

AGENDA FOR

LICENSING HEARING SUB COMMITTEE



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To: All Members of Licensing Hearing Sub Committee

Councillors : B Ibrahim (Chair), D Green and D Hill

Dear Member/Colleague

Licensing Hearing Sub Committee

You are invited to attend a meeting of the Licensing Hearing Sub Committee which will be held as follows:-

Date:	Thursday, 17 th September 2026
Place:	Virtual meeting via Microsoft Teams
Time:	11.00 am
Notes:	To view the virtual meeting online, please email m.cunliffe@bury.gov.uk or phone 0161 253 5399 who will provide you with a link to view the meeting via MS Teams or telephone you into meeting with the option of audio only.

AGENDA

1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Members of the Licensing Hearing Sub Committee are asked to consider whether they have an interest in any matter on the agenda, and, if so, to formally declare that interest.

3 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING(S) *(Pages 3 - 20)*

The Minutes of the Licensing Hearing Sub Committee meetings held at 11.00am on the 17th August 2026 and 11.00am on the 27th August 2026 are attached.

4 APPLICATION FOR A PREMISES LICENCE TO BE GRANTED UNDER THE LICENSING ACT 2003 IN RESPECT OF PIZZA GO GO, 56 BURY NEW ROAD, PRESTWICH, M25 0JU *(Pages 21 - 36)*

A report from the Executive Director (Corporate Core) is attached:-

Minutes of:	LICENSING HEARING SUB COMMITTEE
Date of Meeting:	17 th August 2026
Present:	Councillor B Ibrahim (in the Chair) Councillors D Hill and K Simpson
Also in attendance:	M. Bridge (Bury Council- Licensing Unit) M. Cunliffe Bury Council- (Democratic Services) PC P. Ecclestone (Greater Manchester Police- Representor) M. Fort (Bury Council- Trading Standards) K. Halligan (Bury Council- Trading Standards Representor) S. Lyth – (Bury Council- Legal Advisor) J. Naylor (Bury Council- Trading Standards) L. Scully (Bury Council- Legal Advisor) Councillor J. Rydeheard (Observing) G. Dixon (Applicant's Representative) A. Zamfir (Applicant) J. Chittick (Bury Times) H. Richardson (Manchester Evening News)
Public Attendance:	The Hearing was held virtually and interested members of the public were provided with a link to access the hearing online via Microsoft Teams or could be telephoned into the meeting via audio only. No other members of the public were in virtual attendance.

1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were submitted by B. Thomson (Assistant Director of Public Protection & Resilience) and A. Bucior (Public Protection).

2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest made.

3 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING(S)

The Minutes of the last Licensing Hearing Sub Committee meetings held at 10.00am on the 2nd July 2026 and 10.00am on the 6th July 2026 were attached to the agenda.

Resolved:- That the minutes of the Licensing Hearing Sub Committee held on the 2nd July 2026 and the 6th July 2026 be approved as a correct record.

4 APPLICATION FOR A PREMISES LICENCE TO BE GRANTED UNDER THE LICENSING ACT 2003 IN RESPECT OF AVA, 46 BOLTON STREET, BURY, BL9 0LL

The Licensing Authority received an application for a Premises Licence to be granted under the Licensing Act 2003 in respect of AVA, 46 Bolton Street, Bury, BL9 0LL.

In making a decision, the steps the Sub-Committee can take are:-

- To grant the application in the terms requested
- To grant the application subject to conditions
- To amend or modify existing or proposed conditions
- To refuse the application

The Licensing Act 2003 and the Licensing Act 2003 (Hearings) Regulations are the relevant legislation.

The Panel would make a decision on the day of the hearing and the parties would be notified subsequently of the decision and the reasons for it by letter from the Licensing Office.

The Licensing Unit Manager presented the report and explained the applicant for the licence is Mr Alin-Mihai Zamfir, 13 Woodfield Street, Bolton, BL3 2HD. He is also the proposed Designated Premises Supervisor should the premises licence be granted.

The Applicant had complied with all the necessary procedural requirements laid down by the Act.

As part of the statutory process the Responsible Authorities and interested parties are entitled to make representations in relation to the grant of a licence. Where representations are made and not withdrawn Members are required to determine them.

Representations must be relevant to the licensing objectives defined within the Act. The objectives are:-

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

The application was for the grant of a Premises Licence under Part 3 of the Licensing Act 2003.

Opening Times:
Monday to Sunday 07.00 to 23.00

Retail Sale of Alcohol (Off the premises):
Monday to Sunday 07.00 to 23.00

The conditions contained in the operating schedule submitted by the applicant were also attached at Appendix 1 in the agenda packs.

Following discussions with Public Health, the applicant has agreed to amending the retail Sale of Alcohol hours to 08.00 to 23.00 Monday to Sunday. Upon questioning by the Licensing Unit Manager, this would also be the same for the opening times.

Trading Standards in their capacity as a responsible authority would give their reasons for making a representation. The representation was attached at appendix 2 in the agenda packs.

Greater Manchester Police in their capacity as a responsible authority would give their reasons for making a representation. The representation was attached at appendix 3 in the agenda packs.

After hearing the representations made and the evidence presented, Members were obliged to determine the application with a view to promoting the licensing objectives and having regard to the Authority's Licensing Policy and National Guidance.

The Secretary of State's Guidance to the Licensing Act 2003 is provided to licensing authorities in relation to the carrying out of their functions under the 2003 Act. It also provides information to magistrates' courts hearing appeals against licensing decisions and has been made widely available for the benefit of those who run licensed premises, their legal advisers and the general public. It is a key medium for promoting best practice, ensuring consistent application of licensing powers across England and Wales and for promoting fairness, equal treatment and proportionality.

