

**Bath & North East Somerset Council**

MEETING:	Licensing Sub Committee	AGENDA ITEM NUMBER
MEETING DATE:	Friday 27 March 2015	
TITLE:	Application for a Premises Licence for <b>Wetherspoons</b> , 110 High Street, Midsomer Norton, BA3 2DA.	
WARD:	Midsomer Norton North	
<b>AN OPEN PUBLIC ITEM</b>		
<b>List of attachments to this report:</b>		
<b>Annex A</b> Application for a new premises licence		
<b>Annex B</b> Code of Best Conduct for Retailing (J D Wetherspoon)		
<b>Annex C</b> Site plan and plans of the proposed premises		
<b>Annex D</b> Representation received from Environmental Health		
<b>Annex E</b> Representation received from the Police		
<b>Annex F</b> Representation received from other Person		

**1 THE ISSUE**

- 1.1 An application has been received for a new Premises Licence under s.17 of the Licensing Act 2003 in respect of Wetherspoons, 110 High Street, Midsomer Norton, BA3 2DA.

**2 RECOMMENDATION**

- 2.1 That the Sub Committee determines this application.

**3 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS**

- 3.1 The costs of processing licences are covered by the fees charged. The fee for this application is £100.

**4 STATUTORY CONSIDERATIONS AND BASIS FOR PROPOSAL**

- 4.1 An Equality Impact Assessment (Eq1A) has been completed. No adverse or other significant issues were found.
- 4.2 Consideration must be given to the Human Rights Act 1998 and the "convention rights".

4.3 The Sub Committee have been delegated authority to determine the application on behalf of the Licensing Authority in accordance with the Licensing Act 2003.

4.4 When reaching a decision, the Licensing Authority must carry out its functions with a view to promoting the four licensing objectives.

## 5 THE REPORT

5.1 An application has been received for a new Premises Licence (Annex A).

5.2 The application proposes the following licensable activities:

- 1) The **Sale of Alcohol** for consumption both on and off the premises between the following hours:

Sunday to Wednesday                      09:00 - 00:00

Thursday to Saturday                      09:00 - 01:00 the following morning

An additional hour on Christmas Eve, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, Sundays preceding Bank Holiday Mondays, and New Year's Eve.

- 2) The provision of **Late Night Refreshment** indoors only:

Sunday to Wednesday                      23:00 - 00:00

Thursday to Saturday                      23:00 - 01:00 the following morning

An additional hour on Christmas Eve, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, Sundays preceding Bank Holiday Mondays, and New Year's Eve.

- 3) The **opening hours** proposed are:

Sunday to Wednesday                      07:00 - 00:30 the following morning

Thursday to Saturday                      07:00 - 01:30 the following morning

An additional hour on Christmas Eve, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, Sundays preceding Bank Holiday Mondays, New Year's Eve, and the morning BST commences.

5.3 A "Code of Best Conduct for Retailing" has been supplied by the applicant and is attached at Annex B.

5.4 The proposed premises as depicted within the application shall consist of a two storey public house with an external customer area on the ground floor and an external customer area on the first floor. A site plan and plans of the proposed premises are attached at Annex C.

5.5 The Licensing Act 2003 (Section 4) states that it is the duty of all Licensing Authorities to carry out their functions under the Act with a view to promoting the licensing objectives. The licensing objectives are:

- a) The Prevention of Crime and Disorder
- b) Public Safety
- c) The Prevention of Public Nuisance
- d) The Protection of Children from Harm.

Each objective is of equal importance. As there are no other licensing objectives, these four are of paramount consideration at all times. When considering applications, representations or notifications, the Licensing Authority will have regard to these licensing objectives.

5.6 The Licensing Authority may grant the application with or without additional conditions.

5.7 Section 4(3)Licensing Act 2003 states that the Licensing Authority should also have regard to the Council's Licensing Policy, the Statutory Guidance issued under Section 182 of the Licensing Act 2003, and the Licensing Act itself, and in particular to:-

- a) Paragraphs 3-6, 8-10, 13-14, 17-24, 29, 33 - 36, 38-41 of the 2015 policy.
- b) Chapters 2, 8, 9 and 10 of the Statutory Guidance as revised October 2014.
- c) Sections 4, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 16, 17, 18, 23, 182, and 183 of the Act.

5.8 The Licensing Authority recognises that Licensing and Planning are separate regimes. Where an application is granted by the Licensing Authority which would require planning permission this would not relieve the applicant of the need to obtain that permission. It will still be necessary for the applicant to ensure that he/she has **ALL** the necessary permissions in place to enable them to run the business within the law.

5.9 If the application is refused the applicant may appeal within 21 days of the notification to the Magistrates' Court. If the application is granted the person making the relevant representation may appeal within 21 days of the notification to the Magistrates' Court. On appeal the court may either dismiss the appeal, substitute the decision appealed against for any other decision which could have been made by the Licensing Authority, or remit the case to the Licensing Authority to dispose of in accordance with the direction of the court. The court may make such order for costs as it thinks fit.

5.10 In accordance with the requirements of the Act the applicants served copies of the application upon the police, the fire authority, environmental

health, development control, trading standards, health authority and the child protection agency.

5.11 The applicant is required to place a notice at the premises for a period of 28 consecutive days starting the day after the application is made, and to place an advert in a local newspaper within 10 working days of submitting the application to the licensing authority.

5.12 A representation has been received from EHO Katherine Jones on behalf of **Environmental Protection** (Annex D). It expresses concern that the applicant's proposed use of the large external customer area is likely to undermine the Prevention of Public Nuisance licensing objective, given the close proximity of the venue to residential properties. The following condition has been proposed by Environmental Protection to mitigate the potential of public nuisance:

- **“The external beer garden of the premises shall only be used between the hours of 09:00 hrs and 21:00 hrs on Mondays to Sundays, (inc. Bank or Public Holidays)”.**

5.13 A representation has been received from the **Police** (Annex E) expressing concern that the applicant's operating schedule lacks detail and clarity. It recommends more robust conditions are required to prevent the applicant's proposals having a detrimental effect on **the prevention of crime and disorder** licensing objective and proposes the following conditions:

- **“Where a risk assessment by the licence holder and/or at the written request of the police or licensing authority , SIA door supervisors will be employed at the premises and used at such times and in such numbers as required to supervise all patrons entering and leaving, and to ensure good order of the premises”.**
- **“Customers shall not take open vessels from the premises except for the purposes of consumption in any external area under the control of the premises licence holder”.**
- **“There will be no entry or re-entry to the premises after 12.30 am on any morning”**

5.14 A representation has been received from a local resident (Annex F) urging the Committee to refuse the application. It expresses concern that the applicant's proposal to offer cheap alcohol from 09:00 to 01:00 hours the following day, without any appropriate regulation in respect of the use of door-staff, the use of plastic glasses, restricting access to the premises at a certain time, restricting use of the outside areas after a certain time, or regulating alcohol sold for consumption off the premises, will have a detrimental impact on the town, reverse all the hard work of the CAP and Town Council, who collated evidence to warrant the introduction of a DPPO, and will undermine the following licensing objectives:

- the prevention of crime and disorder;

- the prevention of public nuisance; and
- the protection of children from home

5.15 This report has not been sent to the Trades Union because they would have no involvement.

## **6. RATIONALE**

6.1 As representations have been received the Sub Committee must determine the application in accordance with the Licensing Act 2003.

## **7 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED**

7.1 None.

## **8 CONSULTATION**

8.1 In accordance with the Licensing Act 2003 (Premises Licence and Club Premises Certificate) Regulations 2005, the applicant has given notice of the application to all the relevant Responsible Authorities and has advertised the application in the manner prescribed, both at the premises and within a local publication.

## **9 RISK MANAGEMENT**

9.1 A risk assessment related to the issue and recommendations has been undertaken, in compliance with the Council's decision making risk management guidance.

## **10 ADVICE SOUGHT**

10.1 The Council's Monitoring Officer (Divisional Director-Legal & Democratic Services), section 151 Officer (Divisional Director-Finance) and the Divisional Director have had the opportunity to input to this report and have cleared it for publication.

<b>Contact person</b>	Terrill Wolyn, Senior Licensing Officer 01225 396939
<b>Background papers</b>	Licensing Act 2003 Guidance issued under s.182 of the Licensing Act 2003 Licensing Act 2003 (Premises and Club Premises Certificates) Regulations 2005 B&NES Statement of Licensing Policy



ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

30 JAN 2015

Post Log No: .....  
Receipt No: 119843  
CH/CA £100.00Application for a premises licence to be granted  
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/We JD Wetherspoon plc

*(Insert name(s) of applicant)*

apply for a premises licence under section 17 of the Licensing Act 2003 for the premises described in Part 1 below (the premises) and I/we are making this application to you as the relevant licensing authority in accordance with section 12 of the Licensing Act 2003

## Part 1 – Premises Details

Postal address of premises or, if none, ordnance survey map reference or description			
Wetherspoons (formerly Palladium Cinema) 110 High Street			
Post town	Midsomer Norton	Postcode	BA3 2DA

Telephone number at premises (if any)	
Non-domestic rateable value of premises	£0

## Part 2 - Applicant Details

Please state whether you are applying for a premises licence as

Please tick as appropriate

- a) an individual or individuals \*  please complete section (A)
- b) a person other than an individual \*
- i. as a limited company  please complete section (B)
- ii. as a partnership  please complete section (B)
- iii. as an unincorporated association or  please complete section (B)
- iv. other (for example a statutory corporation)  please complete section (B)
- c) a recognised club  please complete section (B)
- d) a charity  please complete section (B)

- e) the proprietor of an educational establishment  please complete section (B)
- f) a health service body  please complete section (B)
- g) a person who is registered under Part 2 of the Care Standards Act 2000 (c14) in respect of an independent hospital in Wales  please complete section (B)
- ga) a person who is registered under Chapter 2 of Part 1 of the Health and Social Care Act 2008 (within the meaning of that Part) in an independent hospital in England  please complete section (B)
- h) the chief officer of police of a police force in England and Wales  please complete section (B)

\* If you are applying as a person described in (a) or (b) please confirm:

Please tick yes

I am carrying on or proposing to carry on a business which involves the use of the premises for licensable activities; or

I am making the application pursuant to a  
 . statutory function or   
 a function discharged by virtue of Her Majesty's prerogative

**(A) INDIVIDUAL APPLICANTS** (fill in as applicable)

Mr <input type="checkbox"/>	Mrs <input type="checkbox"/>	Miss <input type="checkbox"/>	Ms <input type="checkbox"/>	Other Title (for example, Rev)	
<b>Surname</b>			<b>First names</b>		
I am 18 years old or over				<input type="checkbox"/> Please tick yes	
Current postal address if different from premises address					
Post town				Postcode	
<b>Daytime contact telephone number</b>					
<b>E-mail address (optional)</b>					



**SECOND INDIVIDUAL APPLICANT** (if applicable)

Mr <input type="checkbox"/>	Mrs <input type="checkbox"/>	Miss <input type="checkbox"/>	Ms <input type="checkbox"/>	Other Title (for example, Rev)	
<b>Surname</b>			<b>First names</b>		
I am 18 years old or over				<input type="checkbox"/> Please tick yes	
Current postal address if different from premises address					
Post town				Postcode	
<b>Daytime contact telephone number</b>					
<b>E-mail address (optional)</b>					

**(B) OTHER APPLICANTS**

**Please provide name and registered address of applicant in full. Where appropriate please give any registered number. In the case of a partnership or other joint venture (other than a body corporate), please give the name and address of each party concerned.**

Name JD Wetherspoon plc
Address  Wetherspoon House Central Park Reeds Crescent Watford WD24 4QL
Registered number (where applicable)  01709784
Description of applicant (for example, partnership, company, unincorporated association etc.)  Public Limited Company
Telephone number (if any) 01923 477 804
E-mail address (optional) bmorrice@jdwetherspoon.co.uk

**Part 3 Operating Schedule**

When do you want the premises licence to start? *on grant.*

DD	MM	YYYY
□	□	□
□	□	□
□	□	□

If you wish the licence to be valid only for a limited period, when do you want it to end?

