

Item No. 6.	Classification: Open	Date: 28 January 2019	Meeting Name: Licensing Sub-Committee
Report Title		Licensing Act 2003: Denmark Express, 74 Denmark Hill, London SE5 8RZ	
Ward(s) of group(s) affected		Camberwell Green	
From		Strategic Director of Environment and Leisure	

RECOMMENDATION

1. That the licensing sub-committee considers an application made by Hunish Sembhi for a premises licence to be granted under the Licensing Act 2003 in respect of the premises known as Denmark Express, 74 Denmark Hill, London SE5 8RZ.
2. Notes:
 - a) This application forms a new application for a premises licence, submitted under Section 17 of the Licensing Act 2003. The application is subject to representations from responsible authorities and is therefore referred to the sub-committee for determination.
 - b) Paragraphs 8 to 11 of this report provide a summary of the application under consideration by the sub-committee. A copy of the full application is attached as Appendix A.
 - c) Paragraphs 12 to 17 of this report deal with the representations submitted in respect of the application. Copies of the representations submitted by the Responsible Authorities are attached to this report in Appendix B. A map showing the location of the premises is attached to this report as Appendix E.
 - d) A copy of the Council's approved procedure for hearings of the sub-committee in relation to an application made under the Licensing Act 2003, along with a copy of the hearing regulations, has been circulated to all parties to the meeting.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

3. The Licensing Act 2003 provides a licensing regime for:
 - The sale of and supply of alcohol
 - The provision of regulated entertainment
 - The provision of late night refreshment.
4. Within Southwark the licensing responsibility is wholly administered by this council.
5. The Act requires the licensing authority to carry out its functions under the Act with a view to promoting the four stated licensing objectives. These are:
 - The prevention of crime and disorder
 - The promotion of public safety
 - The prevention of nuisance
 - The protection of children from harm.

6. In carrying out its licensing functions, a licensing authority must also have regard to
 - The Act itself
 - The guidance to the act issued under Section 182 of the Act
 - Secondary regulations issued under the Act
 - The licensing authority's own statement of licensing policy
 - The application, including the operating schedule submitted as part of the application
 - Relevant representations.
7. The premises licence application process involves the provision of all relevant information required under the Act to the licensing authority with copies provided by the applicant to the relevant responsible bodies under the Act. The application must also be advertised at the premises and in the local press. The responsible authorities and other persons within the local community may make representations on any part of the application where relevant to the four licensing objectives.

KEY ISSUES FOR CONSIDERATION

The premises licence application

8. On 28 November 2018 Hunish Sembhi applied for a premises licence to be granted under the Licensing Act 2003 in respect of the premises known as Denmark Express, 74 Denmark Hill, London, SE5 8RZ. The premises are described in the application as being:
 - "Small local grocery shop, currently not selling alcohol. Open 24 hours."
9. The hours applied for are summarised as follows:
 - The sale by retail of alcohol (off sales only):
 - Sunday to Thursday from 08:00 to 00:00
 - Friday and Saturday from 08:00 to 02:00.
 - Opening hours:
 - Monday to Sunday 24 hours a day.
10. The designated premises supervisor is to be Hunish Sembhi, who holds a personal licence with the London Borough of Lewisham. He is also the applicant.
11. The premises licence application form provides the applicant's operating schedule. Parts A, B, C, E, F, G, H, I, J, K, L, and M of the operating schedule set out the proposed licensable activities, operating hours and operating control measures in full, with reference to the four licensing objectives as stated in the Licensing Act 2003. Should a premises licence be issued in respect of the application the information provided in part M of the operating schedule will form the basis of conditions that will be attached to any licence granted subsequent to the application. A copy of the application and premises plan is attached to this report in Appendix A.

Representations from responsible authorities

12. A representation has been received from the Metropolitan Police Service (Licensing Division) which raises concerns regarding two premises licence reviews, in which the

licence was revoked by the Southwark licensing sub-committee. There is concern that there is no real change of ownership since that time as it would appear that the applicant has been at the premises since March 2018. There are further concerns in relation to the premises being located within the Camberwell cumulative impact zone (CIZ).

