

Central Bedfordshire
Council
Priory House
Monks Walk
Chicksands,
Shefford SG17 5TQ

**This meeting
may be filmed.***



**Central
Bedfordshire**

please ask for Celina Jagusz
direct line 0300 300 4034
date 23 October 2018

NOTICE OF MEETING

LICENSING SUB-COMMITTEE

Date & Time

Wednesday, 31 October 2018 1.00 p.m.

Venue at

Room 13, Priory House, Chicksands, Shefford

Richard Carr
Chief Executive

To: The Chairman and Members of the LICENSING SUB-COMMITTEE:

Cllrs D Bowater, I Dalgarno and T Swain

[Named Substitutes: R D Berry, J Chatterley, K M Collins, Mrs A L Dodwell,
P A Duckett, T Nicols, P Smith, N Warren and R D Wenham]

All other Members of the Council - on request

**MEMBERS OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND THIS
MEETING**

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AGENDA

1. **Election of Chairman**

To elect a Chairman for the hearing.

2. **Apologies for Absence**

To receive apologies for absence and notification of substitute Members.

3. **Members' Interests**

To receive from Members any declarations of interest.

4. **Procedure for the Hearing of Applications under The Licensing Act 2003**

To note the procedure for hearing applications under the Licensing Act 2003 (copy attached).

5. **The Four Licensing Objectives**

To note the four Licensing Objectives (copy attached).

6. **Personal Licences**

To note an extract from chapter 4 of the revised guidance (dated April 2018) issued under Section 182 of the Licensing Act 2003 which provided Members with advice relating to applications for a personal licence.

7. **Exclusion of Press and Public**

To consider whether to pass a resolution under section 100A of the Local Government Act 1972 to exclude the Press and Public from the meeting for the following item of business on the grounds that the consideration of the item is likely to involve the disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraphs 1, 2 and 7 of Part I of Schedule 12A of the Act.

Exempt Report

- | <i>Item</i> | <i>Subject</i> | <i>Exempt Para.</i> |
|--------------------|--|----------------------------|
| 8. | Application for a Personal Licence

To determine an application for a personal licence, made under the Licensing Act 2003, to which an objection from the Police Licensing Officer has been received. | * 1, 2, 7 |

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Procedure for the hearing of applications The Licensing Act 2003

The Licensing Act 2003 (Hearings) Regulations 2005

**Public Protection
Central Bedfordshire Council
Priory House
Monks Walk
Chicksands
Shefford
SG17 5TQ**

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Licensing Sub-Committee Procedure for Determining applications under the Licensing Act 2003

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Introduction

- 1.1. The Licensing Act 2003 has placed local authorities at the centre of the decision making process for regulating the sale and supply of alcohol, provision of regulated entertainment and late night refreshment.
- 1.2. This document and the procedures detailed herein are based upon the guidance issued by the Local Government Regulation Service and with regards to the provisions of:
 - the Licensing Act 2003;
 - the Guidance issued by the Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport on 7 July 2004 under section 182 of the Licensing Act 2003; and
 - The Licensing Act 2003 (Hearings) Regulations 2005 (as amended).
- 1.3. This guidance is intended for all concerned in any way whatsoever with a hearing before a licensing panel (Licensing Sub-committee, the Licensing Committee or Council, as may be the case) in relation to the determination of applications under the Licensing Act 2003.

2. General Principles

- 2.1. All Members sitting on the determination of an application will always:
 - promote the right of all parties to have a fair hearing;
 - only have regard to such of the four licensing objectives that are subject to a relevant representation, namely:
 - the prevention of crime and disorder;
 - public safety;
 - the prevention of public nuisance; and
 - the protection of children from harm;
 - have regard to the Licensing Act 2003 and any relevant secondary legislation;
 - have regard to the Council's Statement of Licensing Policy;
 - have regard to the Guidance issued by the Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport under section 182 of the Licensing Act 2003;
 - treat each application on its own merits; and
 - undertake its decision-making responsibilities honestly and fairly, in an open, transparent and accountable way.