DD	MM	YYYY
□	□	□
□	□	□
□	□	□

Please give a general description of the premises (please read guidance note 1)

A proposed two storey public house and restaurant with customer area, office, bottle store, staff facilities and external customer area on the ground floor. Kitchen, cellar, female and male customer toilets and external customer area are located on the first floor.

If 5,000 or more people are expected to attend the premises at any one time, please state the number expected to attend.

What licensable activities do you intend to carry on from the premises?

(Please see sections 1 and 14 of the Licensing Act 2003 and Schedules 1 and 2 to the Licensing Act 2003)

- |   |                            |
|---|----------------------------|
| Provision of regulated entertainment  | Please tick any that apply |
| a) plays (if ticking yes, fill in box A)  | <input type="checkbox"/>   |
| b) films (if ticking yes, fill in box B)  | <input type="checkbox"/>   |
| c) indoor sporting events (if ticking yes, fill in box C)   | <input type="checkbox"/>   |
| d) boxing or wrestling entertainment (if ticking yes, fill in box D)  | <input type="checkbox"/>   |
| e) live music (if ticking yes, fill in box E)   | <input type="checkbox"/>   |
| f) recorded music (if ticking yes, fill in box F)   | <input type="checkbox"/>   |
| g) performances of dance (if ticking yes, fill in box G)  | <input type="checkbox"/>   |
| h) anything of a similar description to that falling within (e), (f) or (g) (if ticking yes, fill in box H) | <input type="checkbox"/>   |

**Provision of late night refreshment** (if ticking yes, fill in box I)

**Supply of alcohol** (if ticking yes, fill in box J)

In all cases complete boxes K, L and M

A

Plays Standard days and timings (please read guidance note 6)			<b>Will the performance of a play take place indoors or outdoors or both – please tick</b> (please read guidance note 2)	Indoors	<input type="checkbox"/>
Day	Start	Finish		Outdoors	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mon			<b>Please give further details here</b> (please read guidance note 3)	Both	<input type="checkbox"/>
Tue					
Wed			<b>State any seasonal variations for performing plays</b> (please read guidance note 4)		
Thur					
Fri			<b>Non standard timings. Where you intend to use the premises for the performance of plays at different times to those listed in the column on the left, please list</b> (please read guidance note 5)		
Sat					
Sun					

**B**

<b>Films</b> Standard days and timings (please read guidance note 6)			<b><u>Will the exhibition of films take place indoors or outdoors or both – please tick</u></b> (please read guidance note 2)	Indoors	<input type="checkbox"/>			
				Outdoors	<input type="checkbox"/>			
				Both	<input type="checkbox"/>			
<b>Day</b>	<b>Start</b>	<b>Finish</b>	<b><u>Please give further details here</u></b> (please read guidance note 3)					
Mon								
Tue								
Wed						<b><u>State any seasonal variations for the exhibition of films</u></b> (please read guidance note 4)		
Thur								
Fri						<b><u>Non standard timings. Where you intend to use the premises for the exhibition of films at different times to those listed in the column on the left, please list</u></b> (please read guidance note 5)		
Sat								
Sun								

C

<b>Indoor sporting events</b> Standard days and timings (please read guidance note 6)			<b><u>Please give further details</u></b> (please read guidance note 3)
Day	Start	Finish	
Mon			
Tue			<b><u>State any seasonal variations for indoor sporting events</u></b> (please read guidance note 4)
Wed			<b><u>Non standard timings. Where you intend to use the premises for indoor sporting events at different times to those listed in the column on the left, please list</u></b> (please read guidance note 5)
Thur			
Fri			
Sat			
Sun			

**D**

<b>Boxing or wrestling entertainments</b> Standard days and timings (please read guidance note 6)			<b><u>Will the boxing or wrestling entertainment take place indoors or outdoors or both – please tick</u></b> (please read guidance note 2)		Indoors	<input type="checkbox"/>
					Outdoors	<input type="checkbox"/>
Day	Start	Finish				
Mon			<b><u>Please give further details here</u></b> (please read guidance note 3)			
Tue						
Wed			<b><u>State any seasonal variations for boxing or wrestling entertainment</u></b> (please read guidance note 4)			
Thur						
Fri			<b><u>Non standard timings. Where you intend to use the premises for boxing or wrestling entertainment at different times to those listed in the column on the left, please list</u></b> (please read guidance note 5)			
Sat						
Sun						

## E

Live music Standard days and timings (please read guidance note 6)			Will the performance of live music take place <u>indoors or outdoors or both – please tick</u> (please read guidance note 2)	Indoors	<input type="checkbox"/>
				Outdoors	<input type="checkbox"/>
				Both	<input type="checkbox"/>
Day	Start	Finish	<b>Please give further details here</b> (please read guidance note 3)		
Mon					
Tue					
Wed			<b>State any seasonal variations for the performance of live music</b> (please read guidance note 4)		
Thur					
Fri			<b>Non standard timings. Where you intend to use the premises for the performance of live music at different times to those listed in the column on the left, please list</b> (please read guidance note 5)		
Sat					
Sun					

**F**

<b>Recorded music</b> Standard days and timings (please read guidance note 6)			<b>Will the playing of recorded music take place indoors or outdoors or both – please tick</b> (please read guidance note 2)	Indoors	<input type="checkbox"/>
				Outdoors	<input type="checkbox"/>
				Both	<input type="checkbox"/>
Day	Start	Finish	<b>Please give further details here</b> (please read guidance note 3)		
Mon					
Tue			<b>State any seasonal variations for the playing of recorded music</b> (please read guidance note 4)		
Wed					
Thur			<b>Non standard timings. Where you intend to use the premises for the playing of recorded music at different times to those listed in the column on the left, please list</b> (please read guidance note 5)		
Fri					
Sat					
Sun					



## G

<b>Performances of dance</b> Standard days and timings (please read guidance note 6)			<b>Will the performance of dance take place indoors or outdoors or both – please tick</b> (please read guidance note 2)	Indoors	<input type="checkbox"/>
Day	Start	Finish		Outdoors	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mon			<b>Please give further details here</b> (please read guidance note 3)	Both	<input type="checkbox"/>
Tue					
Wed			<b>State any seasonal variations for the performance of dance</b> (please read guidance note 4)		
Thur					
Fri			<b>Non standard timings. Where you intend to use the premises for the performance of dance at different times to those listed in the column on the left, please list</b> (please read guidance note 5)		
Sat					
Sun					

**H**

<p><b>Anything of a similar description to that falling within (e), (f) or (g)</b> Standard days and timings (please read guidance note 6)</p>			<p>Please give a description of the type of entertainment you will be providing</p>		
Day	Start	Finish	<p><b><u>Will this entertainment take place indoors or outdoors or both – please tick</u></b> (please read guidance note 2)</p>	Indoors	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mon				Outdoors	<input type="checkbox"/>
				Both	<input type="checkbox"/>
Tue			<p><b><u>Please give further details here</u></b> (please read guidance note 3)</p>		
Wed					
Thur			<p><b><u>State any seasonal variations for entertainment of a similar description to that falling within (e), (f) or (g)</u></b> (please read guidance note 4)</p>		
Fri					
Sat			<p><b><u>Non standard timings. Where you intend to use the premises for the entertainment of a similar description to that falling within (e), (f) or (g) at different times to those listed in the column on the left, please list</u></b> (please read guidance note 5)</p>		
Sun					

## I

Late night refreshment Standard days and timings (please read guidance note 6)			Will the provision of late night refreshment take place indoors or outdoors or both – please tick (please read guidance note 2)	Indoors	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Day	Start	Finish		Outdoors	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mon	2300	0000	<b><u>Please give further details here</u></b> (please read guidance note 3)  Hot food together with hot drinks including tea and coffee	Both	<input type="checkbox"/>
Tue	2300	0000			
Wed	2300	0000	<b><u>State any seasonal variations for the provision of late night refreshment</u></b> (please read guidance note 4)		
Thur	2300	0100			
Fri	2300	0100	<b><u>Non standard timings. Where you intend to use the premises for the provision of late night refreshment at different times, to those listed in the column on the left, please list</u></b> (please read guidance note 5)  Christmas Eve / Maundy Thursday / Good Friday / Sundays preceding Bank Holiday Mondays / New Year's Eve – an additional hour		
Sat	2300	0100			
Sun	2300	0000			

J

<b>Supply of alcohol</b> Standard days and timings (please read guidance note 6)			<b>Will the supply of alcohol be for consumption – please tick</b> (please read guidance note 7)	On the premises	<input type="checkbox"/>
				Off the premises	<input type="checkbox"/>
				Both	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Day	Start	Finish	<b>State any seasonal variations for the supply of alcohol</b> (please read guidance note 4)		
Mon	0900	0000			
Tue	0900	0000			
Wed	0900	0000			
Thur	0900	0100			
Fri	0900	0100			
Sat	0900	0100			
Sun	0900	0000	<b>Non standard timings. Where you intend to use the premises for the supply of alcohol at different times to those listed in the column on the left, please list</b> (please read guidance note 5)		
Christmas Eve / Maundy Thursday / Good Friday / Sundays preceding Bank Holiday Mondays / New Year's Eve – an additional hour					

**State the name and details of the individual whom you wish to specify on the licence as designated premises supervisor:**

Name Deborah Hay	
Address 6 Roehampton Court Queens Ride Barnes	
Postcode	SW13 0HU
Personal licence number (if known) 30659	
Issuing licensing authority (if known) London Borough of Richmond upon Thames	

K

**Please highlight any adult entertainment or services, activities, other entertainment or matters ancillary to the use of the premises that may give rise to concern in respect of children (please read guidance note 8).**

None

L

<b>Hours premises are open to the public</b> Standard days and timings (please read guidance note 6)			<b>State any seasonal variations</b> (please read guidance note 4)
Day	Start	Finish	
Mon	0700	0030	
Tue	0700	0030	
Wed	0700	0030	
Thur	0700	0130	<b><u>Non standard timings. Where you intend the premises to be open to the public at different times from those listed in the column on the left, please list</u></b> (please read guidance note 5)
Fri	0700	0130	Christmas Eve / Maundy Thursday / Good Friday / Sundays preceding Bank Holiday Mondays / New Year's Eve / the morning BST commences – an additional hour.
Sat	0700	0130	
Sun	0700	0030	

**M** Describe the steps you intend to take to promote the four licensing objectives:

**a) General – all four licensing objectives (b, c, d and e) (please read guidance note 9)**

1. The premises licence holder will ensure that all staff at the premises have been trained in accordance with established JD Wetherspoon plc training procedures. Specifically the premises licence holder will ensure that all employees are trained in their responsibilities to prevent alcohol being served to anybody who is under the legal age limit or to anyone who appears to be drunk or to anyone who is trying to purchase alcohol on their behalf.

**b) The prevention of crime and disorder**

1. The premises licence holder will ensure that there are sufficient staffing levels including managers to encourage responsible behaviour on the premises at all times.
2. CCTV shall be installed in the premises in compliance with any reasonable requirements of the police. Images will be retained for a minimum of 30 days and will be available to the police upon request. Members of the management team will be trained in the use of the system.
3. Non-alcoholic beverages including soft drinks, water, coffee and tea shall be available at all times, sale by retail of alcohol carried out at the premises.

**c) Public safety**

See conditions 1 to 3 Box B above.

**d) The prevention of public nuisance**

See conditions 1 to 3 Box B above.

## e) The protection of children from harm

- |  |
|--|
| <p>1. The premises licence holder will operate a "Challenge 21" Policy at all times.</p> <p>2. Suitable food and non-alcoholic beverages shall be available at all times children are allowed on the premises.</p> |
|--|

**Checklist:**

Please tick to indicate agreement

- I have made or enclosed payment of the fee.
- I have enclosed the plan of the premises.
- I have sent copies of this application and the plan to responsible authorities and others where applicable.
- I have enclosed the consent form completed by the individual I wish to be designated premises supervisor, if applicable.
- I understand that I must now advertise my application.
- I understand that if I do not comply with the above requirements my application will be rejected.

