the sale of unlawful pornography;
- by organised groups of paedophiles to groom children;
- as the base for the organisation of criminal activity, particularly by gangs;
- for the organisation of racist activity or the promotion of racist attacks;
- for employing a person who is disqualified from that work by reason of their immigration status in the UK;
- for unlawful gambling; and
- for the sale or storage of smuggled tobacco and alcohol.