PRE-HEARING

3. Licensing Panels

- 3.1. Generally, hearings will take place before a Licensing Sub-committee consisting of three Members of the Licensing Committee, although, to avoid unnecessary adjournments, a fourth Member may attend as a substitute Member.
- 3.2. If, for any reason whatsoever, it is not possible to have a matter determined by a Licensing Sub-Committee, the matter would be heard by the Licensing Committee. A Licensing Committee must consist of between ten and fifteen Members and at least one half of those Members must attend for a hearing to proceed before the Licensing Committee.
- 3.3. In the highly unlikely event of it not being possible, for any reason whatsoever, to have a matter determined by either a Licensing Sub-committee or the Licensing Committee, the matter would be heard by Council.

4. Timescales for Convening a Hearing

- 4.1. Most hearings under the Licensing Act 2003 must normally take place within 20 working days from the last date in which representations can be made. There are exceptions to this rule.
- 4.2. Exceptions:
 - 4.2.1. A hearing must take place within 10 working days of the Authority receiving notification of a review of the premises following a closure order;
 - 4.2.2. A hearing must take place within 7 working days from the day after the end of the period within which the police can object to a temporary event notice;
 - 4.2.3. A hearing must take place within 5 working days beginning the day after the end of the last day for the police to object to an interim authority notice.
- 4.3. Hearings may be dispensed with where all relevant persons agree a hearing is unnecessary.

5. Notice of Hearing

- 5.1. Generally 10 clear days notice will be given of a hearing. There are exceptions to this rule.
- 5.2. Exceptions:
 - 5.2.1. 5 days notice will be given of a hearing for a review of a premises licence following a closure order;
 - 5.2.2. 2 days notice will be given of a hearing following police objection to an interim authority notice;
 - 5.2.3. 2 days notice will be given of a hearing following police objection to temporary events notice.

6. Persons to be Notified of a Hearing

- 6.1. The following persons must be notified of a hearing:
 - 6.1.1. Any applicant for any licence, provisional statement or review;
 - 6.1.2. Premises user who submitted a temporary event notice;
 - 6.1.3. Any person who has made relevant representations;
 - 6.1.4. Any Responsible Authority; and
 - 6.1.5. Where an application is made for a review, the holder of a premises licence or club premises certificate.

7. Contents of Notice

- 7.1. The notice of a hearing must contain:
 - 7.1.1. The date, time and place of the hearing;
 - 7.1.2. The procedure to be followed at the hearing;
 - 7.1.3. The right of a party to attend and to be assisted or represented by any person whether legally qualified or not;
 - 7.1.4. Any points upon which the authority considers that it will want clarification from a party at the hearing;
 - 7.1.5. The right of the party to provide additional information to provide any clarification sought by the Authority;
 - 7.1.6. The consequences of failing to attend the hearing or not being represented at the hearing;
 - 7.1.7. Any information the Licensing Authority has received in support or opposition of the application.

8. Hearings to be open to the public

- 8.1. Hearings will generally be open to the public as the Licensing Authority is committed to taking decisions in an honest, accountable and transparent way, but on occasions a licensing panel may find it necessary to exclude a party or parties, the public and press from all or any part of a hearing.
- 8.2. A panel will only pass an exclusion resolution where it considers that the public interest in doing so outweighs the public interest in the hearing, or that part of the hearing, taking place in public. Such decisions will be made on an individual basis.
- 8.3. The panel's deliberations, which do not form part of the hearing, will be conducted in private. The announcement of the panel's decision is part of the hearing and will generally be open to the public, subject to any exclusion resolution.

9. Failure to attend the hearing

- 9.1. No party is obliged to attend a hearing, although the Licensing Authority encourages all parties to attend hearings to make their application or representation, as may be the case.
- 9.2. Regardless of whether a party attends a hearing or not, the matter will generally be heard and determined by the licensing panel (the Council, the Licensing Committee or a Licensing Sub-committee). At the hearing, the panel will consider any application, representation or notice made by an absent party in the same way as it will of any application, representation or notice made by a party that attends the hearing.
- 9.3. If, however, the hearing is adjourned to a specified date, all parties will forthwith be notified of the date, time and place to which the hearing has been adjourned.