**IT IS AN OFFENCE, LIABLE ON SUMMARY CONVICTION TO A FINE NOT EXCEEDING LEVEL 5 ON THE STANDARD SCALE, UNDER SECTION 158 OF THE LICENSING ACT 2003, TO MAKE A FALSE STATEMENT IN OR IN CONNECTION WITH THIS APPLICATION.**

**Part 4 – Signatures** (please read guidance note 10)

**Signature of applicant or applicant's solicitor or other duly authorised agent** (see guidance note 11).  
**If signing on behalf of the applicant, please state in what capacity.**

Signature	
Date	29.1.15
Capacity	APPLICANT

**For joint applications, signature of 2<sup>nd</sup> applicant or 2<sup>nd</sup> applicant's solicitor or other authorised agent** (please read guidance note 12). **If signing on behalf of the applicant, please state in what capacity.**

Signature	
Date	
Capacity	

Contact name (where not previously given) and postal address for correspondence associated with this application (please read guidance note 13)			
Barbara Morrice c/o Legal Department Wethespoon House Central Park Reeds Crescent			
Post town	<b>Watford</b>	Postcode	<b>WD24 4QL</b>
Telephone number (if any)	01923 477 804		
If you would prefer us to correspond with you by e-mail, your e-mail address (optional) bmorrice@jdwetherspoon.co.uk			

### Notes for Guidance

1. Describe the premises, for example the type of premises, its general situation and layout and any other information which could be relevant to the licensing objectives. Where your application includes off-supplies of alcohol and you intend to provide a place for consumption of these off-supplies, you must include a description of where the place will be and its proximity to the premises.
2. Where taking place in a building or other structure please tick as appropriate (indoors may include a tent).
3. For example the type of activity to be authorised, if not already stated, and give relevant further details, for example (but not exclusively) whether or not music will be amplified or unamplified.
4. For example (but not exclusively), where the activity will occur on additional days during the summer months.
5. For example (but not exclusively), where you wish the activity to go on longer on a particular day e.g. Christmas Eve.
6. Please give timings in 24 hour clock (e.g. 16:00) and only give details for the days of the week when you intend the premises to be used for the activity.
7. If you wish people to be able to consume alcohol on the premises, please tick 'on the premises'. If you wish people to be able to purchase alcohol to consume away from the premises, please tick 'off the premises'. If you wish people to be able to do both, please tick 'both'.
8. Please give information about anything intended to occur at the premises or ancillary to the use of the premises which may give rise to concern in respect of children, regardless of whether you intend children to have access to the premises, for example (but not exclusively) nudity or semi-nudity, films for restricted age groups or the presence of gaming machines.
9. Please list here steps you will take to promote all four licensing objectives together.
10. The application form must be signed.
11. An applicant's agent (for example solicitor) may sign the form on their behalf provided that they have actual authority to do so.
12. Where there is more than one applicant, each of the applicant or their respective agent must sign the application form.
13. This is the address which we shall use to correspond with you about this application.





**J D Wetherspoon**

**Code of Conduct for Responsible Retailing**

Updated October 2013

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## Overview

J D Wetherspoon began trading in 1979. Over time we have developed a sophisticated range of practices and procedures aimed at providing a safe and convivial environment in which our customers can enjoy the wide range of facilities which we offer. The procedures that we have put in place are subject to constant review and improvement and are the result of careful consideration by our experienced team of directors, managers and professional advisors.

Overall, our aim is to provide a distinctive kind of pub which attracts a broad range of customers. We aim to retain the congenial atmosphere of the traditional pub and couple it with features found in modern cafés, restaurants and bars. We successfully achieve this through a combination of high-quality design, good management and the provision of an all-day menu and a range of quality products.

J D Wetherspoon was the first company to develop a Code of Conduct for Responsible Retailing. This Code sets out the operational procedures that we as a company have put in place to ensure we are actively promoting the four licensing objectives; the prevention of crime and disorder, public safety, the prevention of public nuisance and the protection of children from harm. At all times we operate to ensure that our commercial imperatives do not override the core values set out in the Code. The Code was developed in April 2004 and formed an integral part of all applications that we submitted to convert and vary licenses prior to the introduction of the new licensing regime. The Code is regularly reviewed as a result of our experience in dealing with local authorities, police forces and various other statutory bodies to ensure it reflects best practice.

The Code is divided into four sections, one for each of the four licensing objectives, with specific practices and procedures identified under the relevant objective. There is, however, considerable overlap between our practices and the objectives so that some of our procedures simultaneously address more than one of the objectives. For example, our staff training procedures address all four objectives and our CCTV policy meets both the crime prevention and the prevention of public nuisance objectives.

Our approach has always been to work closely with the statutory authorities and with local residents to ensure that the licensing objectives are being actively promoted. We appreciate that the success of the licensing regime depends on the continuation of strong partnerships between the licensed trade, responsible authorities and local communities.

# 1 Prevention of Crime and Disorder

## 1.1 Food

- 1.1.1 At J D Wetherspoon the provision of good quality food at reasonable prices is at the core of our business. A full menu is available in our premises from opening until 2300, 7 days of the week.
- 1.1.2 Food has become an increasingly important element of our operation in recent years and in particular since the introduction of the smoking ban in England and Wales in 2007. Our experience is that a smoke-free pub provides a much more conducive atmosphere in which to eat, especially for families with children. As a consequence, in the past few years we have seen our food sales increase significantly. Food currently amounts to 34% of the total sales across the estate. In a number of our pubs a figure of 50% and higher is achieved. Including bar purchases made in association with table meals, diners now account for approximately two-thirds of sales.
- 1.1.3 The majority of our pubs open from 0800 and some even earlier to cater for customers who want to join us for breakfast. We pioneered the availability of breakfasts across all our pubs. We now sell approximately 425,000 breakfast items per week. In a similar vein, we now sell over 725,000 hot drinks every week including 400,000 cups of Lavazza coffee.
- 1.1.4 Our Curry, Chicken, Steak and Sunday Clubs are key offers available in all of our pubs. These promotions are typical of our approach to responsible drinks retailing where we link drinks promotions with the sale of affordable food. During all our club promotions, customers are offered a drink inclusive with their meal and can choose from a pint of lager, bitter, Guinness or cider, a bottled lager, a glass of wine, a single spirit and mixer, or they can choose a coffee or tea, a bottle of water or a non-alcoholic soft drink such as Pepsi or J2O.
- 1.1.5 We always use high quality ingredients and increasingly offer regional dishes and locally sourced products. We also take great care to ensure that artificial ingredients are avoided wherever possible. For example we use free range eggs, cod from sustainable stocks, the beef in our burgers is 100% British and our cooking oils are without trans-fats.
- 1.1.6 Our award winning children's menu is available throughout our trading hours. A number of our children's meals use only organic ingredients. We have no preservatives or sugar or artificial colours or flavours in any of the meals in the children's menu. All of our children's meals come with a bag of fresh fruit as well as milk, orange juice drink or water as the drink options. We provide nutritional information about the meals offered on the children's menu to help parents make informed decisions about what their children are eating.

## 1.2 Responsible Drinks Retailing

- 1.2.1 J D Wetherspoon takes the issue of responsible drinks retailing extremely seriously. We understand that we are in the business of selling alcohol but we strive to operate our pubs in such a way that we create a safe and welcoming atmosphere which encourages people to behave well and consume alcohol in a responsible fashion. We work closely with the statutory authorities to ensure that any local initiatives designed to achieve these goals are fully supported by our pubs. We are continually looking for new ways to ensure that the facilities and promotions offered in our pubs do not encourage the excessive consumption of alcohol and the health harms and anti-social behaviour that can go with it.
- 1.2.2 The provision of food for a high percentage our trading hours is a vital component of our approach to responsible drinks retailing. The consumption of food both before and during the consumption of alcohol is widely recognised to slow down its absorption into the blood stream. We encourage adults to drink in moderation and to enjoy alcoholic beverages in a sensible manner.
- 1.2.3 We do not engage in irresponsible drinks promotions. We do not offer 'all inclusive' promotions where our customers can drink unlimited amounts for a set fee. Neither do we offer promotions that entice customers with free alcoholic drinks such as "buy-one-get-one-free" promotions. The majority of our drinks promotions form part of our food promotions. Our practices and procedures are frequently held-up by the police and local authorities as 'best practice' for others to follow.
- 1.2.4 We sell a wide range of soft drinks, fruit juices, tea and coffee. Where drinks from part of a promotion, we always offer a range of drinks including ones of different alcoholic strengths, soft drinks, tea and coffee. The mandatory condition requiring the provision of small measures is fully complied with.
- 1.2.5 We concentrate on the provision of cask conditioned beers and sell more than any other pub company. Our premises regularly feature in the CAMRA "Good Beer Guide". In 2013 we had 283 pubs in the Guide; more than any other pub company. Throughout the year we run national and regional festivals showcasing the very best ales from local microbrewers as well as larger provincial brewers. The vast majority of our premises are accredited by Cask Marque for the quality of their ales. Real ale typically attracts a broader, often older, cross-section of customers. This broad customer base creates an atmosphere within our pubs that we believe leads to better behaved customers.
- 1.2.6 We are the only pub company in the United Kingdom to produce a comprehensive, bi-monthly customer magazine called Wetherspoon News. The print run per issue is 250,000 however there is an estimated readership of 1,000,000 (4 readers per copy). Wetherspoon News is distributed nationally throughout all our pubs, Wetherspoon Hotels, the company's head office and via our website. It is provided free-of-charge to customers. Wetherspoon News is an invaluable method of communicating responsible retailing messages to our customers. We also devote a large proportion of this

publication to recognise and highlight our staff who have worked hard to promote responsible retailing and sensible drinking messages in their pubs. We encourage charities such as the Drinkaware Trust to contribute articles and information.

- 1.2.7 We recognise the importance of informing customers about the alcoholic strength of products and unit measurements. All of our drinks lists and menus record the ABV content for draught ales, lagers, spirits & bottled beers & ciders.
- 1.2.8 We adopt a socially responsible approach to marketing. We ensure that low-alcohol and non-alcoholic beverages are prominently advertised in our table talker/drinks lists.
- 1.2.9 We support the Responsibility Deal between the alcohol industry and the government and are a signatory to a number of its key pledges, the delivery of which are monitored on an annual basis.

### **1.3 Price Structure**

- 1.3.1 J D Wetherspoon offers competitive prices across the full range of products on offer to our customers and not just on alcoholic drinks. This approach has always been an attractive part of our offer from the customer point of view. In our view, customer behaviour is primarily influenced by strong management, highly trained staff, and a robust approach to responsible drinks retailing rather than the pricing of alcoholic products. We do however keep under review the pricing structure of our alcoholic and non-alcoholic products to ensure that we are encouraging sensible drinking at all times.
- 1.3.2 Our approach to the sale of alcohol is to concentrate on the range and quality of the products on offer rather than to use price as an incentive. Our approach has been both welcomed and supported by the police and other statutory authorities around the United Kingdom. In 2005 we won the national 'Responsible Drinks Retailer - Pub Chain Company' award organised by the Morning Advertiser and supported by the Home Office and were short listed for the same award in 2006. We won the award again in 2008 and 2009.

### **1.4 Highly Trained Staff**

- 1.4.1 At J D Wetherspoon there is a very strong culture of thorough induction training and on-going refresher training increasingly by e-learning and other interactive methods. Training is provided for all employees regardless of their role, their age or their hours of work. It is widely recognised that the level and quality of staff training is a significant factor in controlling the behaviour of customers on licensed premises. Our employees are extensively trained on their obligations under licensing law particularly the legal requirement not serve drunks and the restrictions of the sale and consumption of alcohol to and by under 18s.
- 1.4.2 Our training systems have been consistently praised by employees and by the industry. We have won many awards including the Supreme Training Award from the British Institute of Innkeeping ('BII') for two consecutive years.

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## Section 1 – Prevention of Crime and Disorder

We have also won the National Inn-keeping Training awards for Best Catering Training, Best Training in Managed Estates and in 2007 the Best Training Scheme by Institutions of Further and Higher Education in Partnership within the Licensed Retail Industry.