Section 4 of the 2003 Act provides that, in carrying out its functions, a licensing authority must 'have regard to' guidance issued by the Secretary of State under section 182. The Guidance is therefore binding on all licensing authorities to that extent. However, the Guidance cannot anticipate every possible scenario or set of circumstances that may arise and, as long as licensing authorities have properly understood this Guidance, they may depart from it if they have good reason to do so and can provide full reasons.

Departure from the Guidance could give rise to an appeal or judicial review, and the reasons given will then be a key consideration for the courts when considering the lawfulness and merits of any decision taken.

The Sub-Committee must consider what steps are appropriate for the promotion of the licensing objectives.

Mr Geoff Dixon was representing the Mr Zamfir (The applicant) and introduced himself to the meeting as a licensing consultant having worked for over 35 years in the licensing trade. For the past few years he had operated a licensing training company across the UK.

He provided the committee with some background timescales providing dates and that Mr Zamfir had been introduced to the previous licence holder with talks conducted to take on the business. This had come about from a friend of Mr Zamfir who worked at the store and Mr Zamfir had purchased the company and then changed the name.

The Licensing Unit Manager stated that extra information had been circulated to the committee which had been supplied by Mr Dixon. These documents detailed persons with significant control being ceased and a letter from the applicant's accountant confirming Mr Zamir owns 100% of the company.

Mr Dixon added Mr Zamfir was in clear control of the business as an independent operator and accountable sole trader. He had never worked with Mr Faraydn Qasmpwr the previous owner and Mr Zamfir had only been in the store on previous occasions to discuss the business and was not working for him.

A Member enquired why was not company name changed and had Mr Zamfir not worked with the previous owner. Mr Dixon reported that the name change arose due to advice given as Mr Zamfir was not experienced in these matters and he confirmed that Mr Zamfir had not been employed by the previous owner.

A Member asked had Mr Zamfir worked at the store any time previously and Mr Dixon confirmed not before taking on the current lease.

A Member questioned why Mr Zamfir resigned and Mr Mohamedi took over control of the business at the end of April as per Companies House records. Mr Zamfir stated this was due

to an issue with the accounts and Mr Dixon added that Mr Mohamedi ceased any involvement at the start of June.

A Member asked about Mr Zamfir being present in the store in February and Mr Dixon replied that neither GMP and Trading Standards spoke to him or asked his name and he had never worked there before.

The Chair wondered what experience Mr Zamfir had with a premises licence and Mr Dixon stated he had not held one before and this was his first business operated since April. He had passed his personal licence exam in May.

The Chair enquired what qualifications did Mr Zamfir have and Mr Dixon confirmed the personal licence award was a level 2 certificate and Bolton Council had granted his personal licence.

Kelly Halligan from Trading Standards queried that Mr Zamfir was working in the store as he had been seen a number of times in the premises including behind the counter. She asked how long he had known Mr Qasmpwr the previous owner and his involvement with him. Mr Zamfir was not clear on exact dates but replied he had known him from around January this year and he had been introduced to him by a person who worked at the store.

Ms Halligan asked what involvement Mr Qasmpwr had in the business and Mr Dixon reported none.

Ms Halligan enquired why Mr Qasmpwr was stacking shelves in the store on the 1st August. Mr Dixon queried any evidence to prove this and it was just hearsay. The Council's legal advisor stated the account came from a Council Officer who witnessed it herself so it was not hearsay.

PC Peter Ecclestone from Greater Manchester Police asked Mr Zamfir who had introduced him to Mr Qasmpwr. Mr Zamfir commented that it was friend from Bolton named Andre Meeter. PC Ecclestone stated that Mr Zamfir had been seen behind the counter serving customers when the closure notice was issued. Mr Zamfir explained he was helping Mr Qasmpwr move stock out after the notice had been served.

Ms Halligan presented the Trading Standards representation:-

Ava Market, 46 Bolton Street, Bury has been a mini market for a number of years. The business was previously called express mini market, and the applicant Alin Zamfir worked in the shop. The business rates for the premises is in the name of Express Mini Market Ltd and have been since the 19th December 2022. Express Mini Market Ltd, company number 14549110, is the previous company name for Ava Market Ltd, the name was changed on the 12th February 2026. The limited company has no current directors; the 2 resigned directors are the applicant Alin Zamfir and Faraydn Qasmpwr. The applicant Alin Zamfir was a director for 20 days, between the 9th and 20th April 2026. Mr Qasmpwr was a director between the 19th December 2022 and the 8th April 2026. I produce a copy of the company search as appendix 1.

Express Mini Market has previously held a Premises Licence from 23 November 2022. Faraydn Qasmpwr has been the Premises Licence Holder since that date and has been the Designated Premises Supervisor since 4 January 2023. The licence was revoked by the licensing panel on the 4th November 2025; I produce the minutes from the panel as appendix 2 to this representation. The Licensing Hearing subcommittee were satisfied that the licensing objects had not been met and failed on the prevention of crime and disorder, public safety, prevention of public nuisance and on the protection of children from harm.

On the 18th December, a follow up visit was carried out to Express Mini Market, illicit tobacco and counterfeit headphones were seized by me, PC Eccleston seized 16 cans of alcohol as the premises had no alcohol licence, on the premises was Faraydn Qasmpwr.

On the 27th January 2026, I hand delivered a letter to the director Mr Qasmpwr, to advise him that this authority was seeking a closure order against the premises. Whilst in the shop I had to advise them to remove the counterfeit labubu dolls and headphones.

On the 3rd February 2026, I issued a further letter indicating the intention to close the premises and served it in the shop by handing it to Alin Zamfir.

On the 9th February 2026, with PC Eccleston I closed the shop, present in the shop was Alin Zamfir and Faraydn Qasmpwr. We served a closure Notice, (Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014), the shop was closed and we affixed closure orders to relevant entry points. Notices were served on Mr Qasmpwr on the premises.

On the 10th February 2026, I attended Manchester and Salford Magistrates Court with PC Eccleston, where the court granted the closure order, and the premises was closed for 2 months.