10. Disruptive behaviour

- 10.1. Any person who disrupts a hearing by the Council, the Licensing Committee or a Licensing Sub-committee of a matter under the Licensing Act 2003 may be required to leave the hearing.
- 10.2. It is for the panel hearing the matter to decide whether such person will be permitted to return to the hearing, but should they be allowed to do so, this may be on such conditions as the panel may specify.
- 10.3. If a disruptive person is a person who has a right to address the panel, then that person may, before the end of the hearing (i.e. before Stage 25 of the following procedure), put in writing any information they would have been entitled to give orally, had they not been required to leave the hearing.

SUB - COMMITTEE AGENDA

11. Licensing Sub-Committee agenda

- 11.1. The Licensing Sub-Committee Hearing shall be commenced in accordance with the Licensing Sub-Committee agenda. Any Committee matters shall be addressed at this stage.
- 11.2. The Licensing Sub-Committee Hearing procedure shall take over at the point at which the agenda item is called to be heard.
- 11.3. The Sub-Committee agenda shall deal with the issue of exclusion of press and public for the Licensing Sub-Committee Hearing.

HEARING PROCEDURE

12. Opening the Hearing

- 12.1. The Licensing Sub-Committee Hearing shall be formally opened by the Chair.
- 12.2. The Chair shall introduce Members of the licensing panel (a Licensing Sub-committee, the Licensing Committee or Council), officers present and all other parties present.
- 12.3. The Chair shall explain the procedure to be followed at the meeting and the nature of the decision to be taken by the panel.

13. Licensing Officer's Report

- 13.1. The Licensing Officer presents his / her Report, including an outline of the application, the representation(s) and any points upon which the Licensing Authority has given notice that it required clarification; and identifies anything relevant in the legislation, the Council's Statement of Licensing Policy and the statutory guidance issued by the Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport.
- 13.2. Members of the panel may ask questions of the Licensing Officer with regards to the Report.

14. Licensing Authority's request(s) for clarification

- 14.1. If points of clarification have been asked for, the Chair invites the Licensing Officer or relevant party to provide necessary information.
- 14.2. Members of the panel may ask questions with regards to the further information provided.

15. Presentation of Case / Submissions from Parties

- 15.1. In the order of Applicant, Responsible Authority and Interested Party (or in the case of a review the relevant person), each party shall be invited to undertake the following:
 - 15.1.1. Set out their case;
 - 15.1.2. Call Witnesses in support of their case (provided notification of the witnesses has previously been given to the Council);
 - 15.1.3. Introduce documentary evidence in support of their case (provided notification of the documentary evidence has previously been given to the Council); and
 - 15.1.4. Respond to any questions asked of them by Members of the Licensing Panel.
- 15.2. At the Sub-Committee and Chair's discretion each party may ask questions of other parties by directing them through the Chair.

- 15.3. The Sub-Committee shall have the absolute discretion to restrict the number of witnesses and documents that any party can introduce, or the time spent on submissions or oral evidence, to ensure the proper running of the hearing.
- 15.4. Any witnesses that any party is seeking to call that have not previously been notified to the Council, in advance of the hearing, shall only be allowed with the consent of all other parties at the hearing. The Sub-Committee shall have the sole discretion to refuse to allow any witnesses to be heard, even where the consent of all parties has been given. In reaching the decision the Sub-Committee may consider any circumstances they believe to be relevant, and will have regard to the relevance of the evidence to the matters before the Committee.
- 15.5. Any documents that any party is seeking to adduce that have not previously been notified to the Council, in advance of the hearing, shall only be allowed with the consent of all other parties at the hearing. The Sub-Committee shall have the sole discretion to refuse to allow any documents to be adduced, even where the consent of all parties has been given. In reaching the decision the Sub-Committee may consider any circumstances they believe to be relevant, and will have regard to the relevance of the evidence to the matters before the Committee.

16. Modification or Withdrawal of Application or Representation

- 16.1. The Chair shall ask the applicant whether the applicant wishes to modify the application (e.g. by way of withdrawing a licensable activity and / or reducing the times asked for and / or volunteering additional steps to promote the licensing objectives).
- 16.2. The Chair shall ask each party making a representation whether such party would like to withdraw their representation.

17. Closing Submissions

- 17.1. The Chair shall invite each of the parties to present a closing submission to the Sub-Committee.
- 17.2. The Chair shall invite the Licensing Officer to make any final representations.
- 17.3. At the end of the Closing Submissions the Chairman may ask the Legal Advisor if there is any clarification or points they wish to make.