- 1.4.3 Training of our management personnel is conducted on a modular basis with continuing assessment throughout their employment period. Bar staff training is primarily carried out on site by management personnel coupled with on-line training modules
- 1.4.4 An essential element in having a well trained staff is our ability to retain our employees. Turnover of Pub Managers is around 12% which is less than half the industry average. Moreover, 75% of all management employees began with J D Wetherspoon as hourly paid employees and, typically, anyone appointed to run one of our pubs for the first time is likely to have been employed by the Company for at least 5 years.
- 1.4.5 The quality of our training, recruitment and employment practices have been recognised by J D Wetherspoon being included in "Britain's Top Employers" for 9 consecutive years.

### 1.5 Management Structure

- 1.5.1 Our management structure is designed to ensure that we encourage responsible behaviour on our premises. Our pubs each have an average of five managers and the majority of these hold personal licence qualifications or are working towards them. There is always at least one manager, often more, on duty in every pub throughout trading hours and at peak times there will be a designated manager supervising the bar and 'walking the floor'.
- 1.5.2 Pub managers have the support of their area manager who in turn reports to a general manager. The operations director maintains regular contact with management at all levels. This management structure ensures that if any employee has any question or requires further support they can immediately ask for assistance from their management team. Area managers look after an average of only 12 pubs each which is a low number of pubs in comparison to regional managers in competitor pub companies.

### 1.6 Preventing Drunkenness and Disorderly Behaviour

- 1.6.1 We have taken numerous positive steps to ensure that the facilities and promotions offered in our pubs do not encourage the excessive consumption of alcohol. All of our employees are provided with intensive induction and refresher training on our Don't Do Drunk policy. This policy is designed to ensure that alcohol is not served to anyone who appears to be drunk or to anyone who is trying to purchase alcohol on their behalf. Our employees are trained to continually assess the state of sobriety of any customer purchasing alcoholic drinks or consuming alcohol within the premises. As part of this training we reassure our employees that if they ever feel uncomfortable dealing with a situation then they must notify the pub manager and ask for their assistance. Our management teams are asked to support the decision of any employee not to serve a customer who appears to be drunk or disorderly.

We monitor the effectiveness of this training by reviewing the use of the 'Refusal' button on the EPOS till system (pressed whenever a customer is refused alcohol) and from feedback given by enforcement authorities, customers and company representatives. Adherence to our Don't Do Drunk policy is closely monitored through regular visits to all pubs at any time during trading hours. These visits are completed by senior J D Wetherspoon managers and also independent "mystery" visitors.

- 1.6.2 All employees are trained to immediately notify the pub manager if any customer becomes insulting, threatening or aggressive. The pub manager is then able to act to prevent this behaviour escalating into violence. If such disorderly behaviour does occur on our premises the pub management team will take immediate action to diffuse the situation. If the disorderly individual refuses to leave the premises then, if necessary, the police will be called to assist in the ejection.
- 1.6.3 Details of disorderly customers are circulated to other licensed venues via the Pubwatch or similar local intelligence systems. We will always support 'Banned from One - Banned from All' or similar initiatives which ensure that a consistent approach is taken by licensed premises in a town or city to refuse entry to anyone who has been included on the Pubwatch 'banned list'.

## **1.7 Zero Tolerance to Drug Use**

- 1.7.1 J D Wetherspoon operates a zero tolerance policy towards drug use and we will take whatever measures are necessary to ensure this policy is being actively promoted. In particular, we co-operate with the police to ensure that wherever a risk has been identified appropriate action is taken and where illegal substances are found, they are confiscated, securely stored and given to the police at the earliest opportunity in accordance with any protocol requested by the police.
- 1.7.2 Where a search policy is in place, we make every effort to ensure that customers are aware that this is a voluntary procedure and that they have the right to decline this condition of entry. If a customer does decline and our door staff or employees remain concerned that the person is in possession of illegal substances, they will make every effort to notify the police of these concerns so that a police search can be considered.
- 1.7.3 Employees are expected to be extra vigilant to prevent drug use occurring and all receive specific training on how to deal with such issues should they arise. Our pub managers will always welcome any additional site specific training that local police wish to offer that may be particularly relevant to their locality.
- 1.7.4 Toilet checks are carried out by employees at frequent intervals during peak trading times and they are carried out at least once every hour during all other trading hours. These checks help ensure that no illegal activities take place in these areas.



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**Section 1 – Prevention of Crime and Disorder****1.8 CCTV**

- 1.8.1 CCTV is provided throughout our premises. It has proved to be an active deterrent for anti-social behaviour and we are committed to continuing its provision. The vast majority of our existing premises and all our new premises are fitted with digital equipment and the camera locations are selected in conjunction with the local police crime prevention officer whenever possible. A project to replace existing analogue video systems in our estate will be completed shortly.
- 1.8.2 We are committed to training adequate numbers of employees in each pub in the use of the CCTV system so that immediately following an incident a trained member of staff is always available to replay footage, download material or provide a VHS tape where the CCTV is recorded on an analogue system. This material will always be made available to the statutory authorities without delay.
- 1.8.3 All CCTV footage will be retained for a period of at least 30 days and is subject to the required Data Protection Act processes.
- 1.8.4 Where given the opportunity, we participate in local CCTV initiatives such as Facewatch.

**1.9 Door Staff**

- 1.9.1 The vast majority of our premises operate successfully without the need for door supervisors. We continually risk assess the need to provide door supervision and are willing to follow any reasonable recommendations of the police to engage door supervisors where that is deemed necessary.
- 1.9.2 Where door staff are engaged they work in accordance with our policies and procedures under the control of a head door supervisor. Their primary function is to ensure that the points of exit and entry and outside areas remain under supervision while also monitoring the interior of the premises to maintain a safe and relaxing environment for customers and employees alike. We would always expect door staff to meet the high standards of service and behaviour that we would expect from our own staff. We expect them to give customers confidence in their ability and our ability to create a safe environment. We expect that they behave in an appropriate manner in any situation where customers are rude, aggressive, violent and know how, when deemed necessary, to use proportionate force in controlling a situation. We ensure that all door supervisors are registered and in possession of an SIA badge and refuse to allow any unlicensed door supervisors to work on our premises.

**1.10 Toughened Glassware & Polycarbonates**

- 1.10.1 J D Wetherspoon is 100% committed to working with the police and other authorities to improve industry standards for customer safety in licensed premises and in particular reduce the risk of glass related injuries.

- 1.10.2 We strive to eradicate glass-related incidents in our pubs through strong front-of-house management, staff training, effective door and customer management policies, regular glass collection, well-maintained premises and the use of toughened glass. Wherever possible the glassware used in our pubs is toughened glass. Due to the methods employed in the manufacture of toughened glass, the glass, if broken, tends to break into very small pieces thereby reducing the possibility of it being used as a weapon. Our employees are trained to ensure that when customers leave our premises they do not leave taking glassware or bottles with them. Our employees are also tasked to ensure empty drinking vessels are cleared away in a timely fashion so as to reduce the risk of breakages and their use as weapons. Most importantly, however, J D Wetherspoon, unlike the vast majority of pub companies, has an extensive food offer which is available to customers throughout trading hours from opening to at least 2200 hours, 7 days a week. In the majority of our pubs this means food is available from 0800 or even 0700 up to 2300. The result of this is that our pubs attract a much broader range of age groups and types of clientele than many of our competitors. We consider that this is a significant factor in reducing the potential for alcohol-related violence and anti-social behaviour which can result in injury.
- 1.10.3 We will always consider whether polycarbonates should be introduced on a premises-by-premises basis. When problems have been identified with a particular pub or location then we accept that this approach may assist to address those problems. Similarly, there may be specific occasions when a temporary use of polycarbonates is appropriate, for example, on match days in premises that are situated close to major football grounds. The issue of whether we are willing to adopt polycarbonates involves a very delicate balancing exercise between our desire to work with the authorities to reduce the risk of glass-related injury, the need to promote customer and staff safety whilst at the same time accommodating and respecting the expectations of our customers.

### **1.11 Pubwatch and Best Bar None**

- 1.11.1 J D Wetherspoon is a member of the National Pubwatch organisation and a senior representative of J D Wetherspoon sits on the National Pubwatch committee. We are the only national pub company that is involved in this organisation at a national level whom we also support financially via an annual contribution and one off funding for particular projects. National Pubwatch is an entirely voluntary organisation that is set up to support local Pubwatch schemes and encourages the creation of new schemes. The National Pubwatch organisation has the key aims of achieving a safe, secure and responsible social drinking environment in all licensed premises throughout the United Kingdom and helping to reduce alcohol-related crime.
- 1.11.2 Our pub managers are expected to take an active role in their local Pubwatch scheme. We will support the establishment of a local Pubwatch where one is not already in existence. The type of support we can provide includes providing expertise on how to set up a local Pubwatch scheme and/or Pubwatch online, offering our premises as venues in which Pubwatch meetings can be held and chairing those meetings.

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**Section 1 – Prevention of Crime and Disorder**

- 1.11.3 We always support initiatives introduced by local Pubwatch schemes to reduce crime and disorder in town centres. For example, many of our premises operate the 'Banned from One - Banned from All' initiative and subscribe to the Radio-Link scheme which provides radio contact with other licensed operators and with the town centre CCTV operators.
- 1.11.4 We provide national support for the Best Bar None Award scheme. The UK-wide scheme, which is backed by the Home Office, was piloted in Manchester in 2003 and has since been adopted by over 100 other towns and cities with great success. Best Bar None aims to promote the responsible management and operation of alcohol-licensed premises with the ultimate intention of offering and maintaining a safer, more welcoming, attractive and lively drinking experience. The scheme encourages local operators to act responsibly and take pride in their premises and surroundings and, in so doing, put something back into the town and their local community. Wetherspoon pubs have won numerous awards throughout the UK in the Best Bar None Awards scheme.
- 1.11.5 We also actively back other partnership based initiatives to promote safe, vibrant and welcoming late night economies such as late night Business Improvement Districts and Purple Flag schemes.

**1.12 Drinkaware**

- 1.12.1 J D Wetherspoon is one of only four pub companies in the UK who was a founding supporter of the Drinkaware Trust ('the Trust'). We fully support its strategic aims and hope to raise its profile and highlight its valuable work by communicating its sensible drinking messages within our pubs. We also provide a significant annual subscription to fund the Trust.
- 1.12.2 We actively promote the Trust by including a reference to their website [www.drinkaware.co.uk](http://www.drinkaware.co.uk) on the vast majority of our alcohol-related point-of-sale and marketing materials. Their website is recognised as the leading public source of information on sensible drinking behaviour. A link to their website is provided on our own company website. The website is also advertised on our table-talker/drinks list, our front-of-house posters and all single-issue flyers/mail-drops/vouchers. The website is advertised on any promotional materials for our bi-annual beer and wine festivals. The link features routinely in the header of the 'responsible drinking' section of Wetherspoon News. We offer the Trust a free page to support campaigns such as "Why Let T251he Good Times Go Bad" in Wetherspoon News.
- 1.12.3 We are continually working with the Trust to update our own sensible drinking messages and develop marketing material which can be used in our pubs to reinforce this message. We are pleased to be actively supporting the Trust to achieve their key objective, namely, change the United Kingdom's drinking culture in order to help reduce alcohol misuse and alcohol-related harms.

## **2 Maintaining Public Safety**

### **2.1 High Quality Design**

2.1.1 J D Wetherspoon works closely with planning officers, listed building specialists and where appropriate, English Heritage to ensure that each new pub is designed and built to the highest specification. We aim to provide comfortable and efficient dining facilities and accessible customer areas suitable for all types of customer.

2.1.2 Customer areas are designed aesthetically and surfaces are carefully chosen to ensure safety. The majority of our premises are spacious and this allows us to provide ample seating space which in turn prevents overcrowding and creates a safer and more welcoming atmosphere. All floor coverings are assessed for suitability and are slip resistant so as to minimise slips and trips. The sanitary accommodation consists of ceramic tiles and either quarry tile flooring or non-slip flooring similar to the kitchen and behind the bar. Again, consideration is given to maximising slip resistance when choosing flooring.