The shop re-opened on 10th April 2026, and the landlord said the business was now owned by Alin Zamfir a copy for the lease that the landlord sent is attached, as appendix 3. The landlord claimed Faraydn Qasmpwr, had contacted him claiming to have sold the shop to Alin Zamfir, and therefore asking him to change the lease to his name.

On the 29th April 2026, companies house shows that Alin Zamfir resigned as director after 20 days, and that Hazhar Mohamedi took over as a person with significant control of Ava Market. Further checks on companies' house give a correspondence address for Mr Mohamedi as 1 Cherry Gardens, Rhodes Street, Hull, HU35RQ. Hazhar Mohamedi, is the director of City Road Vape CF24 Ltd, company number 16327763, which has a registered office address of 169 City Road, Cardiff, CF243JB. Intelligence checks show that the shop at 169 City Road, Cardiff, CF243JB, has been subject to enforcement activity by regulatory services. Three test purchase of illicit cigarettes or hand rolling tobacco have been made, all 3 items purchase for £5 an item, well below the retail value of genuine cigarettes and tobacco. In December 2025, an intel report was received saying the shop was selling counterfeit cigarettes. Same allegation was received in December 2025, and a similar allegation in May 2026, but this time the allegation said the shop had smuggled vapes and drugs as well. In June 2026 the shop had seized 21 packets of cigarettes, 1 pouch of hand rolling and wraps of cannabis.

Given that the limited company has no directors, and the person with significant control has a premises in another area, of which he is the director, which has been subject to enforcement action for illegal activity, and the history associated with these premises for which the applicant has been present on numerous occasions, cause Trading Standards to have significant concerns over the granting of a premises license and believe that it wouldn't be long before the licensing objectives are undermined once again.

Ms Halligan added there was no timescales listed on the accountancy letter provided and the screenshot document listing people in significant control and ceased did not match the backdated date of the 1st April.

The Chair asked was it normal practice to inspect premises after a licence had been revoked. Ms Halligan answered yes and they had received information that alcohol was still located on the premises.

The Chair enquired about the landlord of the store and Ms Halligan reported that a landlord and tenant are both served with a closure order letter. The Licensing Unit Manager added that the current lease was signed on the 8th April.

Ms Halligan reported that in the absence of Mr Qasmpwr, the closure order letter was given to Mr Zamfir to pass on. Mr Dixon repeated that Mr Zamfir was not involved in the previous business and it was reasonable for him to be in the store to view the viability of the business.

The Chair felt it may have been clearer for Mr Zamfir to provide a written statement before the meeting in relation to a timeline and Mr Dixon had no idea why the accountant had structured the business dates the way it was presented.

PC P Ecclestone presented the representations from Greater Manchester Police:-

Ava Market was previously Express Mini Market where the applicant and proposed DPS; Alin-Mihai Zamfir worked. Since December 2022, the business rates for the premises was and still is, in the name of Express Mini Market Ltd however the company name was changed to Ava Market Ltd on the 12th February 2026. Following enquiries, on Companies House, it would appear that Ava Market Ltd is operating but with no registered directors listed. There have been two previous directors, one of which is the applicant, who was registered for a matter of 20 days between 9th April 2026 and 29 April 2026. The other resigned director was Faraydn Qasmpwr who was the previous license holder and designated premises supervisor. Mr Qasmpwr was the registered director between the 19th December 2022 and 8th April 2026.

Going back through the history of the premises, it opened as Express Mini Market in November 2022 and on the 23rd November 2022, a premises license was granted for Express Mini Market. Mr Qasmpwr was the license holder and became the designated premises supervisor (DPS) on 4th January 2023 where he remained in position up until the premises license was revoked by the Licensing Sub-Committee on the 4th November 2025 after they were satisfied that all four licensing objectives were undermined significantly. A copy of the minutes from the hearing are attached at appendix A.

Following the revocation and the appeal period had passed, a follow up visit was conducted on the 18th December 2025 where illicit tobacco and counterfeit headphones were seized by Kelly Halligan from Trading Standards and I seized 16 cans of alcohol which were still on the premises. At the time, Mr Qasmpwr was present in the store.

On the 9th February 2026, Kelly Halligan (Trading Standards) and I attended Express Mini Market and served a Closure Notice (Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014) on Mr Qasmpwr. At the time of serving, Mr ZAMFIR was present at the premises. Prior to leaving, copies of the notice were fixed to all relevant entry / exit points.

The following day on the 10th February 2026, Kelly Halligan and I attended Manchester and Salford Magistrates Court where a Closure Order was granted for 2 months and the premises was subsequently closed until the 10th April 2026 during which time Mr QASMPWR had asked for the lease to be transferred over to Mr ZAMFIR following the sale of the business.

Since then, Greater Manchester Police received a piece of intelligence stating that there was a male working illegally (under the Immigration Act) at the premises.

As previously mentioned, Mr Zamfir resigned as director of Ava Market Ltd after 20 days on the 29th April 2026. According to Companies House, that same day a Mr Hazhar Mohamedi became a 'person with significant control' over Ava Market. Further checks show that Mr Mohamedi has a correspondent's address in Hull whilst being the director of City Road Vapes which is located in Cardiff. Information and intelligence have been shared by Trading

Standards with regards to the store in Cardiff and the seizures of illicit /counterfeit cigarettes, illegal vapes and a quantity of drugs.

Given that all directors have resigned from Ava Market Ltd, the fact that the individual who is listed as having significant control has three varying addresses, (if you include the one in Bury) and the information and intelligence with regards to the illegal activity at the business premises where this individual is listed as a director, Greater Manchester Police have significant concerns over the granting of a premises license and believe that should the license be granted, it wouldn't be long before the four licensing objectives are undermined once again.

PC Ecclestone repeated that Mr Zamfir was behind the counter serving customers when the closure order was provided. He then went and got Mr Qasmpwr from next door in the Barbers shop. Why was he behind the counter if he was observing the business and not working. There was also confusion with dates provided and going back in time and there was no confidence that Mr Zamfir was not associated with the Mr Qasmpwr.