18. Legal Advice

- 18.1. The role of the Legal Advisor is to provide Members with advice on:
 - Questions of law;
 - Matters of practice and procedure;
 - The options available to the sub-committee in making their decision;
 - Whether information or evidence is relevant to the licensing objectives;
 - Any relevant case law or guidelines.

18.2. The hearing shall be directed by the Chair and assisted by the Legal Advisor as appropriate and necessary.

19. Committee Decision in Relation to Procedure

19.1. The Sub-Committee shall be entitled to vary the order and procedure for the hearing, at its absolute discretion.

20. Determination of the Application

20.1. After all representations have been heard, the Chair will inform all parties that the panel will retire in private to determine the matter.

20.2. Either the panel will retire alone to a private room or all parties, officers and members of the public will be required to leave the room, although the panel may invite their legal adviser to join them for the purpose of providing only legal advice - the details of which will be disclosed upon the hearing reconvening.

20.3. Should the sub-committee need to ask any further questions of any party, all parties shall be invited to return for the purposes of asking and answering questions.

20.4. Where the hearing is for:

- a review of a premises licence following a closure order;
- a personal licence by holder of a justices licence; or
- a counter notice following police objection to a temporary event notice.

The Sub-Committee must make its determination at the conclusion of the meeting.

20.5. For all other hearings the determination must be made within 5 working days of the hearing. The Sub-Committee will generally announce the determination at the end of the hearing.

20.6. The Sub-Committee may consider adding any conditions necessary in order to promote one or more of the four licensing objectives:

- the prevention of crime and disorder;
- public safety;
- the prevention of public nuisance; and
- the protection of children from harm.

20.7. All decisions shall be made in line with the general principles as detailed in Appendix A, the range of options available for determining each type of application.

20.8. The Sub-Committee shall complete the decision notice as shown at Appendix B.

20.9. The hearing will reconvene and the Chair will either:

- announce the Sub-Committee determination including reasons for the determination; or
- advise those persons present that the Sub-Committee has not reached a decision, but will make a determination as soon as it can and, in any event, within five working days. All parties will then be notified forthwith of the decision.

POST HEARING

21. Record of Proceedings

- 21.1. The authority shall ensure that a record is taken of the hearing.
- 21.2. The record shall be kept for a period of six years from the date of the final action on the matter.

22. Irregularities

- 22.1. Proceedings shall be rendered void due to a failure to comply with the procedures set out in this document.
- 22.2. Any failure to comply with the Hearing Regulations shall not render the process or the decision void.
- 22.3. Where the Authority considers any person to have been prejudiced from the irregularity it shall take such steps as it considers fit to remedy the irregularity, before reaching its determination.
- 22.4. Clerical mistakes may be corrected by the Authority.

23. Decision Notices

- 23.1. The Authority shall provide a written notice of its determination as soon as practicable after the hearing and within 5 working days.

24. Appeals

- 24.1. An appeal against the determination of the Authority must be made to the appropriate Magistrates Court within 21 days of the date of delivery of the decision.

25. Closing the Hearing

- 25.1. The Chair shall thank all parties for attending and draw the hearing to a close.
- 25.2. Should there be another hearing to be heard the Sub-Committee shall begin the procedure again.

Licensing Sub-Committee Checklist
Procedure for determining applications under the Licensing Act 2003

Item				
1.	Chair to introduce Sub-Committee, Committee Administrator, other Officers and all Parties present.			
2.	Chair to explain procedure for hearing to all parties.			
3.	Licensing Officer to introduce application, including details of the premises, application, objections, references to the Licensing Objectives and Policy and Statutory Obligations.			
4.	Chair to invite Sub-Committee to ask any questions of the Licensing Officer, in relation to the report provided.			
5.	Chair to ask Licensing Officer whether there are any points requiring Clarification.			
Steps 6 to 9 to be completed for each party in the order of Applicant (A), Responsible Authority (RA) and Interested Party (IP) or Relevant Person (RP). The chair will invite each party to:		A	RA	IP/ RP
6.	Set out their case			
7.	Call Witnesses in support of their case (provided notification of the witnesses has previously been given to the Council);			
8.	Introduce documentary evidence in support of their case (provided notification of the documentary evidence has previously been given to the Council); and			
9.	Respond to any questions asked of them by Members of the Licensing Panel.			
Repeat steps 6 to 9 for each party				
10.	At the Sub-Committee and Chair's discretion each party may ask questions of other parties by directing them through the Chair.			
11.	Chair asks Applicant if they wish to modify or withdraw their application in any way.			
12.	Chair to invite closing submissions from applicant, responsible authorities and interested parties.			
13.	The Sub-Committee will retire into private to consider its decision.			
14.	Chair will announce the decision of the Sub-Committee and the reasons for the decision. The Chair will advise all parties of their right of appeal.			