### **2.2 Fully Accessible Facilities**

2.2.1 We are fully aware of our obligations in respect of accessibility for disabled persons and we aim to make all new developments as accessible to everyone as is possible within the constraints of the building.

2.2.1 J D Wetherspoon is highly respected by consumer and enforcement bodies interested in the provision of services and facilities for those with disabilities. Significant emphasis is placed on designing premises which will provide easy access to toilet facilities and also lifts for customers with disabilities where they are required.

2.2.2 All new buildings meet the requirements of Part M of the Building Regulations 2002.

### **2.3 Electrical and Gas Safety**

2.3.1 All electrical systems are installed in accordance with Part P Building Regulations and are under the supervision of an electrical services consultant. The Company follows good electrical practice guidance and ensures that all equipment is maintained in a safe condition in accordance with the Electricity at Work Regulations 1989.

2.3.2 All gas appliances are installed by Gas Safe registered engineers and thereafter maintained within a planned maintenance scheme.

2.3.3 Electrical safety procedures form part of our overall health and safety management system.

## **2.4 Health and Safety**

- 2.4.1 All pub management staff and associates are trained in basic health and safety to a level commensurate with their job responsibilities.
- 2.4.2 A Safety Policy Statement is displayed on the staff notice board or in the staff room of every pub and detailed procedures in respect of safe working practices etc are contained in the written Safety Policy Manual.
- 2.4.3 Regular audits of all our pubs are carried out by senior managers and by independent consultants. These audits are often unannounced and are made throughout the entire estate.
- 2.4.4 An extensive accident and incident reporting and monitoring system is in place, with all accidents / incidents being reported to our independent health and safety consultants. Monthly records of types of accidents are collated using computer software. Accidents are investigated where necessary and RIDDOR reporting is undertaken.
- 2.4.5 We are developing a wide range of standard operating procedures which we call "SOPs" to ensure our policies and procedures are easily understood and implemented by our employees.
- 2.4.6 We work closely with our Primary Authority Partner, Reading Borough Council, across all relevant areas to ensure best practice is implemented and maintained.
- 2.4.7 We are the highest scoring pub company in the Food Standards Agency maintained food hygiene "Scores on the Doors" scheme. As of October 2013, 87% of our pubs had a 5 Star rating and we are seeking to improve that going forward. Our aim is that all our pubs will hold such a rating.

## **2.5 Fire Safety**

- 2.5.1 All Wetherspoon premises comply with the terms of the Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order. We engage independent consultants to conduct regular fire risk assessments focusing on the safety of all relevant persons in situations of fire. We identify and define the nature and extent of both the fire precautions that must be put in place to protect against fire and the inherent risks that remain, and take steps to remove or reduce those risks where appropriate.
- 2.5.2 All employees are trained in basic fire safety and regular refresher training is undertaken. Daily, weekly and monthly logs of fire safety checks are kept and all fire protection / precaution systems are regularly maintained.

### 3 Prevention of Public Nuisance

#### 3.1 Dispersal Policy

3.1.1 A poorly managed pub can be a potential source of nuisance, anti-social behaviour and crime which may create concern for the immediate neighbourhood, its residents and the authorities. J D Wetherspoon places great importance on ensuring that our premises do not have such a negative impact. We accept that our responsibilities cannot simply end at our front door and that by operating a well-managed pub throughout the time that we trade, we can help deliver a quieter safer environment in the immediate vicinity of our premises.

3.1.2 We also implement a dispersal policy in our pubs through which we manage customers leaving the premises. The policy allows us to reduce any pressure on the authorities at the end of trading, ease customers' passage home and minimise the likelihood of local residents being disturbed. The key factors of that policy are:

- Where music is provided in our pubs, music levels will be reduced towards the end of the evening to assist in the quiet and orderly dispersal of customers. Our experience is that because customers have not been using raised voices against the background of loud music immediately prior to leaving the premises they tend to leave more quietly.
- Wherever possible, lighting levels are manipulated to become 'brighter' at the end of trading hours to encourage the gradual dispersal of patrons during the last part of trading and the drinking up period.
- On dispersal, our staff actively encourage customers not to congregate outside the venue, direct customers to the nearest taxi ranks or other transportation away from the area and ensure the removal of all bottles and glasses from departing customers.
- Our managers will not hesitate to speak to any groups that congregate in the vicinity of the premises after closing time and ask them to move on.
- A minimum of 30 minutes drinking-up time is incorporated in the premises licence as an aid to the gradual dispersal of all customers in the premises at the end of the evening.
- We ensure that there is strong management and staff presence in the customer area and at all exit points during the dispersal period.
- We routinely place signage at exit doors asking customers to respect the rights of our neighbours to the quiet enjoyment of their homes.
- Where it is deemed appropriate, we can provide customers with site-specific information on how they can get home safely. Where customers require individual assistance in obtaining safe transport from our premises, we do whatever is reasonably possible to help, for example by providing details of bus routes or contacting taxi and private hire operators on their behalf.

### **3.2 Liaison with Our Neighbours**

- 3.2.1 We attach the utmost importance to the careful investigation and prompt resolution of any complaint made in relation to the day-to-day running of any of our pubs. This includes the effect any pub may have on its surrounding area. Over a third of our premises have residents living above or adjacent to them. We have always emphasised the importance of building close relationships with our neighbours, whether residents or local businesses. Our pub managers are expected to resolve any complaints from the local community quickly and effectively. If they cannot be resolved on a premises level they are referred to an area or general manager for resolution.
- 3.2.2 We are always willing to convene meetings with residents. These meetings provide a useful forum for residents to raise any concerns that they may have regarding our operation and provide our local management teams with an opportunity to become a better neighbour.

### **3.3 Music and Dancing**

- 3.3.1 The vast majority of our premises do not have permission to provide regulated entertainment and operate without music of any kind, even background. For many that is a key appeal of a Wetherspoon pub. However, where music is provided in some of our Lloyds No. 1 branded pubs, it is provided by means of high quality sound systems controlled by central computers or carefully selected DJs so that we maintain control over the style of music played. Where it is deemed necessary sound limiters will be installed. The sound systems allow for music to be zoned within the premises. This means that the level of music can be varied in accordance with the use of each area and ensures that particularly sensitive parts of the premises can be kept quieter. Music levels are reduced towards the end of the evening to assist in the quiet and orderly dispersal of customers.
- 3.3.2 Designated dance floors are generally provided where customer dancing is allowed and, to ensure the safety of customers, it is company policy that drinks are not permitted in these areas.
- 3.3.3 All premises are developed to a high standard to ensure good sound attenuation.

### **3.4 Standards Monitoring Visits (CQSMA)**

- 3.4.1 J D Wetherspoon sets very high operational standards and these standards are maintained through constant supervision and monitoring using a system of mystery visits to the premises to assess 'Cleanliness, Quality, Service, Maintenance and Atmosphere' (CQSMA).
- 3.4.2 All senior head office and operational employees including Directors are required to undertake between 15 and 60 'mystery visits' to Wetherspoon pubs every month. They are required to assess the premises in a number of areas varying from the cleanliness of the toilets to the friendliness of the staff.

In addition, Every single premises is visited and assessed by an independent third-party company on at least two occasions every month.

- 3.4.3 Every pub must receive at least five CQSMA visits each month but most will receive as many as 8-10 visits and every pub receives a minimum of 60 CQSMA visits per annum to assess quality and standards. Any pub which is assessed as being below standard in any way is highlighted and revisited the following week. Monthly bonuses based on the CQMSA results are paid to all employees in the pubs, including bar staff.
- 3.4.4 The CQSMA results assist in maintaining high standards but also allow pubs experiencing operational difficulties to be identified so that improvements can be made.
- 3.4.5 The CQMSA scheme is the cornerstone of our business and employees at all levels are trained and incentivised to deliver the highest standards. Management staff earn around 40% of their total bonus through CQSMA and bar staff around 60%. As far as we are aware, no other company places so much emphasis (or awards such a high percentage of bonus) on this non-financial aspect of running a pub.
- 3.4.6 In addition, we operate an on-line customer feedback system called "My Customer Feedback" which in its first 6 months of operation from April 2013 generated 45000 responses.

### **3.5 Pavement Cafés and Outside Areas**

- 3.5.1 Pavement cafes and outside areas have become an increasingly important part of our premises. Whatever the scope, size or location of these areas, we ensure that we always create carefully managed areas that are both sympathetic to the premises and the surrounding environment and, more importantly, are designed to ensure that minimal impact is caused to the public who are going about their business using the public highway.
- 3.5.2 While each area is developed specifically for the environment it occupies, we operate all our outdoor areas in accordance with the following principles; provision of sufficient furniture to discourage vertical drinking, allocation of staff to ensure the areas are kept clean and empty glassware and bottles are regularly removed, and in the case of pavement cafes, a clear pedestrian route is always maintained for those walking past the premises.
- 3.5.3 All outside areas that are specifically used by smokers are closely managed to prevent any noise or litter nuisance occurring. All areas are equipped with adequate cigarette disposal bins and employees ensure that these bins are regularly checked and that any smoking materials discarded on the ground are removed. Outside areas are managed at all times to ensure that customer behaviour outside the premises does not adversely affect our neighbours or the general public. Our outside areas are the pub equivalent of a shop window and it is therefore commercially important to us that they create a good impression of our premises.
- 3.5.4 We cannot legally prevent customers from smoking on the pavement in front of our premises but where we have alternative areas in which they can smoke,



## Section 4 – Protection of Children from Harm

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we actively encourage them to use such an area either by personal request from a member of staff or via signage.

- 3.5.5 All our pavement cafés and outside areas are covered by CCTV.

### 3.6 Preventing Odour Escapes

- 3.6.1 All our premises have independently connected mechanical ventilation systems incorporating fans and ducting which terminate above the level of the eaves where applicable.

- 3.6.2 All kitchen extract ventilation passes through grease eliminating baffles at a rate that reduces the risk of odour-nuisance occurring. Kitchen extracts are usually located away from neighbouring properties. Where it is deemed necessary and subject to site survey, odour control equipment is installed.

### 3.7 Refuse Collections and Deliveries

- 3.7.1 Provision for refuse is made according to the limitations of the premises; for example, sometimes external storage facilities are not available and so an internal store is created. Refuse collection is conducted at frequent intervals either via the local authority contract services or through the use of a private refuse collection company.

- 3.7.2 We are conscious of the noise that the late night disposal of glass and refuse into external bins can cause and where we have residential properties in close proximity, will voluntarily limit the times these can take place to ensure no disturbance is caused.

- 3.7.2 We control and operate our distribution network from our main hub in Daventry. This allows us to minimise the number of separate deliveries to our premises and also to dictate the time of those deliveries to minimise any potential noise or traffic impact.

## 4 Protection of Children from Harm

### 4.1 Family-Friendly Environment

- 4.1.1 The limited amount of entertainment provided in most of our pubs together with the range of products mentioned previously and an emphasis on drinks such as traditional ales means that a broad range of age-groups are attracted to our pubs. We encourage families to dine with us in all of our pubs which, together with our award-winning children's menu, further increases the age and range of our customers.
- 4.1.2 Unaccompanied young persons aged between 16 and 18 are welcome in the majority of our premises where they may order and consume food and non-alcoholic drinks. We do not permit them to consume alcohol even though the law does allow them to do so in certain circumstances
- 4.1.3 Children aged 16 or under age bracket are only permitted in our pubs provided they are accompanied by a responsible adult. If adults are visiting the pub with children and young people and purchasing alcoholic drinks then we operate a 'house rule' which requires them to purchase meals for each member of the group. Once the meals have been finished and the tables cleared we recommend that only one additional alcoholic drink be purchased per adult. This approach is designed prevent children and young people being neglected by their responsible adult whilst in our pubs. There is no requirement for food to be purchased if no alcohol is being consumed.