A Member asked if any other staff were working in the shop when Mr Zamfir was behind the counter and it was reported no. Mr Dixon stated there were many reasons why he may have been behind the counter getting used to the business which was different to being employed or paid. Mr Zamfir added that Mr Qasmpwr was only gone for two minutes and was washing his hands next door.

Mr Zamfir repeated he was introduced by a friend to the business and as he had been interested in buying a shop for a while. Mr Qasmpwr had told him he did not sell illegal vapes or tobacco and told him later on about the alcohol licence being taken away.

Ms Halligan PC Ecclestone both summed up that they had concerns with links to the previous business.

Mr Dixon reported that Mr Zamfir could promote the four licensing objectives and was responsible to uphold these. The company had been purchased and he questioned if this had been closed and a new trader provided would the representations have been made. He had been provided with all the necessary documents to comply with the licensing objectives and his name being associated with the previous business could not be a breach. A balance of probability should be used and there was not enough to suggest the objectives would be broken. If the licence was granted then both Trading Standards and GMP could visit as this application had been made in good faith.

The Council's legal advisor added that any mention of a fit and proper person was not relevant to the application as this was based on the four licensing objectives.

The Sub-Committee then duly retired to consider the application.

The Members of the Panel were advised by the Legal Officer as to their duties under Section 4 of the Licensing Act 2003 to at all times consider the promotion of the Licensing Objectives, these being:

- a) the prevention of crime and disorder
- b) public safety
- c) the prevention of public nuisance
- d) the protection of children from harm

The Members were also advised of their duties in carrying out those functions in relation to the relevant provisions of the national guidance and the Council's licensing policy statement.

In addition, Members were advised to give appropriate weight to the steps that are appropriate to promote the licensing objectives together with relevant representations presented by all parties.

Delegated decision

All of the evidence was considered with care, and it was established that having understood the application and equally noting and understanding all the representations, the Sub-Committee found there were causes for concern so far as the promotion of the licensing objective were concerned in relation to:-

- Prevention of crime and disorder

There was a lack of confidence that the licensing objective could be upheld and fulfilled by the applicant. This would be undermined if granted and the information provided and presented had caused lots of concerns.

There were a number of inconsistencies provided by the applicant and lack of clarity on the directorship of the business. There was great uncertainty on the association with the previous owner of the company and the evidence from Trading Standards and GMP was deemed credible and consistent.

It was therefore agreed unanimously that the Sub- Committee **refuse the application**.

The Chair advised of their right to appeal the decision to the Court within the relevant timescales upon receiving written notification.

COUNCILLOR B IBRAHIM
Chair

(Note: The meeting started at 11.00am and ended at 1.10pm)

Minutes of:	LICENSING HEARING SUB COMMITTEE
Date of Meeting:	27 th August 2026
Present:	Councillor B Ibrahim (in the Chair) Councillors D Green and D Hill
Also in attendance:	M. Bridge (Bury Council- Licensing Unit) M. Cunliffe Bury Council- (Democratic Services) S. Lyth – (Bury Council- Legal Advisor) L. Scully (Bury Council- Legal Advisor) Mr N. & Mrs H. Simmons (Applicant) C. Gerezdi (Representor) G. Harrop (Representor) I. Forbes (Bury Times)
Public Attendance:	The Hearing was held virtually and interested members of the public were provided with a link to access the hearing online via Microsoft Teams or could be telephoned into the meeting via audio only. No other members of the public were in virtual attendance.

1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were submitted by B. Thomson (Assistant Director of Public Protection & Resilience), A. Bucior (Public Protection) and one representor.

2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest made.

3 APPLICATION FOR A PREMISES LICENCE TO BE GRANTED UNDER THE LICENSING ACT 2003 IN RESPECT OF BILL AND COO, 9 SQUARE STREET, RAMSBOTTOM, BL0 9BE

The Licensing Authority received an application for a Premises Licence to be granted under the Licensing Act 2003 in respect of Bill and Co, 9 Square Street, Ramsbottom, BL0 9BE.

In making a decision, the steps the Sub-Committee can take are:-

- To grant the application in the terms requested
- To grant the application subject to conditions
- To amend or modify existing or proposed conditions
- To refuse the application

The Licensing Act 2003 and the Licensing Act 2003 (Hearings) Regulations are the relevant legislation.

The Panel would make a decision on the day of the hearing and the parties would be notified subsequently of the decision and the reasons for it by letter from the Licensing Office.

The Licensing Unit Manager presented the report and explained the applicant for the licence is Bill and Co Ramsbottom Ltd, 11 Bridge Street, Ramsbottom, BL9 9AB. Mr Nicholas Andrew

Simmons, 92 Bradshaw Road, Bolton, BL2 3EW is the proposed Designated Premises Supervisor should the premises licence be granted.

The Applicant had complied with all the necessary procedural requirements laid down by the Act.

As part of the statutory process the Responsible Authorities and interested parties are entitled to make representations in relation to the grant of a licence. Where representations are made and not withdrawn Members are required to determine them.

Representations must be relevant to the licensing objectives defined within the Act. The objectives are:-

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

The application was for the grant of a Premises Licence under Part 3 of the Licensing Act 2003.

