

Bar 4

4 Church Street

Ampthill

MK45 2EH

Review Application

Bedfordshire Police respectfully request a review of the premises licence for Bar 4, 4 Church Street, Ampthill, Bedfordshire MK45 2EH under the Licensing Act 2003 key objectives:

Prevention of Crime and Disorder

Public Safety

The Protection of Children From Harm

Bedfordshire Police have no confidence in the Designated Premises
Supervisor and Premises Licence Holder and thus making the potential for
Crime and Disorder real.

The Premises Licence Holder and Premises Licence Holders are deemed by Bedfordshire Police as not being responsible and fit enough people to run Bar 4 and we have no alternative but to seek a revocation of the premises licence.

Operation Anax

As a result of intelligence and complaints regarding under age drinking and breaches of the 2300hrs last entry or re-entry condition Bedfordshire Police conducted a covert operation on Friday 13th May 2016. This operation consisted of two under age volunteers aged 15 and 17 and plain clothes police officers.

The under age volunteers were turned away from the premises without gaining entry. The plain clothes officers entered the premises at 2230hrs where they remained for a short period of time. Prior to leaving they were told by a member of staff that they if they wanted to come back to the premises after 2300hrs then they could go to the back door. Both officers wrists were stamped before they left.

The officers returned to the venue at 2310hrs and entered through the back doors of the location.

While inside the location one of the officers visited the toilets where he witnessed an IC1 male approach and IC3 male. He saw the IC3 male hand him a small container containing a powder substance which the IC1 male proceeded to sniff up his nose in full view of everyone in the toilets. The officers left the location about 10 minutes later and were again told that they could come back at any time if they showed the stamps on their wrists. This is a flagrant breach of the 2300hrs last entry or re-entry condition on the premises licence and serves to corroborate previous complaints and intelligence received that this happens on a regular basis.

7th April 2016

Bedfordshire Police received an emailed complaint from a manager at Central Bedfordshire Council that her 16 year old son had been to the Bar 4 a couple of weeks previously and had been allowed in and served alcohol with no ID checks or age verification. He also alleged that it was well known amongst his age group that they would be served at Bar 4.

The industry standard that the premises should be operating at is "Challenge 25". This means that if a person looks under the age of 25 then D should be checked.

Email correspondence regarding this complaint is found at pages 34-36.

CAD ref BP-11032016-0447 11/03/2016 (pages 37-40)

This refers to an incident whereby an ambulance had to be called to a female unconscious outside Bar 4 having consumed a quantity of Ketamine. This incident was also come across by chance by Ps 75 Gurr and Pc 5844 Mitchell of the Bedfordshire Police Licensing Team.

Initial enquiries were carried out at the scene as detailed in the statement of PS Gurr at page in this package and an email at page 20 of this package.

The Security Manager was standing at the door of the location making no attempt to assist or to disperse any of the onlookers who were in varying states of intoxication. When spoken to he claimed that the female had only been in the location for a period of 10 minutes, however when the group the female was with were spoken to, they stated they had been in the location for at least an hour. This leads to the strong suspicion that the drugs were consumed in the premises.

27th February 2016

Information was received via an email found at page 33 of this package from a police officer that Bar 4 had breached their last entry conditions and allowed a group into the location after midnight.

10th February 2016

A meeting took place at Luton Police Station between the DPS and Premises Licence Holder, their Licensing Consultant, and myself and Pc Mitchell. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss an objection raised by police to an application by Bar 4 to move the last entry condition to a later time. During the meeting I expressed my concerns about the alleged breaches of the last entry condition, and that customers were being directed to the rear of the premises and allowed entry. This was categorically denied

by the DPS Rebecca Ruffhead, who stated that this was only for those already in the smoking area.

Crime Reports JD/48287/2015 and JD/48301/2015 (pages 61-67)
CAD BP-13122016-017 13/12/2015 (pages 41-48)

These crime reports and CAD reference relate to an incident which took place which began inside Bar 4 and then spilled out into the street.

Inside the location a fight took place between two groups of customers during this fight a male was struck several times with a bottle and another also assaulted. The 999 caller stated that the a large group were kicking off, bottles were being used and the Bar 4 security were unable to cope with the situation.

CAD BP-23082015-046 23/08/2015 (pages 49-53)

Call received from three different members of the public and from Bar 4. The first call received at 01:25hrs was from a local resident complaining about a disturbance being caused by persons who she believed to be from Bar 4, the police call handler could hear a disturbance in the background. A further call was then received from another member of the public stating that 15 – 20 males and females were fighting outside Bar 4. A further call was received from a member of the public who had driven past the location to say that a fight was occurring.

Police attended at 0155hrs but the incident was over and no parties were traced.

CAD BP-08082015-026 08/08/2015 (pages 54-56)

Call received from a local resident at 0121hrs stating that a large group were of males and females were arguing outside Bar 4.

A further call was received saying that a large fight was now taking place and a male had been kicked in the face and was bleeding. Caller stated that doorstaff from Bar 4 were assisting.

Further call at 0126hrs stating that those involved had left the area in taxis

Police attended the location at 0452hrs and found traces of blood.

Intelligence

Bedfordshire Police Intelligence systems show reports linking known drug dealers to the Bar 4 and also that underage drinking is taking place at the location. A copy of the redacted reports are contained on a Chronology of Intelligence found at page 17 of this package.