13. A representation has been provided by this council's public health team with concerns regarding the location of the premises within the CIZ and the high concentration of other licensed premises in the immediate vicinity.
14. A representation has been made by this council's trading standards team with concerns of the premises being sited within the Camberwell CIZ, the review history and states that the current applicant was working at the premises during the last review period. Finally, attention is drawn to the fact that the Land Registry still shows the previous premises licence holders as being the leaseholders of the property.
15. The representation made by trading standards is supported by the council's environmental protection team.
16. A representation has been submitted by the licensing department in their role as responsible authority with concerns regarding the previous review and provides a copy of the notice of decision from that hearing.
17. A representation has been received from the council's trading standards department with concerns that the previous premises licence had been revoked and that the leaseholders remain the same. The premises falls within a CIZ and the Operating Schedule of the application fails to negate that aspect.

The representations from Responsible Authorities are all available in Appendix B.

Representations from other persons

18. There are no representations from other persons.

Conciliation

19. All representations were sent to the applicant. However, at the point this report was submitted no attempt had been made by the applicant to contact the responsible authorities.

Premises history

20. A premises was issued in respect of the premises to Bayram Dag on 6 April 2006. The DPS specified in respect of the licence was Bayram Dag.
21. On 11 November 2009 an application to specify Piro Ballogli as the DPS of the premises was submitted and an amended licence was issued on 26 November 2009.
22. On 8 February 2013 a licensing inspection of the premises was undertaken. Various breaches of the premises licence issued in respect of the premises were noted and a warning letter was sent to the licensee.
23. On 28 February 2013 an application with immediate effect to specify Ismail Incedal premises' DPS was submitted and an amended licence was issued on 28 February 2013.
24. On 21 August 2015 a licensing inspection of the premises was undertaken. The premises were being operated compliantly.

25. On 5 September 2016 an application with immediate effect to transfer the licence to Ismail Incedal was submitted and an amended licence was issued on 5 September 2016.
26. On 17 October 2017, an application was submitted by this council's Trading Standards service under Section 51 of the Licensing Act 2003, for the review of the premises licence. The review application was considered by the licensing sub-committee on 16 November 2016 when the then DPS Ismail Incedal be removed as the designated premises supervisor, there was a reduction in hours of the licensable hours and the licence was modified by adding eight conditions to the licence. A copy of the last licence is available in Appendix C for information.
27. At a hearing on 13 December 2017, the premises licence was revoked. A copy of the notice of decision is available in Appendix D.
28. No temporary event notices (TENs) have been submitted in regards to the premises.

Map

29. A map of the local area is attached as Appendix E. There are multiple premises in the immediate vicinity, namely:

Pesh Flowers, 31 Denmark Hill, London SE5 8RS:

- Sale of alcohol to be consumed off the premises:
 - Monday to Saturday until 23:00
 - Sunday until 22:30

Joiners Arms, 35 Denmark Hill, London SE5 8RS:

- Sale of alcohol to be consumed on and off the premises, live music, recorded music:
 - Sunday to Thursday until 00:00 (midnight)
 - Friday and Saturday until 01:00 the following day.

Lamoon Restaurant, 39 Denmark Hill, London SE5 8RS:

- Sale of alcohol to be consumed on and off the premises, recorded music & late night refreshment:
 - Monday to Saturday until 00:00
 - Sunday until 23:30.

Chicken Express, 53 Denmark Hill, London SE5 8RS:

- Late night refreshment:
 - Monday to Sunday until 01:00 the following day.

Pizza Hut, 57 Denmark Hill, London SE5 8RS:

- Late night refreshment:
 - Monday to Sunday until 00:30 the following day.

Ginseng Noodle Bar, 4 Coldharbour Lane, London SE5 9PR:

- Late night refreshment:
 - Monday to Saturday until 00:30
 - Sunday until 00:00.
- Sale of Alcohol:
 - Monday to Saturday until 00:00
 - Sunday until 23:30.

Southwark council statement of licensing policy

30. Council assembly approved Southwark's statement of licensing policy 2016 - 2020 on 25 November 2015. The policy came into effect on 1 January 2016. Sections of the statement that are considered to be of particular relevance to the sub-committee's consideration are:

- Section 3 – Purpose and scope of the policy. This reinforces the four licensing objectives and the fundamental principles upon which this Authority relies in determining licence applications
- Section 5 – Determining applications for premises licences and club premises certificates. This explains how the policy works and considers issues such as location; high standards of management; and the principles behind condition setting.
- Section 6 – Local cumulative impact policies. This sets out this authority's approach to cumulative impact and defines the boundaries of the current special policy areas and the classifications of premises to which they apply. To be read in conjunction with Appendix B to the policy
- Section 7 – Hours of operation. This provides a guide to the hours of licensed operation that this Authority might consider appropriate by type of premises and (planning) area classification.
- Section 8 – The prevention of crime and disorder. This provides general guidance on the promotion of the first licensing objective.
- Section 9 – Public safety. This provides general guidance on the promotion of the second licensing objective.
- Section 10 – The prevention of nuisance. This provides general guidance on the promotion of the third licensing objective.
- Section 11 – The protection of children from harm. This provides general guidance on the promotion of the fourth licensing objective.