Opening Times:

Monday to Thursday	10.00 to midnight
Friday and Saturday	10.00 to 02.00
Sunday	10.00 to midnight

Non-Standard Timings

Christmas Eve	10.00 to 02.00
New Years Eve	10.00 to 02.00
Sundays prior to Bank Holidays	10.00 to 02.00
Thursday before Easter	10.00 to 02.00

Retail Sale of Alcohol (On and Off the premises):

Monday to Thursday	10.00 to midnight
Friday and Saturday	10.00 to 02.00
Sunday	10.00 to midnight

Non-Standard Timings

Christmas Eve	10.00 to 02.00
New Years Eve	10.00 to 02.00
Sundays prior to Bank Holidays	10.00 to 02.00
Thursday before Easter	10.00 to 02.00

Playing of recorded Music (Indoors)

Monday to Thursday	10.00 to midnight
Friday and Saturday	10.00 to 02.00
Sunday	10.00 to midnight

Non-Standard Timings

Christmas Eve	10.00 to 02.00
New Years Eve	10.00 to 02.00
Sundays prior to Bank Holidays	10.00 to 02.00
Thursday before Easter	10.00 to 02.00

Provision of Late Night Refreshment (Indoors)

Monday to Thursday	23.00 to midnight
Friday and Saturday	23.00 to 02.00
Sunday	23.00 to midnight

Non-Standard Timings

Christmas Eve	23.00 to 02.00
New Years Eve	23.00 to 02.00
Sundays prior to Bank Holidays	23.00 to 02.00
Thursday before Easter	23.00 to 02.00

The conditions contained in the operating schedule submitted by the applicant were also attached at Appendix 1 in the agenda packs.

Four representations had been received from interested parties and this was attached at Appendix 2 in the agenda packs.

After hearing the representations made and the evidence presented, Members are obliged to determine the application with a view to promoting the licensing objectives and having regard to the Authority's Licensing Policy and National Guidance.

The Secretary of State's Guidance to the Licensing Act 2003 is provided to licensing authorities in relation to the carrying out of their functions under the 2003 Act. It also provides information to magistrates' courts hearing appeals against licensing decisions and has been made widely available for the benefit of those who run licensed premises, their legal advisers and the general public. It is a key medium for promoting best practice, ensuring consistent application of licensing powers across England and Wales and for promoting fairness, equal treatment and proportionality.

Section 4 of the 2003 Act provides that, in carrying out its functions, a licensing authority must 'have regard to' guidance issued by the Secretary of State under section 182. The Guidance is therefore binding on all licensing authorities to that extent. However, the Guidance cannot anticipate every possible scenario or set of circumstances that may arise and, as long as licensing authorities have properly understood this Guidance, they may depart from it if they have good reason to do so and can provide full reasons.

Departure from the Guidance could give rise to an appeal or judicial review, and the reasons given will then be a key consideration for the courts when considering the lawfulness and merits of any decision taken.

The Licensing Unit Manager informed the meeting that additional information had been circulated to the panel Members. This included a building plan, location on a map and street view images of other nearby licensed premises with their timings provided.

The Licensing Unit Manager commented he was aware that discussions had taken place between Mr & Mrs Simmonds and some of the representors in relation to possible amended conditions which may have been agreeable between themselves.

A Member asked for clarity on the address and the Licensing Unit Manager stated the address was 8 Square Street and not number 9

Mr Nick Simmonds addressed the committee and informed them about the two bars he already owned in Harwood (for the last 6 years) and Holcombe Brook (for the last 2 years). It was a much loved family business with this premises being food based attracting a high community spirit. Family events would take place at Christmas and Easter with an example provided for pumpkin painting during the Autumn.

Mr Simmonds understood the 2.00am representations and he had emailed local residents to state they were happy to reduce the opening times if needed and was open to discussion.

Mrs Simmonds added they understood the concerns of local residents and they would like the venue to be a good addition in Ramsbottom. Their other venues during the week close at 10.00pm or 11.00pm and midnight on Friday and Saturday night and they would be happy to work to these hours. They were not trying to be the last venue to remain open in the area at night and would keep noise to a minimum with windows and doors remaining closed. Security would be hired if needed and customers would be asked to leave the building politely with and concerns deal with on an individual basis.

Mr Simmonds reported he had been a DPS for over 20 years and had received no complaints for both of the other businesses he managed. The outside of the venues were swept in the morning and evening as they respected the local area. This would be a nice bar with lots to offer and the social media comments suggested people were happy for it to open with over 2,000 likes.

The Chair enquired about the business address on Bridge Street and Mr Simmonds reported this was their accountant's office.

The Chair asked about the suggested times being amended and Mr Simmonds was agreeable to midnight closure on a Friday and Saturday.

A Member commented on windows being kept closed and was there air condition installed in the building. Mr Simmonds stated that there was air conditioning both upstairs and downstairs and this had been tested.

A Member asked why 2.00am closures had been requested and the Licensing Unit Manager advised that licencing hours under the act allow for a premises to be open 24 hours a day, although they don't need to operate for that long. The Member wondered if closing at 10.00pm would have an impact on the business. Mr Simmonds repeated it was a food based business with drinks afterwards so customers may have an extra drink then but it would tail off anyway from 11.15pm. Mrs Simmonds added the other businesses had later times so they were influenced by that.

The Licensing Unit Manager drew attention to the fact the Live Music Act permits Live Music and Recorded Music at a licensed Premises between the hours of 8.00am to 23.00 hours for up to 500 people.

Mrs Harrop addressed the committee and reported she had moved to the area for the day and night life of the area. She only got disturbed from the later bars after 1.00am and felt the venue should be granted the non-standard timings at Christmas and new year.

Mrs Gerezdi had an objection to the 2.00am opening as her bedroom was located on the corner of Square Street but was not against the hospitality sector nor the hours on Bank Holidays or Christmas. Extra drinking time can lead to noise and there were young families

and older people living nearby. Mrs Simmonds added that the estate agents never made them aware that it was a residential area with people living in flats above and she had tried to reply to all the representations. Mr Simmonds stated that only background music would be played and any live acts would be of the acoustic variety and not amplified sound.

The Licensing Unit Manager clarified for the representors present and those not in attendance, that there was also a process available for the representors to call in the licence for review should there be any problems that arise.

Upon questioning by a Member, the Licensing Unit Manager confirmed that off sales of alcohol were part of the application. Mrs Gerezdi asked could this be an open bottle of beer and Mr Simmonds it would be sales off the premises for a sealed bottle of wine.