### 4.2 Proof of Age Policy

- 4.2.1 We abide by a Challenge 21 proof of age policy in all of our premises. Certain premises operate a Challenge 25 proof of age policy either because of a premises licence condition or at the request of the authorities. Under this policy, all of our employees are trained to ask any customer who appears to be under the age of 21 years (or 25 years as appropriate) to provide valid proof of age that they are 18 or older. We apply this policy not just to the sale of alcohol but also to the use of licensed premises gaming machines. Employees are also trained to be vigilant to ensure that customers buying drinks at the bar are not buying them for underage individuals.
- 4.2.2 All employees receive induction training on our relevant proof of age policy when they commence employment with J D Wetherspoon and then receive regular refresher training via on-line learning modules. All training records are retained on personnel files and these files are regularly reviewed by the pub management team and members of our Retail Audit department to ensure that the training system is being satisfactorily completed.
- 4.2.3 If any shortcomings are identified, the individual employee is required to undergo further training until the policy is satisfactorily understood by them and applied.

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**Section 4 – Protection of Children from Harm**

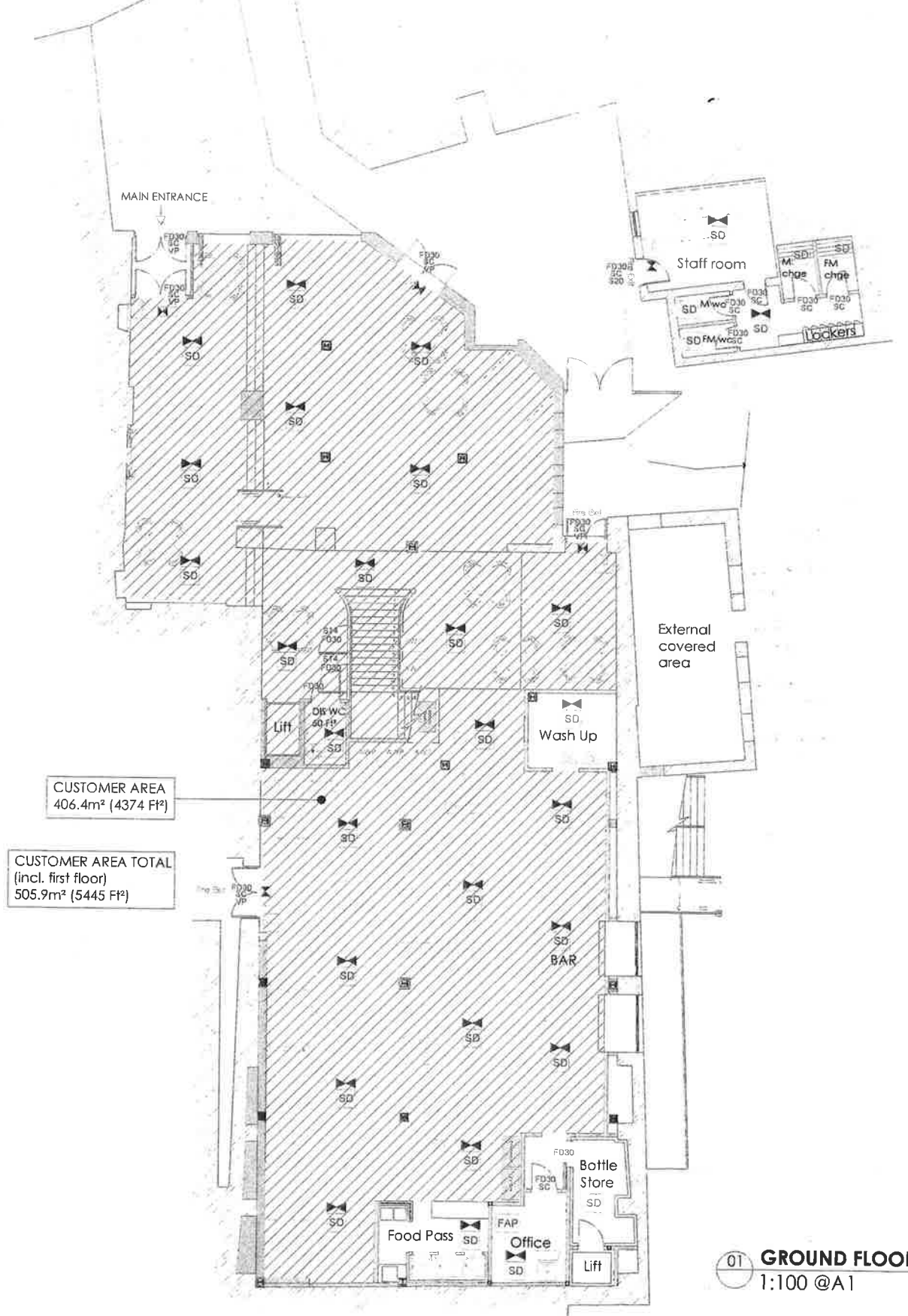
- 4.2.4 Our proof of age policies are actively promoted within the premises using self-adhesive signs at entrances, staff badges and back-of-house posters throughout the premises. Every customer that is refused the sale of alcohol, entry to the premises or is asked to leave the premises should be logged via the 'Refusal' or 'Refused Service' button on the EPOS till system.
- 4.2.5 J D Wetherspoon has adopted the industry standards and recognises only the following forms of identification as valid forms of proof of age:
- National passport
  - Photographic Drivers' Licence
  - United Kingdom 'PASS' accredited age identification card with photograph.
  - UK Military ID
- 4.2.6 We were the first pub company to enter into an exclusive arrangement with CitizenCard, the United Kingdom's leading proof of age and ID card. Under this arrangement, any customer who does not possess any form of proof-of-age has the opportunity to purchase a CitizenCard at half the normal retail price.
- 4.3 Gambling**
- 4.3.1 J D Wetherspoon upholds the principles of the Gambling Act 2005. Our employees are trained to adopt a Challenge 21 (or Challenge 25 as appropriate) policy towards the use of licensed premises gaming machines and take proactive measures throughout trading hours to prevent children and young people from accessing these machines.

ANNEX B

Licensing Ground Floor Plans

Scale as shown @A1

All wall  
 half hc  
 All em  
 BS.526  
 Fire saf  
 compl  
 Fire fig  
 with BS  
 are to  
 flame-  
 Fire alc  
 accorc  
 Class 0



CUSTOMER AREA  
 406.4m<sup>2</sup> (4374 Ft<sup>2</sup>)

CUSTOMER AREA TOTAL  
 (incl. first floor)  
 505.9m<sup>2</sup> (5445 Ft<sup>2</sup>)

**01 GROUND FLOOR PLAN**  
 1:100 @A1

**GENERAL NOTES:**

THE CONTRACTOR SHALL CHECK AND VERIFY ALL DIMENSIONS ON SITE AND REPORT ANY DISCREPANCIES IN WRITING TO ABSOLUTE DESIGN BEFORE COMMENCING WITH THE WORK.

ALL DRAWINGS ARE THE PROPERTY OF ABSOLUTE DESIGN AND SHALL NOT BE REPRODUCED WITHOUT THE CONSENT OF THE DESIGNERS.

**DRAWINGS SHALL NOT BE SCALED:**

THIS DRAWING IS TO BE READ IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE RELEVANT SPECIFICATION OF BUILDING WORKS.

ALL DIMENSIONS ARE IN METRES UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED.

THIS DRAWING MAY INCORPORATE INFORMATION FROM OTHER PROFESSIONS. ABSOLUTE DESIGN CANNOT ACCEPT RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE INTEGRITY AND ACCURACY OF SUCH INFORMATION.

IF IN DOUBT ASK!

Original drawn by	Date
NJB	30-04-14
A	21-01-15
B	21-01-15

Dimensions to be minimum  
instant

Lighting to comply with

Exit signs and notices to  
5499

Equipment to comply  
with ceiling linings  
surface spread of  
d by BS 476)

Doors to be installed in  
with BS 5839

Escape routes

Upholstered seating furniture to satisfy  
the following

- Ignition source (cigarette test) as specified in BS 5852 Part 1 Fire test for furniture methods of test for the ignitability by smokers
- BS 5852 Part 2 Fire test for furniture-methods of test for the ignitability of upholstered composites for testing by flammable source, minimum test to be crib ignition source 5

Fabrics that have had a flame  
retardant treatment to pass the water  
soak test as detailed by BS5651. Test  
certificate to be submitted to the fire  
authority

Curtains and drapes to satisfy Type B  
performance requirements to BS 5867  
Part 2

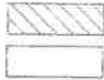
Artificial foliage and decorative  
effects to be fire retardant to the  
satisfaction of the fire authority.

**TOILETS**

All walls tiled to full height.  
Sanitary facilities have been designed  
to BS 6465 Part 1 1994 Code of  
Practice for the scale and provision.  
Selection and installation of sanitary  
appliances.

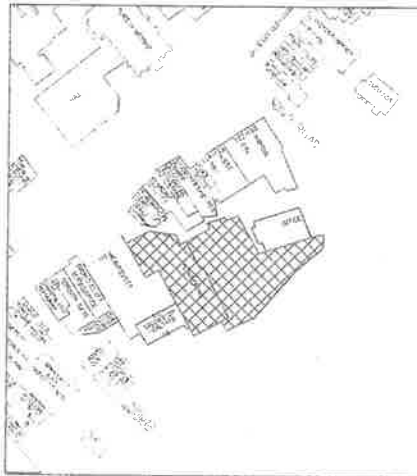
F030	Half Hour Fire resistant door with smoke seals & intumescent strips
F060	One Hour Fire resistant door with smoke seals & intumescent strips
vP	Vision Panel
PB	Panic Bolt
SC	Self Closing
SCA	Self Closing Automatic Release
FL	Fusible Link
DS	Door Selector
ES	Illuminated Suspended "FIRE EXIT" sign 75mm letters
S13	"FIRE DOOR KEEP SHUT" 100mm letters to both sides of door leaf
S14	"FIRE DOOR KEEP LOCKED" 100mm letters to both sides of door leaf
S20	"FIRE ESCAPE KEEP CLEAR" 100mm letters to both sides of door leaf
S22	"FIRE EXIT" 200mm letters
S25	"PUSH BAR TO OPEN" 200mm letters
S26	Directional Arrow (Green)
FRG	Fire Resistant Glazing Element
EL	Area Covered by Escape Lighting to BS.5266.PART 1
SD	Smoke Detector
HD	Heat Detector
FCP	Fire Alarm Call Point
FIAP	Fire Alarm Indicator Panel
FB	Fire Blanket In Container
FE	Fire Extinguisher (Carbon Dioxide)
FEW	Fire Extinguisher (9 Litre Water)
EP	Fire Extinguisher (Dry Powder)
EF	Fire Extinguisher (Foam)
FAWD	Fire Alarm Warning Device
FAB	Flashing Alert Beacon

**JDW LEGEND**



AREA FOR SUPPLY OF ALCOHOL BY RETAIL / PROVISION OF LATE NIGHT REFRESHMENT

EXTERNAL CUSTOMER AREA



02 LOCATION PLAN  
1:1250 @A1

Drawing status: LICENSING



Drawing title  
Licensing Ground Floor GA

contract name  
The Palladium  
110 High Street  
Midsomer Norton, Radstock  
Somerset - BA3 2DA