Options for determining applications

Determination of application for premises licence

- To grant the licence
- To grant with the addition of conditions necessary to promote any of the licensing objectives
- To exclude from the scope of the licence any of the licensable activities to which the application relates
- To refuse to specify a person in the licence as the premises supervisor
- To reject the application

Determination of application for variation of a premises licence

- To grant the variation
- To modify the conditions of the licence – this includes altering or omitting any existing condition or adding any new conditions
- To reject the whole or part of the application

Determination of application for review of a premises licence

- To modify the conditions of the licence – this includes altering or omitting any existing condition or adding any new conditions
- To exclude a licensable activity from the scope of the licence
- To remove the designated premises supervisor
- To suspend the licence for a period not exceeding three months
- To revoke the licence

Appendix 'B'



CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE COUNCIL

DECISION NOTICE

LICENSING ACT 2003

DECISION OF THE LICENSING SUB – COMMITTEE

Date of Hearing	
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Applicant's Name:	
Premises Address:	

Application for:	
------------------	--

Reasons for Hearing:	
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Members of the Licensing Sub-Committee:	
---	--

Applicant:	
Person(s) Appearing on Behalf of the Applicant:	

Objector(s):	
Person(s) Appearing on Behalf of Objector(s):	

Other Persons Present:	
------------------------	--

If appropriate:

<u>COMMENCEMENT DATE</u>
This licence will come into effect from:
<input type="checkbox"/> The date of this decision
<input type="checkbox"/> The end of the period for appeal.

FINDINGS OF FACT

The Sub-Committee made the following findings of fact:

DECISION

The Sub-Committee have decided that the application should be:

Granted (as set out in the application)

Refused

Amended to include the following conditions:

- 1.
- 2.

- The Sub- Committee considers the additional conditions necessary for the promotion of the licensing objectives.
- All Licences are granted subject to the mandatory conditions imposed by the Licensing Act, 2003.
- In coming to its decision, the Sub-Committee has taken into account:
 - The Licensing Act Section 18, which states that it must take such steps it considers necessary for the promotion of the licensing objectives;
 - The Secretary of State’s Guidance issued under section 182 of the Licensing Act 2003; and
 - Central Bedfordshire Council’s Licensing Policy
 - The merits of the application and the representations (including supporting information) presented by all parties.

REASONS FOR DECISION

The reasons for the Committee’s decision are as follows:

Prevention of Crime and Disorder

Public Safety

Prevention of Public Nuisance

Protection of Children from Harm

General – all four licensing objectives

<u>Irrelevant Representations</u>	
<u>The Sub-Committee determined that the following representations were irrelevant: Not applicable.</u>	
<u>Representation</u>	<u>Reason Representation was Considered Irrelevant</u>
1.	
2.	

<u>Right of Review</u>
<u>At any stage, following the grant of a premises licence, a responsible authority, such as the Police or an interested party, such as a resident living in the vicinity of the premises may ask the licensing authority to review the licence because of a matter arising at the premises in connection with any of the four licensing objectives. The review is a request for the Council to look at the existing licence and decide whether its conditions are adequate to meet the four licensing objectives defined under the Licensing Act 2003.</u>

<u>Effect of Failing to Comply with Conditions (Explained to Applicant)</u>
<u>The Sub-Committee has explained to the applicant the effect of failure to comply with any of the conditions attached to the licence or certificate is a criminal offence, which upon conviction, would result in a fine of up to £20,000 or up to six months imprisonment or both.</u>

<u>Right of Appeal</u>
<u>Applicants or any person who has made a relevant representation who is dissatisfied with this decision or the imposition of any condition or restriction has the right of appeal to the Magistrates Court within 21 days of the date on which they are notified of the decision.</u>