Mrs Harrop asked if there were plans for a beer garden at the rear of the premises or drinking outside on the street. Mrs Simmonds stated the rear was used only as a storage area and they respected that 2.00am was too late with midnight more acceptable on a Friday and Saturday. The agreed conditions with GMP would still stand with a midweek closure at 11.00pm and later for the non-standard timings. Mr Simmonds added the head chef had worked for them over a number years for their food based business and they would like to become part of the Ramsbottom community.

The Sub-Committee then duly retired to consider the application.

The Members of the Panel were advised by the Legal Officer as to their duties under Section 4 of the Licensing Act 2003 to at all times consider the promotion of the Licensing Objectives, these being:

- a) the prevention of crime and disorder
- b) public safety
- c) the prevention of public nuisance
- d) the protection of children from harm

The Members were also advised of their duties in carrying out those functions in relation to the relevant provisions of the national guidance and the Council's licensing policy statement.

In addition, Members were advised to give appropriate weight to the steps that are appropriate to promote the licensing objectives together with relevant representations presented by all parties.

Delegated decision

All of the evidence was considered with care, and it was established that having understood the application and equally noting and understanding the representations, the Sub-Committee found there were no causes for concern so far as the promotion of the licensing objectives were concerned.

The committee concluded the applicants managed a responsible business, understood the licensing objectives, were willing to deal with any concerns should they occur and the application would not have an adverse impact for the local area.

It was therefore agreed that the Sub- Committee unanimously **grant the application as per the conditions agreed with Greater Manchester Police in the operating schedule, subject to amending the proposed conditions in relation to various timings.**

Operating Schedule

Opening Times:

Monday to Thursday	10.00 to 23.00
Friday and Saturday	10.00 to midnight
Sunday	10.00 to 23.00

Non-Standard Timings

Christmas Eve	10.00 to 02.00
New Years Eve	10.00 to 02.00
Sundays prior to Bank Holidays	10.00 to 02.00
Thursday before Easter	10.00 to 02.00

Retail Sale of Alcohol (On and Off the premises):

Monday to Thursday	10.00 to 23.00
Friday and Saturday	10.00 to midnight
Sunday	10.00 to 23.00

Non-Standard Timings

Christmas Eve	10.00 to 02.00
New Years Eve	10.00 to 02.00
Sundays prior to Bank Holidays	10.00 to 02.00
Thursday before Easter	10.00 to 02.00

Playing of recorded Music (Indoors)

Monday to Thursday	10.00 to 23.00
Friday and Saturday	10.00 to midnight
Sunday	10.00 to 23.00

Non-Standard Timings

Christmas Eve	10.00 to 02.00
New Years Eve	10.00 to 02.00
Sundays prior to Bank Holidays	10.00 to 02.00
Thursday before Easter	10.00 to 02.00

Provision of Late Night Refreshment (Indoors)

Monday to Thursday	10.00 to 23.00
Friday and Saturday	10.00 to midnight
Sunday	10.00 to 23.00

Non-Standard Timings

Christmas Eve	23.00 to 02.00
New Years Eve	23.00 to 02.00
Sundays prior to Bank Holidays	23.00 to 02.00
Thursday before Easter	23.00 to 02.00

Conditions agreed with Greater Manchester Police

General

The premises will be managed to the highest standard by a fully trained team. Regular staff training, strong management presence and strict adherence to all mandatory and voluntary conditions will ensure all four licensing objectives are consistently promoted. We will promote strong operating policies - including staff training, a zero-tolerance drug policy, robust age verification and proactive noise management will be maintained at all times.

The prevention of crime and disorder

1/The premises license holder must ensure that:

- i. CCTV cameras are located within the premises to cover all public areas including all entrances and exits.
- ii. The system records clear images permitting the identification of individuals.
- iii. The CCTV system is able to capture a minimum of 24 frames per second, and all recorded footage must be securely retained for a minimum of 28 days.
- iv. The CCTV system operates at all times while the premises are open for licensable activities. The Premises Licence Holder or the Designated Premises Supervisor must notify the licensing office or the Police in the event of CCTV breakdown or malfunction as soon as is reasonably practicable and in any event within 24hrs.
- v. All equipment must have a constant and accurate time and date generation.
- vi. The CCTV system is fitted with security functions to prevent recordings being tampered with, i.e. password protected.
- vii. There are members of trained staff at the premises during operating hours able to provide viewable copies on request by the police or authorised officer of the local authority officers as soon as is reasonably practicable or in any case within 12 hours of receiving the request whether that be verbal or written request.

2/ An incident log (which may be electronically recorded) shall be kept at the premises for at least six months, and made available on request to the police or an authorised officer of the licensing authority, which will record the following incidents including pertinent details:

- i. All alleged crimes reported to the venue or by the venue to the police.
- ii. All ejections of patrons
- iii. Any complaints received
- iv. Any incidents of disorder
- v. Seizures of drugs, offensive weapons, fraudulent ID or other items
- vi. Any faults in the CCTV system, searching equipment or scanning equipment
- vii. Any visit by a responsible authority or emergency service
- viii. The times on duty, names and the licence numbers of all licensed door supervisors employed by the premises.

3/ All staff authorised to sell alcohol shall be trained in:

- i. Relevant age restrictions in respect of products
- ii. Prevent underage sales
- iii. Prevent proxy sales
- iv. Maintain the refusals log
- v. Enter sales correctly on the tills so the prompts show as appropriate
- vi. Recognising signs of drunkenness and vulnerability
- vii. How overservice of alcohol impacts on the four objectives of the Licensing Act 2003
- viii. How to refuse service
- ix. The premises' duty of care policy, understanding and dealing with situations involving vulnerable people, and incidents of harassment
- x. Action to be taken in the event of an emergency, including the preservation of a crime scene and reporting an incident to the emergency services

xi. The conditions in force under this licence.