Pub number  
6817

drawing no & revision

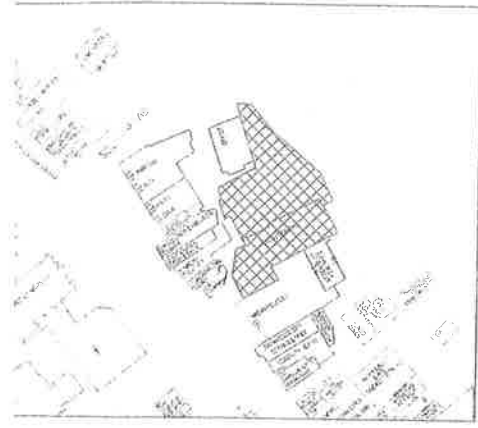
**6893 - 260 B**

scale  
1:100@A1

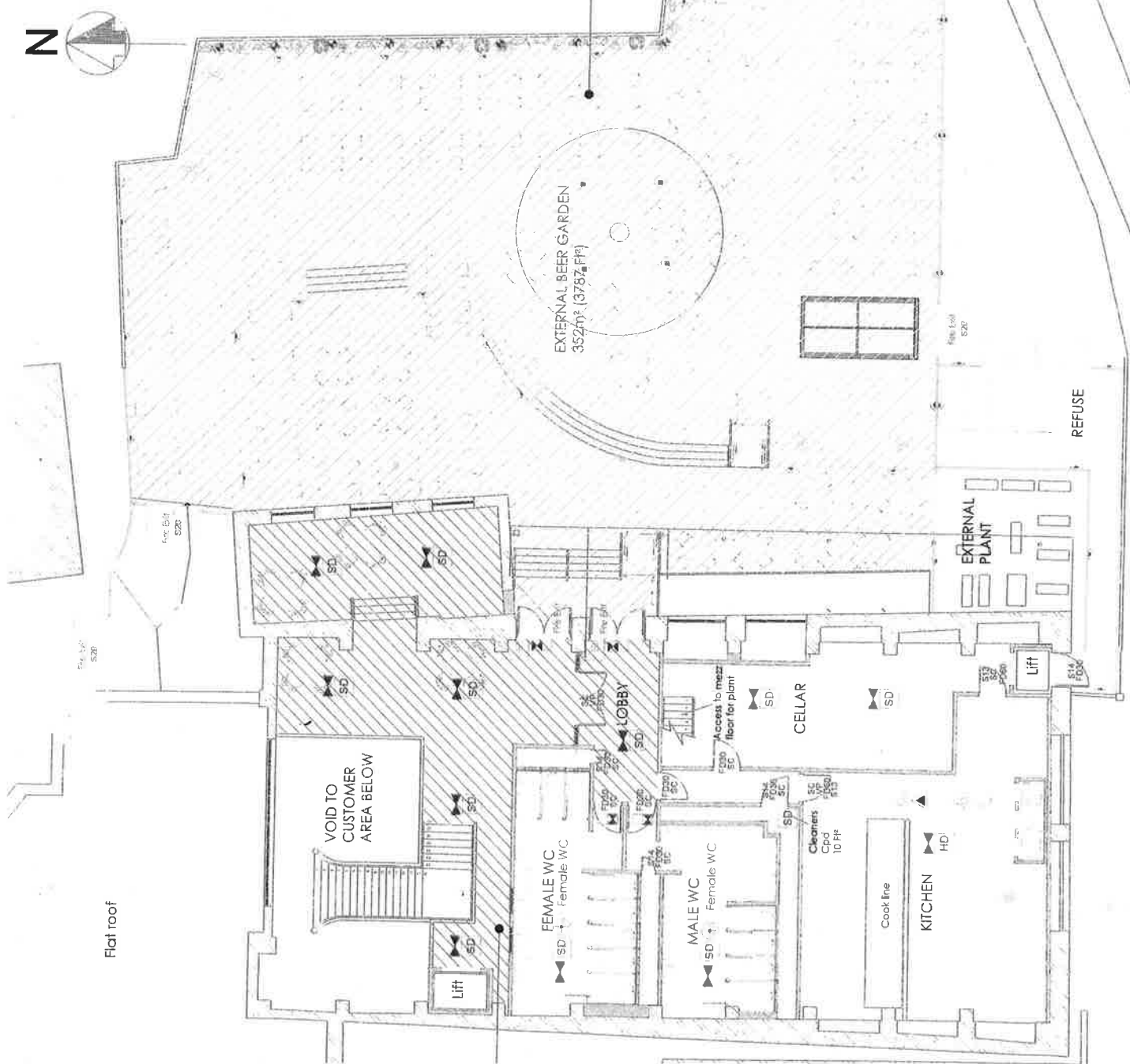
drawn by  
NJB

date  
07-01-15

SC	Self Closing
SCA	Self Closing Automatic Releases
FL	Fusible Link
DS	Door Selector
☒	Illuminated Suspended "FIRE EX" sign 75mm letters
S13	"FIRE DOOR KEEP SHUT" 100mm letters to both sides of door leaf
S14	"FIRE DOOR KEEP LOCKED" 100mm letters to both sides of door leaf
S20	"FIRE ESCAPE KEEP CLEAR" 100mm letters to both sides of door leaf
S22	"FIRE EXIT" 200mm letters
S25	"PUSH BAR TO OPEN" 200mm letters
S26	Directional Arrow (Green)
FRG	Fire Resistant Glazing Element
▶	Area Covered by Escape Light BS:5266.PART 1
SD	Smoke Detector
HD	Heat Detector
☐	Fire Alarm Call Point
FAP	Fire Alarm Indicator Panel
▶	Fire Blanket in Container
▶	Fire Extinguisher (Carbon Dioxide)
▶	Fire Extinguisher (9 Litre Water)
▶	Fire Extinguisher (Dry Powder)
▶	Fire Extinguisher (Foam)
☐	Fire Alarm Warning Device
+	Flashing Alert Beacon



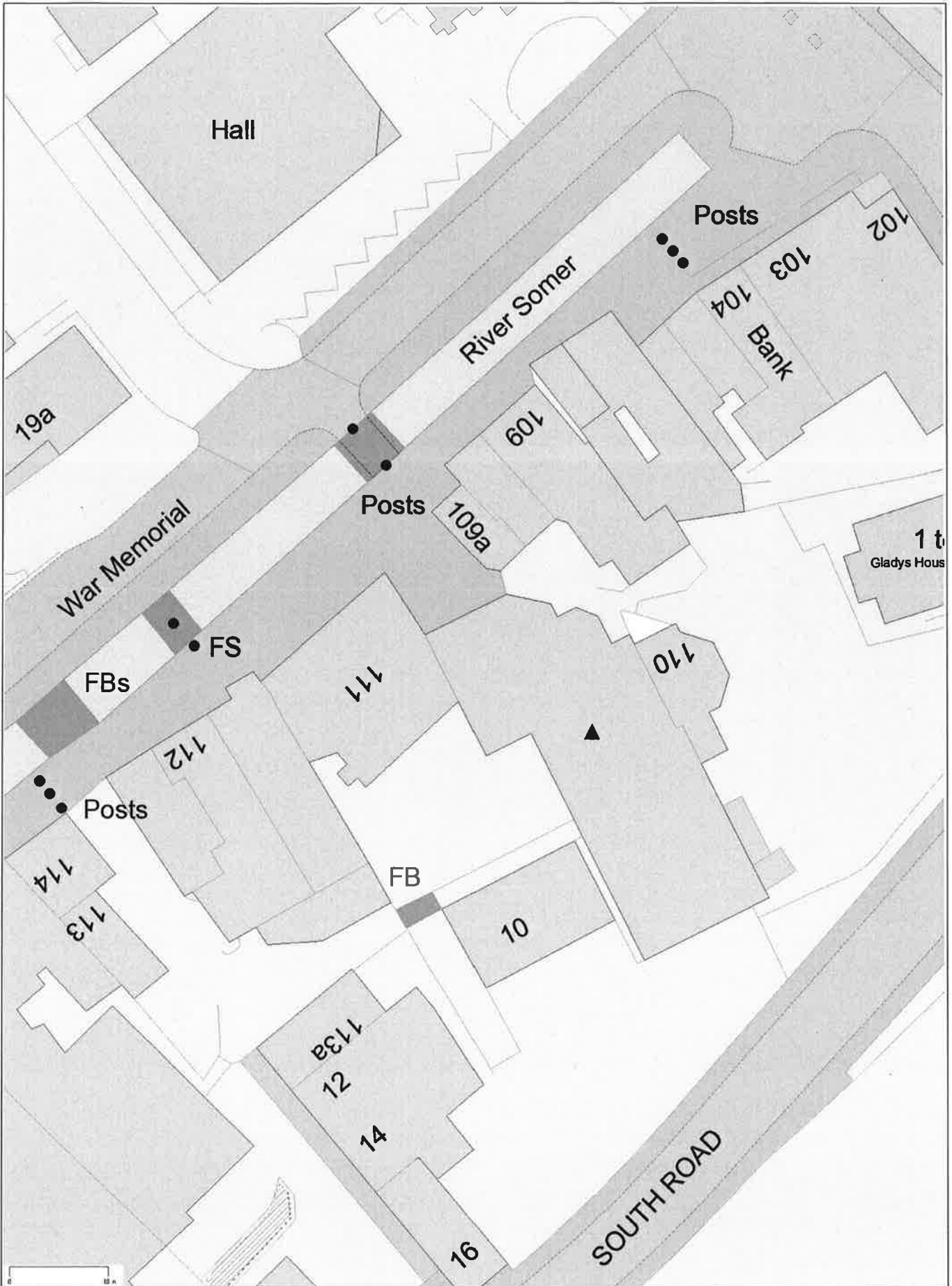
**02 LOCATION PLAN**  
1:1250 @A1



**01 FIRST FLOOR PLAN**  
1:100 @A1









**Representation Form**

**Responsible Authority.** (Please delete as applicable.)

EP (noise)

Your Name	Katherine Jones
Job Title	Environmental Health Officer
Postal and email address	Bath and North East Somerset Council 1 <sup>st</sup> Floor Lewis House Manvers Street Bath BA1 1JG
Contact telephone number	01225 396628

Name of the premises you are making a representation about.	Wetherspoons (formerly Palladium Cinema)
Address of the premises you are making a representation about.	110 High Street, Midsomer Norton, BA3 2DA

Which of the four licensing objectives does your representation relate to? Please state yes or no.	Yes or No	Please detail the evidence supporting your representation. Or the reason for your representation. Please use separate sheets if necessary.
To prevent crime and disorder	No	
Public safety	No	
To prevent public nuisance	Yes	This is a new application and consequently there is no historic evidence of public nuisance associated with the Premises. However, I have taken into consideration the following and from which I have concerns regarding the potential for public nuisance: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Location of the venue being in relative close proximity to residential properties.</li> <li>• The proposed large outdoor area that is adjacent to residential dwellings.</li> </ul>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The length of time applied for outdoor use</li> </ul> <p>The main concern is relation to the external area and the potential for public nuisance. Being outdoors, there is little form of control of noise available, other than to restrict the hours of use. It is considered that the high street can be used for patrons to comply with smoke-free legislation.</p> <p>Upon reviewing the application, I consider the following conditions could minimise disturbance:</p> <p>The external beer garden of the premises shall only be used between the hours of 09.00hrs and 21.00hrs on Mondays to Sundays, (inc Bank or Public Holidays)</p>
The prevention of harm to children	No	
Suggested conditions that could be added to the licence to remedy your representation you would like the Licensing Sub Committee to take into account. Please use separate sheets where necessary and refer to checklist.		The external beer garden of the premises shall only be used between the hours of 09.00hrs and 21.00hrs on Mondays to Sundays, (inc Bank or Public Holidays)

N.B. If you do make a representation you will be expected to attend the Licensing Panel and any subsequent appeal proceeding.

**Signed: KJones**

**Date: 5.2.15**

Please return this form along with any additional sheets to:

Licensing Team  
Public Protection  
9-10 Bath Street  
Bath  
BA1 1SN

E-mail address: [licensing@bathnes.gov.uk](mailto:licensing@bathnes.gov.uk)

***This form must be returned within 28 consecutive days of the application being made to the Licensing Authority.***



Printed on recycled paper



Licensing Services, Manvers Street, Bath.

Representation Form

Responsible Authority. (Please delete as applicable.)

Police / Fire / EP (noise) / Health and Safety / Child Protection / Weights and Measures / Planning Authority / Marine Agency.


Your Name	Martin Purchase	
Job Title	Police Licensing Officer	ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES
Postal and email address	Bath Police Station Manvers St, Bath BA1 4BX	25 FEB 2015 Post Log No: .....
Contact telephone number	07810555373	Receipt No: .....
		CH/CA £.....