Signed:

[Name]
Chair of Licensing Sub-Committee

Date:

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The Four Licensing Objectives

To promote the following Licensing Objectives:

- 1. Prevention of crime and disorder**
- 2. Public safety**
- 3. Prevention of public nuisance**
- 4. Protection of children from harm**

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4. Personal licences

- 4.1 This chapter provides advice about the framework for personal licences. It also contains guidance for decision-making on applications by those managing community premises (church and village halls etc.) to remove the usual mandatory conditions that relate to personal licences and the requirement for a designated premises supervisor (DPS). The Deregulation Act 2015 removed the requirement to renew a personal licence with effect from 1 April 2015.

Requirements for a personal licence

- 4.2 The sale and supply of alcohol, because of its impact on the wider community and on crime and anti-social behaviour, carries with it greater responsibility than the provision of regulated entertainment and late night refreshment. This is why sales of alcohol may not be made under a premises licence unless there is a DPS in respect of the premises (who must hold a personal licence); and every sale must be made or authorised by a personal licence holder. The exception is only for those community premises which have successfully applied to remove the DPS requirement (see paragraph 4.52 below).
- 4.3 Any premises at which alcohol is sold or supplied where the requirement for a personal licence holder does apply may employ one or more such licence holders. For example, there may be one owner or senior manager and several junior managers holding a personal licence. However, the requirement that every sale of alcohol must at least be authorised by a personal licence holder does not mean that the licence holder has to be present on the premises or oversee each sale; it is sufficient that such sales are authorised. It should be noted that there is no requirement to have a DPS in relation to a Temporary Event Notice (TEN) or club premises certificate, and sales or supplies of alcohol authorised by a TEN or club premises certificate do not need to be authorised by a personal licence holder.

Who can apply?

- 4.4 In the case of an application for a personal licence under Part 6 of the 2003 Act, the requirements are that:
- the applicant must be aged 18 or over;
 - the applicant, if subject to immigration control, must have permission to work in a licensable activity (see paragraph 4.8);
 - the applicant possesses a licensing qualification accredited by the Secretary of State (or one which is certified as if it is such a qualification or is considered equivalent) or is a person as prescribed in the Licensing Act 2003 (Personal licences) Regulations 2005²);
 - the applicant must not have forfeited a personal licence within five years of their application;
 - the applicant has paid the appropriate fee to the licensing authority; and

² Currently persons prescribed in regulations are: a member of the company of the Master, Wardens, Freemen and Commonalty of the Mystery of the Vintners of the City of London; a person operating under a licence granted by the University of Cambridge; or a person operating premises under a licence granted by the Board of the Green Cloth.

- in a case in which the applicant has an unspent conviction for a relevant offence or a foreign offence, the police have not objected to the grant of the application on crime prevention grounds or the licensing authority has considered their objection but determined that the grant of the application will not undermine the crime prevention objective.
- 4.5 Any individual may apply for a personal licence whether or not they are currently employed or have business interests associated with the use of the licence. The issues which arise when the holder of a personal licence becomes associated with particular licensed premises and is specified as the DPS for those premises are dealt with at paragraphs 4.31 to 4.38 below. Licensing authorities may not therefore take these matters into account when considering an application for a personal licence.
- 4.6 Applicants for personal licences who are ordinarily resident in a licensing authority's area are required to make the application to that licensing authority. An applicant who is not ordinarily resident in a licensing authority's area (which may include persons living outside England and Wales), may apply for the grant of a personal licence to any licensing authority in England and Wales.
- 4.7 For applications made after 6 April 2017, applicants who are subject to UK immigration control must be entitled to work in a licensable activity. Section 192A of the Licensing Act 2003 defines 'entitlement to work' for the purposes of the Act