4/ Documented records of training completed shall be kept for each member of staff. Training shall be regularly refreshed and at no greater than 6 monthly intervals. Training records shall be made available for inspection upon request by a police officer or an authorised officer of Bury Council.

5/ The sale of alcohol will cease 30 minutes prior to the premises closing.

6/ Door supervisors shall be employed by the premises based upon a risk assessment carried out in relation to the following factors:

- i. Size of the venue
- ii. Expected attendance
- iii. Type of event taking place
- iv. Location of the premises
- v. Time of year (Good Friday, Sunday preceding bank holidays, Christmas Eve, New Years Eve
- vi. Special occasion (Mad Friday, Halloween, Local events etc.)
- vii. Premises Licence Conditions
- viii. Advice from Greater Manchester Police.

7/ No person in possession of a drink in a sealed or unsealed container shall be allowed to enter the premises except for the purposes of delivery or from moving from one part of the premises to another.

Public safety

8/ Risk assessments - Regular fire risk assessments, health and safety checks and maintain clear exit routes.

9/ Capacity and maintenance - Maintaining all electrical, gas and fire safety systems in accordance with standard regulations.

10/ First Aid - A fully stocked first aid kit will be kept on site and a trained first aider will be present during operating hours.

11/ Customers are to be prevented from leaving the premises with glasses or open bottles.

The prevention of public nuisance

12/ Noise control - Doors and windows will be closed during regulated entertainment or after 10pm to prevent sound leakage.

13/ Signs will be prominently displayed at exits asking customers to respect neighbours and to leave the premises quietly.

14/ No refuse shall be disposed of or collected from the premises between the hours of 10pm & 7am where such disposal or collection is likely to cause disturbance to local residents.

15/ No deliveries to the premises will be permitted between the hours of 10pm & 7am where such disposal or collection is likely to cause disturbance to local residents.

The protection of children from harm

16/ The Challenge 25 scheme must be operated to ensure that any person who appears to be under the age of 25 shall provide documented proof that he/she is over 18 years of age. Proof of age shall only comprise of a passport, photo card driving license, an EU/EEA national ID card or similar document, an HM Forces warrant card, a card bearing the PASS hologram, or any electronic or biometric age verification technology approved by the licensing authority.

17/ The premises shall display prominent signage indicating at any point of sale and at the entrance to the premises that the Challenge 25 scheme is in operation.

18/ A refusals record must be kept at the premises which details all refusals to sell alcohol. This record must include the date and time of the incident, a description of the customer, the name of the staff member who refused the sale, and the reason the sale was refused. All entries must be made within 24 hours of the refusal. The record must be made available for inspection and copying within 24hrs of a request by an officer of a Responsible Authority.

19/ That the following alcoholic drinks be kept behind the counter or in a place where customers do not have direct access to these products without the assistance of a member of staff, namely:

- i. Spirits,
- ii. Flavoured spirits,
- iii. Alco pops (i.e. spirit based drinks mixed with soft drink/flavoured juice etc) which will include and not be limited to products such as "WKD" and similar products).
- iv. Cider

20/ No children under the age of 18 years will be permitted to remain on the premises after 9pm.

The Chair advised of their right to appeal the decision to the Court within the relevant timescales upon receiving written notification.

COUNCILLOR B IBRAHIM
Chair

(Note: The meeting started at 11.00am and ended at 12.05pm)

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		Classification Open / Closed	Item No.
Meeting:	Licensing Hearings Sub-Committee		
Meeting date:	17 September 2026		
Title of report:	Application for a Premises Licence to be granted under the Licensing Act 2003 in respect of Pizza GoGo, 56 Bury New Road, Prestwich, M25 0JU		
Report by:	Executive Director (Corporate Core)		
Decision Type:	Council		
Ward(s) to which report relates	Sedgley		

Executive Summary:

This report relates to an application for a Premises Licence to be granted under the Licensing Act 2003 in respect of Pizza GoGo, 56 Bury New Road, Prestwich, M25 0JU

Recommendation(s)

- To grant the application in the terms requested
- To grant the application subject to conditions
- To amend or modify existing or proposed conditions
- To refuse the application

1.0 BACKGROUND

- 1.1 The Licensing Act 2003 and the Licensing Act 2003 (Hearings) Regulations are the relevant legislation.
- 1.2 The Panel will make a decision on the day of the hearing and the parties will be notified subsequently of the decision and the reasons for it by letter from the Licensing Office.

2.0 INTRODUCTION

- 2.1 The applicant for the licence is Mr Mansour Gholami, 58 Uplands Road, Billericay, Essex, CM12 0JS.
- 2.2 The applicant has complied with all the necessary procedural requirements laid down by the Act.
- 2.3 As part of the statutory process the Responsible Authorities and interested parties are entitled to make representations in relation to the grant of a licence. Where representations are made and not withdrawn Members are required to determine them.
- 2.4 Representations must be relevant to the licensing objectives defined within the Act. The objectives are:-
- the prevention of crime and disorder
 - public safety
 - prevention of public nuisance and
 - protection of children from harm

3.0 THE APPLICATION

- 3.1 The application is for the grant of a Premises Licence under Part 3 of the Licensing Act 2003:

Opening Times:

Monday to Sunday 11.30 to 04.30

Non-Standard Timings – See operating Schedule

Provision of Late Night Refreshment (Indoor and Outdoors):

Monday to Sunday 23.00 to 4.00

Non-Standard Timings – See operating Schedule

The Operating Schedule is attached at Appendix 1.

4.0 REPRESENTATIONS FROM RESPONSIBLE AUTHORITY

- 4.1 Environmental Heath in their capacity as a responsible authority will shortly give their reasons for making a representation. The representation is attended at Appendix 2

5.0 REPRESENTATIONS FROM AN INTERESTED PARTY

- 5.1 An interested party has made a representation against the application and will shortly give their reasons for making a representation. The representation is attended at Appendix 3.