Name of the premises you are making a representation about.	Wetherspoons
Address of the premises you are making a representation about.	110 High Street Midsomer Norton BA3 2DA

Which of the four licensing objectives does your representation relate to? Please state yes or no.	Yes or No	Please detail the evidence supporting your representation. Or the reason for your representation. Please use separate sheets if necessary.
To prevent crime and disorder	Yes	The premises were the former Palladium Cinema within the High Street at Midsomer Norton. This area does experience sporadic crime and disorder and anti social behaviour. The problems are most frequent in the early to late evenings and continue into the early hours at weekends they are alcohol related. There are incidents of young person's obtaining alcohol and causing anti-social behaviour within the area, persons move from one venue to another during the late evening, this causes stress points as persons drink more alcohol and alter the dynamics of venues with groups coming and going. The operating schedule lacks detail and clarity to further the licensing objectives, conditions that are proportionate but robust additional to those offered are needed to rectify this position. The area of the High Street has through considerable hard work of all the agencies and the support of licensees come a long way as far as crime and disorder, anti-social behaviour and public

		nuisance are concerned, but remains very much a work in progress, and cannot be permitted to fall back into its old ways., ( see statement of sgt Cannon)
Public safety		
To prevent public nuisance		
The prevention of harm to children		
Suggested conditions that could be added to the licence to remedy your representation you would like the Licensing Sub Committee to take into account. Please use separate sheets where necessary and refer to checklist.	<p>1Where a risk assessment by the licence holder and / or at the written request of the police or licensing authority SIA door supervisors will be employed at the premises and used at such times and in such numbers as required.to supervise all patrons entering and leaving, and to ensure good order of the premises.</p> <p>2. Customers shall not take open vessels from the premises except for the purposes of consumption in any external area under the control of the premises licence holder.</p> <p>3 There will be no entry or re-entry to the premises after 12.30am on any morning..</p>	

N.B. If you do make a representation you will be expected to attend the Licensing Panel and any subsequent appeal proceeding.

Signed: 

Date: 23/2/15.

RESTRICTED (when complete)

MG11

**WITNESS STATEMENT****Criminal Procedure Rules, r 27. 2; Criminal Justice Act 1967, s. 9; Magistrates' Courts Act 1980, s.5B**URN 

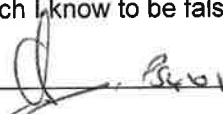
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Statement of Geoffrey Arthur William CANNON

Age if under 18 Over 18 (if over insert 'over 18') Occupation Police Sergeant

This statement (consisting of 4 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 which I know to be false, or do not believe to be true.

Signature



Date 18/02/15

Tick if witness evidence is visually recorded  (supply witness details on rear)

I am Sergeant 461 Geoffrey Cannon currently based at Radstock Police Station. I am the Neighbourhood Sergeant for Radstock, Midsomer Norton and the surrounding area. I have held this position for the last 4 years and 3 months. During my time as Neighbourhood Sergeant for this area I have developed a very good working relationship with the local community, including members of Midsomer Norton Town Council and the local Licensing Trade. I have worked tirelessly as a member of The Midsomer Norton Community Alcohol Partnership and with members of the local Pubwatch to minimise crime and disorder during the Night – Time Economy in the area.

Midsomer Norton is a rural town and the High Street is the main focal point for the night – time economy particularly on Friday and Saturday evenings. The High Street and nearby Town centre areas contains 6 pubs and a Night – Club all in relatively close proximity. The main hot – spot for crime and disorder centres around the middle of the High Street with Mallards Public House virtually opposite Fat Sam's Night Club and The charcoal Grill fast food take-away next door. These premises stay open on a Friday and Saturday night until at least 2am or later and many of the problems happen after midnight.

The Midsomer Norton Community Alcohol Partnership was set up in 2012 with a number of objectives including to "reduce Anti – Social Behaviour associated with alcohol consumption" and "Develop a responsible retailing partner ethos in the CAP area and raise

Signature:

2010/11

Signature witnessed by:

RESTRICTED (when complete)

Continuation of Statement of: Geoffrey Arthur William CANNON

awareness of traders responsibility with regard to their customers and the local community". In addition to these objectives, the Community Alcohol Partnership has looked at the drinking culture in Midsomer Norton High Street and has been working towards changing the culture that existed prior to the instigation of the Partnership.

Due to this close proximity there has always been a distinct migration of night – time drinkers from licensed premises located away from Midsomer Norton High St to licensed premises located in Midsomer Norton High Street that stay open late at night. A large number of drinkers will have reached their maximum alcohol consumption at the end of their night out in Midsomer Norton High Street in the centre of the town. As a result of this migratory pattern, more incidents of Anti – Social Behaviour and Alcohol related crime occur in the centre of the High Street than anywhere else. The Community Alcohol Partnership recognises this and Midsomer Norton Town Council introduced Street Marshals who patrol the High Street and surrounding area between 10pm to 3a.m. The detail contained in reports that Street Marshals complete at the end of their shifts on a Friday and Saturday night reflect my observations above. The Community Alcohol Partnership also recognised that the consumption and carrying of alcohol in open containers was a contributory factor to crime and disorder. A Designated Public Places Order was introduced covering Mid – Somer Norton High Street and the surrounding areas and has proved successful in helping reduce the number of incidents related to alcohol consumption.

The Police fully support the local Pubwatch forum with the majority of the members being responsible for premises in Midsomer Norton High Street or close by. Pubwatch actively targets people who have caused problems or committed offences in licensed premises and seeks to ban them from all member premises for a specified period of time.

Signature:

Signature witnessed by:

2010/11

RESTRICTED (when complete)



Continuation of Statement of: Geoffrey Arthur William CANNON

In 2014 a major Police drugs Operation took place in Midsomer Norton that targeted the Stones Cross pub located at the top of Midsomer Norton High Street. 35 people were convicted of drug related offences in Bristol Crown Court and the pub was closed down.

All of the above work and measures introduced over time illustrates that there is a need and willingness by partner agencies and members of the Licensing trade to continue to reduce alcohol related crime and disorder in the area and in particular Midsomer Norton High Street. It also shows a willingness to change what was once an embedded drinking culture in the town and to make Midsomer Norton High Street more accessible to all members of the community late at night. The Community Alcohol Partnership recognises that this culture change is happening and can demonstrate that people feel safer when out and about in the High Street late at night than they did 3 years ago and that crime and disorder has reduced.

The introduction of a large licensed premise in Midsomer Norton High Street in the shape of Weatherspoon's needs to recognise and understand what has been achieved by the combined efforts of the Town Council, the Police and a variety of partner agencies. It is important that any new licensed premise fits into the current night – time economy and joins in the continuing progressive positive development of that economy. At least one other licensed premise close to the proposed Wetherspoon's site has restrictions imposed on their license that prevents entry by customers after 1230a.m. This condition was imposed to prevent customers, who will have been drinking earlier in the evening, constantly moving between the premises mentioned earlier. This location is a key pinch point for drinkers late at night as they choose which licensed premise to enter and / or to purchase fast food from the take-away. It has been proven that by placing a restriction on last entry time, the footfall

Signature:

Signature witnessed by:

2010/11

RESTRICTED (when complete)

Continuation of Statement of: Geoffrey Arthur William CANNON

in the High Street decreases and customers are contained in premises where there is an element of supervision and control which helps reduce incidents of crime and disorder. It is my belief that a similar condition is not included on Wetherspoon's License it will not only seek to undermine the work carried out and results achieved as detailed in this statement but would create an opportunity for late night drinkers to remain in Midsomer Norton High Street longer and re-introduce the constant footfall between premises late at night. This is likely to result in a rise of incidents of crime and disorder in Midsomer Norton High Street and reverse the trend towards a safer and more crime free town centre during the Night – Time Economy period. It is also likely to increase the fear of crime amongst many members of the local community and visitors to the town and therefore goes against the will to make Midsomer Norton High Street more accessible to all.

The risk assessed door staff with an ability to require door staff should it become necessary is part of the furtherance of the Crime and Disorder Objective and is in no way an inference that this company will not run and manage in a satisfactory way. It is however a necessary measure given the dynamics of the town and the likely effect this additional licensed premise will have.

Signature: 

Signature witnessed by:

2010/11

RESTRICTED (when complete)

**LICENSING ACT 2003**

**INTERESTED PARTY REPRESENTATION**

**Please read the notes at the back of this form prior to completing it.**

**I/We object to the following application:**

Application number:	<b>15/00600/LAPRE</b>
Applicant's name:	<b>JD Wetherspoon</b>
Premises name and address:	<b>110 High Street Midsomer Norton BA3 2DA</b>
Application for a:	<b>Premises Licence</b>

**Objector Details:**

Objector's Name:	<b>Mark Ashman</b>
Objector's Address:	<b>20 High Street Midsomer Norton BA3 2DR</b>
Organisation name if applicable:	

**Objection Details:**

My/our representation is relevant to the following licensing objective(s):

Prevention of crime and disorder

Prevention of public nuisance

Protection of children from harm

Public safety

Please detail your objection(s) as fully as possible in the box below. If you do not then the Committee may not understand why you have objected.

Please attach supporting documents/further pages as necessary and number all extra pages.

Try to be as specific as possible and give examples e.g. *On 1 February I could hear loud music from the premises between 10pm and 1 am. I am concerned that if the premises open until 2 am this will cause a nuisance to me and other residents of the street.*

I/We have already made a written representation and have no further comments

I object to this license application on the following grounds:

1) Prevention of crime & disorder - JD Wetherspools are well known for offering cheap alcoholic drinks. They promote this throughout their venues. Offering cheap alcohol from 9am all day until 1am the following morning will have a detrimental impact on the town. It will encourage people to drink more and this will lead to an increase in anti social behaviour. This will not save people money. People go out with a set amount of money e.g £20 / £30 etc. They will spend all of this money. If they can purchase more drinks for their money they will naturally do so, and become more drunk as a result. Late night disorder is at an all time low, it would be a shame to revert the town to the "dark" times of the past.

There is no mention of using door staff to control the public, no mention of using plastic glasses to prevent injury, no mention of restricting access after a certain time, no mention of restricting use of the external areas after a certain time, no mention of preventing alcohol leaving the building

There seems to be few controls in place at all.

2) Prevention of public nuisance - Again the supply of cheap alcohol from early in the morning will result in drunk people congregating in that area of the high street. This will occur all day and all night, progressively getting worse as the day goes on. This will create an unwelcome and negative view of the town, to shoppers and visitors.

As the capacity for this venue is internally over 600 people and externally over 300 people, there will be a large amount of noise and disorder emanating from this venue especially when they close at 1am, causing a nuisance to people who live close to the venue.

3) Protection of children from harm - This venue is located directly opposite a primary school. With the supply and promotion of cheap alcohol, this will encourage children to start drinking from a young age and glamourise the unhealthy nature of binge drinking. It will make access to alcohol easier.

The local CAP and town council have worked hard over the last 18 months to make Midsomer Norton a safe, fun place to visit. they have introduced a DPPO (street drinking ban), implemented street marshalls and street pastors, and have come down hard on other licensed venues in the town.

In flys in the face of all that they have achieved to allow this application to be succesful. It will have a negative impact on the town and reverse the hard work these people have achieved.

I would urge the committee to refuse this license on these grounds.

[Empty box for representation]

**I am aware that a full copy of my representation (including my name and address) will be sent to the applicant and will form part of a public document prior to any hearing on this matter.**

Signed Mark Ashman

Date 11/2/15

Contact telephone number(s) 01761 411514  
(This is essential as we may need to contact you at short notice)

There will be a hearing to determine this application. We will send you details of the time, date and location at least 10 working days before the hearing.

This section of the form must be returned to us a minimum of 5 working days before the hearing. If you wish, you may complete this now. Alternatively, you can keep this page and return it to us once you have received details of the hearing.

Name Mark Ashman

I will be attending the hearing  I will not be attending the hearing

I will be represented at the hearing by \_\_\_\_\_

I will be calling the following witness(es):

<u>Name and signature of each witness</u>	<u>Details of evidence to be produced by witness</u>

Please delete as appropriate: I consider a hearing to be necessary/unnecessary

Form to be returned to:

Licensing Team  
Public Protection and Health Improvement Service  
Lewis House  
Manvers Street  
Bath BA1 1JG