Entitlement to work in the UK

- 4.8 Individuals applying for a personal licence must be entitled to work in the UK. The Immigration Act 2016 amended the Licensing Act 2003 with effect from 6 April 2017 so that an application made on or after that date by someone who is not entitled to work in the UK must be rejected. Licences must not be issued to people who are illegally present in the UK, who are not permitted to work, or who are permitted to work but are subject to a condition that prohibits them from doing work relating to the carrying on of a licensable activity. In order to discharge this duty, from 6 April 2017, licensing authorities must be satisfied that an applicant has the right to work in the UK and should require applicants to submit one of the documents listed at Annex A, to show that the applicant has permission to be in the UK and to undertake work in a licensable activity. This also applies to individuals who apply for premises licences. The purpose of this is to prevent illegal working in the UK.
- 4.9 The list of documents which an applicant may provide to demonstrate their entitlement to work in the UK is published on gov.uk and at Annex A of this guidance.
- 4.10 For applications made on or after 6 April 2017, where an applicant's immigration permission to live and work in the UK is time-limited, a personal licence may be issued but will become invalid when the immigration permission expires. In the event that the Home Office cuts short or ends a person's immigration permission (referred to as curtailment or revocation), any licence issued in respect of an application made on or after 6 April 2017 will automatically lapse (see paragraph 4.15 below).
- 4.11 A person is disqualified from applying for a personal licence or a premises licence by reason of their immigration status if:
- The person requires leave to enter or remain in the UK and has not been granted it;
 - or

- **The person's leave to enter or remain in the UK:**
 - is invalid,
 - has ceased to have effect (whether by reason of curtailment, revocation, cancellation, passage of time, or otherwise), or
 - is subject to a condition preventing the person from doing work of that kind.

A person is also disqualified from holding a licence if they are subject to a condition on their permission to be in the UK preventing them from holding a licence, for example they are subject to an immigration restriction that does not permit them to work.

- 4.12 The requirements to demonstrate immigration status are not retrospective. This means that licensing authorities do not need to check the immigration status of those people who already hold a licence which was issued before 6 April 2017.
- 4.13 Applicants may provide photocopies or scanned copies of the documents, which do not need to be endorsed as a copy of the original. Applicants should not be encouraged or required by licensing authorities to submit original copies of documents. The licensing authority must be satisfied that the applicant is entitled to work in the UK, but the licensing authority is not required to check the validity of any document submitted by the applicant to demonstrate the right to work. The licensing authority should establish whether or not an applicant has a lawful immigration status in the UK or is prohibited from working because they are in the UK illegally or is subject to a condition that prevents them from holding a licence.
- 4.14 To ensure that licensing authorities do not discriminate against anyone, all licence applicants should be treated in the same way after 6 April 2017 during the licence application process. This will also demonstrate a fair, transparent and consistent application process. Assumptions should not be made about a person's right to work in the UK or their immigration status on the basis of their nationality, ethnic origin, accent, the colour of their skin, or the length of time they have been resident in the UK.
- 4.15 If an applicant has restrictions on the length of time they may work in the UK, a premises licence or personal licence may still be issued, but the licence will cease to have effect when the right to work lapses. Migrants who are subject to UK immigration control may be granted permission to enter or remain in the UK, with a condition permitting employment, on a time-limited basis or on an indefinite basis. When the person's stay is time limited, this will be shown in their immigration documentation. It is possible for a migrant to apply to extend their stay, and if they do so before their previous status expires, they continue to have any right to work that they previously had while their application and any associated administrative review or appeal is outstanding. In such cases, a person's status may be confirmed by the licensing authority contacting the Home Office Status, Verification, Evidence and Checking (SVEC) Unit.
- 4.16 In most cases the licensing authority should be able to make an assessment that the applicant is not disqualified from applying for a premises or personal licence based on any information provided with the application. This will include all cases where the applicant is a British citizen. An immigration status check may be made by contacting the Home Office SVEC Unit in the following circumstances to verify that someone has the right to hold a premises or personal licence:

- the applicant provides a copy of a Certificate of Application which is less than six months old and indicates that work is permitted; or
- the applicant has not provided any acceptable documents because they have an outstanding application for permission to remain in the UK with the Home Office which was made before their previous immigration leave expired or has an appeal or administrative review pending against a Home Office decision that grants them a right to work and, therefore, cannot provide evidence of their right to work.

In these two circumstances the SVEC Unit will confirm the individual's immigration status.

