

Paul Holliday

From: Lisa Rasores
Sent: 01 August 2024 12:57
To: Licensing
Subject: Licensing Representation to the application for variation of the licence at Real Butchers, 9 Pound Lane, Epsom KT19 8RY

Categories: Paul Working on it

Licensing Department,

Licensing are formally making representations to the application for variation of the licence at Real Butchers, 9 Pound Lane, Epsom KT19 8RY. The Licensing objection is primarily concerned with the crime and disorder licensing objective. Licensing are making representations as, following a complaint, an officer visited the premises and it appeared inadequate management controls were in place to ensure the promotion of the licensing objectives.

On 22 July 2024 the Licensing department received an anonymous telephone complaint regarding the premises Real Butchers, 9 Pound Lane, Epsom KT19 8RY. The complaint in summary was that people were drinking alcohol on the premises every day from 3pm-4pm and that the premises is only licensed for the sale of alcohol for consumption off the premises. The complainant alleged that customers are also drinking outside the premises and then driving, leaving empty bottles on the wall and that customers were generally being intimidating. The complainant advised that this information has also been reported to the police.

On Tuesday 30 July 2024 a Licensing Officer visited the premises following up on the complaint that had been received. On entering the premises 2 men were present. One man was standing up and leaning against a small chest freezer at the front of the shop. He was drinking from a 330ml green bottle of Heineken. There were 2 further 330ml bottles of Heineken in the chest freezer that he was leaning against. When challenged the man at the till, pointed to the blue public notice to vary the premises licence that was displayed in the shop window, and stated they were permitted to drink on the premises. When advising both men that consuming alcohol on the premises was an unauthorised licensing activity as the variation application had not been granted and was still in the public consultation period, both men had some difficulty in understanding, and this was demonstrated by frowning and shrugging shoulders. The man drinking the Heineken then stated he had purchased the alcohol from the convenience store opposite the premises.

On investigating further there was a full height fridge that contained many of the same bottles of Heineken for sale at the premises. It transpired that the man standing by the till was a friend of the owner looking after the premises who was currently in Brazil and due back in the country the following week. This was followed by a phone call from the owner that apologised for the incident.

The summary licence was on display by the till area but the man by the till could not locate the main licence or training documents as he stated that he does not usually work at the premises.

Should the premises be able to demonstrate compliance with current licence conditions and put in place adequate measures to ensure the variation application is not detrimental to the licensing objectives, then Licensing may be satisfied the application is consistent with the promotion of the licensing objectives. A suggestion to help achieve this would be to add the following condition:

“In the absence of the designated premises supervisor, a personal licence holder shall be on the premises at all times when alcohol is available for sale.”

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