31. The purpose of Southwark's statement of licensing policy is to make clear to applicants what considerations will be taken into account when determining applications and should act as a guide to the sub-committee when considering the applications. However, the sub-committee must always consider each application

on its own merits and allow exceptions to the normal policy where these are justified by the circumstances of the application.

32. Within Southwark's statement of licensing policy 2016 - 2020, the premises are identified as being within the Camberwell cumulative impact policy (CIP) area and the Camberwell district town centre. Under the southwark statement of licensing policy 2016 - 2020 the Local CIP applies to night clubs, public houses and bars, off-licences, supermarkets and grocers. The closing time recommended in the statement of licensing policy for off licences, and grocers or supermarkets with off sales of alcohol in this area is 00:00 (midnight) daily.

Resource implications

33. A fee of £190.00 has been paid by the applicant company in respect of this application being the statutory fee payable for premises within non-domestic rateable value.

Consultation

34. Consultation has been carried out on this application in accordance with the provisions of the Licensing Act 2003. A public notice was published in a local newspaper and similar notices were exhibited outside of the premises for a period of 28 consecutive days.

Community impact statement

35. Each application is required by law to be considered upon its own individual merits with all relevant matters taken into account.

SUPPLEMENTARY ADVICE FROM OTHER OFFICERS

Director of Law and Democracy

36. The sub-committee is asked to determine the application for a premises licence under section 17 of the Licensing Act 2003.
37. The principles which sub-committee members must apply are set out below.

Principles for making the determination

38. The general principle is that applications for premises licence applications must be granted unless relevant representations are received. This is subject to the proviso that the applicant has complied with regulations in advertising and submitting the application.
39. Relevant representations are those which:
- Are about the likely effect of the granting of the application on the promotion of the licensing objectives
 - Are made by an interested party or responsible authority
 - Have not been withdrawn
 - Are not, in the opinion of the relevant licensing authority, frivolous or vexatious.
40. If relevant representations are received then the sub-committee must have regard to them, in determining whether it is necessary for the promotion of the licensing objectives to:
- To grant the licence subject to:
 - The conditions mentioned in section 18 (2)(a) modified to such extent as the licensing authority considers necessary for the promotion of the licensing objectives

- Any condition which must under section 19, 20 or 21 be included in the licence.
- To exclude from the scope of the licence any of the licensable activities to which the application relates.
- To refuse to specify a person in the licence as the premises supervisor.
- To reject the application.

Conditions

41. The sub-committee's discretion is thus limited. It can only modify the conditions put forward by the applicant, or refuse the application, if it is necessary to do so. Conditions must be necessary and proportionate for the promotion of one of the four licensing objectives, and not for any other reason. Conditions must also be within the control of the licensee, and should be worded in a way which is clear, certain, consistent and enforceable.
42. The four licensing objectives are:
- The prevention of crime and disorder
 - Public safety
 - The prevention of nuisance
 - The protection of children from harm.
43. Members should note that each objective is of equal importance. There are no other licensing objectives, and the four objectives are paramount considerations at all times.
44. Conditions will not be necessary if they duplicate a statutory position. Conditions relating to night café and take away aspect of the license must relate to the night time operation of the premises and must not be used to impose conditions which could not be imposed on day time operators.
45. Members are also referred to the Home Office revised guidance issued under section 182 of the Licensing Act 2003 on conditions, specifically section 10.

Reasons

46. If the sub-committee determines that it is necessary to modify the conditions, or to refuse the application for a premises licence application, it must give reasons for its decision.

Hearing procedures

47. Subject to the licensing hearing regulations, the licensing committee may determine its own procedures. Key elements of the regulations are that:
- The hearing shall take the form of a discussion led by the authority. Cross examination shall not be permitted unless the authority considered that it is required for it to consider the representations.
 - Members of the authority are free to ask any question of any party or other person appearing at the hearing.
 - The committee must allow the parties an equal maximum period of time in which to exercise their rights to:
 - Address the authority

- If given permission by the committee, question any other party.
 - In response to a point which the authority has given notice it will require clarification, give further information in support of their application.
- The committee shall disregard any information given by a party which is not relevant to the particular application before the committee and the licensing objectives.
 - The hearing shall be in public, although the committee may exclude the public from all or part of a hearing where it considers that the public interest in doing so outweighs the public interest in the hearing, or that part of the hearing, taking place in private.
 - In considering any representations or notice made by a party the authority may take into account documentary or other information produced by a party in support of their application, representations or notice (as applicable) either before the hearing or, with the consent of all the other parties, at the hearing.
48. This matter relates to the determination of an application for a premises licence under section 17 of the Licensing Act 2003. Regulation 26(1) (a) requires the sub-committee to make its determination at the conclusion of the hearing.