- 4.17 Assistance on this process may be obtained from Home Office Local Partnership Managers, or by email I&SDLPMSSupportTeam@homeoffice.gsi.gov.uk. In most cases, a Local Partnership Manager or local Immigration, Compliance and Enforcement (ICE) team will be the first point of contact for licensing authorities.
- 4.18 A premises or personal licence issued in respect of an application made on or after 6 April 2017 will lapse if the holder's permission to live or work in the UK comes to an end. This could be because their permission to be in the UK has time-expired or because the Home Office has brought it to an end (for example, the Home Office has curtailed their permission to live and work in the UK). The licensing authority is under no duty to carry out on-going immigration checks to see whether a licence-holder's permission to be in the UK has been brought to an end, and the Act does not place a duty on the licensing authority to withdraw or revoke the licence if this occurs. The migrant will be aware when their time-limited permission has come to an end and the Home Office will inform them if their permission to be in the UK is curtailed. If the individual is subsequently granted leave to work in the UK and wishes to once again hold a personal licence they must make an application for a new personal licence.

Criminal record

- 4.19 Regulations made under the 2003 Act require that, in order to substantiate whether or not an applicant has a conviction for an unspent relevant offence, an applicant for the grant of a personal licence must include a criminal conviction certificate, a criminal record certificate or the results of a subject access search of the Police National Computer by the National Identification Service to the licensing authority.
- 4.20 The requirement for an individual to establish whether or not they have unspent convictions for a relevant offence or foreign offence applies whether or not the individual has been living for a length of time in a foreign jurisdiction. It does not follow that such individuals will not have recorded offences in this country. All applicants are also required to make a clear statement as to whether or not they have been convicted outside England and Wales of a relevant offence or an equivalent foreign offence. This applies both to applicants ordinarily resident in England and Wales and any person from a foreign jurisdiction. Details of relevant offences as set out in the 2003 Act should be appended to application forms for the information of applicants, together with a clear warning that making any false statement is a criminal offence liable to prosecution.

- 4.21 Licensing authorities are required to notify the police when an applicant is found to have an unspent conviction for a relevant offence defined in the 2003 Act or for a foreign offence. The police have no involvement or locus in such applications until notified by the licensing authority.
- 4.22 Civil penalties received after 6 April 2017 for immigration matters are treated in the same way as relevant offences. Licensing authorities are required to notify the Secretary of State for the Home Department (through Home Office Immigration Enforcement) when an applicant declares that they have been issued with an immigration penalty or convicted of an immigration offence or a foreign offence comparable to an immigration offence. The Home Office may object to an application on grounds that granting the personal licence would be prejudicial to the prevention of illegal working in licensed premises. Civil penalties for immigration matters were added to the Licensing Act with effect from 6 April 2017, and penalties received before that date cannot be taken into account in respect of grant, revocation or suspension of a personal licence.
- 4.23 Where an applicant has an unspent conviction for a relevant or foreign offence, and the police object to the application on crime prevention grounds the applicant is entitled to a hearing before the licensing authority. The applicant is also entitled to a hearing if the Home Office (Immigration Enforcement) object to the application on the grounds of the prevention of illegal working where the applicant has an unspent conviction for a relevant immigration offence or has been required to pay an immigration penalty. If the police or Home Office (Immigration Enforcement) do not issue an objection notice and the application otherwise meets the requirements of the 2003 Act, the licensing authority must grant it. Home Office (Immigration Enforcement) can object only with respect to convictions and civil immigration penalties received on or after 6 April 2017.
- 4.24 A number of relevant offences never become spent. However, where an applicant is able to demonstrate that the offence in question took place so long ago and that the applicant no longer has a propensity to re-offend, a licensing authority may consider that it is appropriate to grant the application on the basis that doing so would not undermine the crime prevention objective.
- 4.25 If an application is refused, the applicant will be entitled to appeal against the decision they make. Similarly, if the application is granted despite a police objection notice or an objection from the Home Office (Immigration Enforcement), the chief officer of police or Home Office are entitled to appeal against the licensing authority's determination. Licensing authorities are therefore expected to record in full the reasons for any decision which they make.

Issuing of personal licences by Welsh licensing authorities

- 4.26 All application forms in Wales should be bilingual. Proceedings before a court must be capable of being conducted in Welsh at the request of the applicant. There is a panel of Welsh speaking magistrates so this can be arranged if necessary. Licensing authorities in Wales should consider issuing personal licences in a bilingual format.

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