Council's multiple roles and the role of the licensing sub-committee

49. Sub-committee members will note that, in relation to this application, the council has multiple roles. Council officers from various departments have been asked to consider the application from the perspective of the council as authority responsible respectively for environmental health, trading standards, health and safety and as the planning authority.
50. Members should note that the licensing sub-committee is meeting on this occasion solely to perform the role of licensing authority. The sub-committee sits in quasi-judicial capacity, and must act impartially. It must offer a fair and unbiased hearing of the application. In this case, members should disregard the council's broader policy objectives and role as statutory authority in other contexts. Members must direct themselves to making a determination solely based upon the licensing law, guidance and the council's statement of licensing policy.
51. As a quasi-judicial body the licensing sub-committee is required to consider the application on its merits. The sub-committee must take into account only relevant factors, and ignore irrelevant factors. The decision must be based on evidence, that is to say material, which tends logically to show the existence or non-existence of relevant facts, or the likelihood or unlikelihood of the occurrence of some future event, the occurrence of which would be relevant. The licensing sub-committee must give fair consideration to the contentions of all persons entitled to make representations to them.
52. The licensing sub-committee is entitled to consider events outside of the premises if they are relevant, i.e. are properly attributable to the premises being open. The proprietors do not have to be personally responsible for the incidents for the same to be relevant. However, if such events are not properly attributable to the premises being open, then the evidence is not relevant and should be excluded. Guidance is that the licensing authority will primarily focus on the direct impact of the activities taking place at the licensed premises on members of the public, living, working or engaged in normal activity in the area concerned.
53. Members will be aware of the council's code of conduct which requires them to declare personal and prejudicial interests. The code applies to members when considering licensing applications. In addition, as a quasi-judicial body, members are required to avoid both actual bias, and the appearance of bias.

The sub-committee can only consider matters within the application that have been raised through representations from other persons and responsible authorities. Other persons must live in the vicinity of the premises. This will be decided on a case to case basis.

54. Under the Human Rights Act 1998 the sub-committee needs to consider the balance between the rights of the applicant and those making representations to the application when making their decision. The sub-committee has a duty under section 17 Crime and Disorder Act 1998 when making its decision to do all it can to prevent crime and disorder in the borough.
55. Other persons, responsible authorities and the applicant have the right to appeal the decision of the sub-committee to the magistrates' court within a period of 21 days beginning with the day on which the applicant was notified by the licensing authority of the decision to be appealed against.

Guidance

56. Members are required to have regard to the Home Office revised guidance in carrying out the functions of licensing authority. However, guidance does not cover every possible situation, so long as the guidance has been properly and carefully understood, members may depart from it if they have reason to do so. Full reasons must be given if this is the case.

Strategic Director of Finance and Governance

57. The head of regulatory services has confirmed that the costs of this process over and above the application fee are borne by the service.

BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

Background Papers	Held At	Contact
Licensing Act 2003 Home Office Guidance to the Act Secondary Regulations Southwark statement of licensing policy Case file	Southwark Licensing, C/O Community Safety & Enforcement, 160 Tooley Street, London SE1 2QH	Mrs Kirty Read Tel: 020 7525 5748

APPENDICES

Name	Title
Appendix A	Application for a premises licence
Appendix B	Representations submitted by Responsible Authorities
Appendix C	Previous premises licence
Appendix D	Notice of Decision from 13 December 2017
Appendix E	Map of the locality

AUDIT TRAIL

Lead Officer	Ian Smith, Strategic Director of Environment and Leisure	
Report Author	Andrew Heron, Principal Licensing Officer	
Version	Final	
Dated	11 January 2019	
Key Decision?	No	
CONSULTATION WITH OTHER OFFICERS / DIRECTORATES / CABINET MEMBER		
Officer Title	Comments sought	Comments included
Director of Law & Democracy	Yes	Yes
Strategic Director of Finance and Governance	Yes	Yes
Cabinet Member	No	No
Date final report sent to Constitutional Team		16 January 2019