6.0 OBSERVATIONS

- 6.1 After hearing the representations made and the evidence presented, Members are obliged to determine the application with a view to promoting the licensing objectives and having regard to the Authority's Licensing Policy and National Guidance.

7.0 THE SECRETARY OF STATES GUIDANCE TO THE LICENSING ACT 2003

- 7.1 The Secretary of State's Guidance to the Licensing Act 2003 is provided to licensing authorities in relation to the carrying out of their functions under the 2003 Act. It also provides information to magistrates' courts hearing appeals against licensing decisions and has been made widely available for the benefit of those who run licensed premises, their legal advisers and the general public. It is a key medium for promoting best practice, ensuring consistent application of licensing powers across England and Wales and for promoting fairness, equal treatment and proportionality.
- 7.2 Section 4 of the 2003 Act provides that, in carrying out its functions, a licensing authority must 'have regard to' guidance issued by the Secretary of State under section 182. The Guidance is therefore binding on all licensing authorities to that extent. However, the Guidance cannot anticipate every possible scenario or set of circumstances that may arise and, as long as licensing authorities have properly understood this Guidance, they may depart from it if they have good reason to do so and can provide full reasons.
- 7.3 Departure from the Guidance could give rise to an appeal or judicial review, and the reasons given will then be a key consideration for the courts when considering the lawfulness and merits of any decision taken.

8.0 CONCLUSION

- 8.1 A licensing authority must carry out its functions under this Act ("licensing functions") with a view to promoting the licensing objectives:
- the prevention of crime and disorder
 - public safety;
 - the prevention of public nuisance; and
 - the protection of children from harm.
- 8.2 In reaching the decision, regard must be had to relevant provisions of the

national guidance and the Council's licensing policy statement.

- 8.3 The Sub-Committee must consider what steps are appropriate for the promotion of the licensing objectives.
- 8.4 In making its decision with regard to this grant hearing, the steps the Sub-Committee can take are:
- To grant the application in the terms requested
 - To grant the application subject to conditions
 - To amend or modify existing or proposed conditions
 - To refuse the application
- 8.5 All licensing determinations should be considered on the individual merits of the application.
- 8.6 The Sub-Committee's determination should be evidence-based, justified as being appropriate for the promotion of the licensing objectives and proportionate to what it is intended to achieve. Findings on any issues of fact should be on the balance of probability.
- 8.7 It is important that a licensing authority should give comprehensive reasons for its decisions in anticipation of any appeals. Failure to give adequate reasons could itself give rise to grounds for an appeal.
- 7.8 The Sub-Committee is asked to determine what steps, as set out in 8.4 above, are appropriate for the promotion of the licensing objectives.

Community impact/links with Community Strategy

Not Applicable

Equality Impact and considerations:

Under section 149 of the Equality Act 2010, the 'general duty' on public authorities is set out as follows:

A public authority must, in the exercise of its functions, have due regard to the need to -

- (a) eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct that is prohibited by or under this Act;*
- (b) advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it;*

- (c) *foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it.*

The public sector equality duty requires us to consider how we can positively contribute to the advancement of equality and good relations, and demonstrate that we are paying 'due regard' in our decision making in the design of policies and in the delivery of services.

Equality Analysis	<i>Please provide a written explanation of the outcome(s) of either conducting an initial or full EA.</i>
<i>The Licensing Service have considered the Equality Act 2010 and due to each application being dealt with on its own merits there is no positive or negative on any of the protected characteristics.</i>	

Assessment of Risk:

The following risks apply to the decision:

Risk / opportunity	Mitigation
There are no specific issues from the report other than potential costs/risks associated with legal appeals.	

Consultation:

Not Applicable

Legal Implications:

Yes, under the legislation the Council is required to determine representations. The report is in accordance with the appropriate legislation.

Financial Implications:

The cost of the licensing function are funded through the fees and charges levied by the Council. There may be additional costs if appeals are lodged with the Magistrates and Crown Courts.

Report Author and Contact Details:

For further information on the details of this report, please contact:

Mr M Bridge
Licensing Office
Town Hall
Bury
Telephone No: 0161 253 5209
Email: m.bridge@bury.gov.uk

Background papers:

List of Background Papers:-
Application form
Representations received

Please include a glossary of terms, abbreviations and acronyms used in this report.

Term	Meaning

Appendix One

Operating Schedule submitted by the applicant

OPERATING SCHEDULE

1. A CCTV system shall be maintained and operated at the premises with cameras positioned both internally and externally.
2. Recorded CCTV images will be maintained and stored for a period of twenty-eight days and shall be produced to the Police or Licensing Authority upon request.
3. Any person left in charge of the premises must be trained in the use of any such CCTV equipment and be able to produce CCTV images to an officer from a responsible authority upon request.
4. Management shall liaise with the Fire Authority as necessary to ensure compliance with all necessary fire regulations.
5. The premises shall maintain an Incident Log and public liability insurance.
6. There shall be no noise or odours caused by the kitchen extraction equipment that gives rise to a nuisance.
7. The exterior of the premises shall be cleared of litter at regular intervals.
8. Where deliveries are to operate from the premises, where appropriate the premises licence holder must instruct delivery riders and drivers not to cause a noise nuisance when making deliveries or whilst waiting outside the premises for collections.
9. The emptying of bins into skips, deliveries to the premises and refuse collections will not take place between 11pm and 7am.

Non-standard timings

From the end of permitted hours on New Year's Eve to the start of permitted hours on New Year's Day.

An additional hour on the day British Summer Time begins to disapply its effect.

Appendix 2

Representation from Environmental Health

Bury Metropolitan Borough Council

The Licensing Act 2003

Responsible Authority Representation Form

Section 1 - Application Details

We object to the following Application:

Pizza GoGo, 56 Bury New Road, Prestwich M25 0JU

Late night refreshment

Monday to Sunday – 23:00 to 04:00

Type of application.

Premises licence for late night refreshments

Application Number (if known):

Section 2 – Responsible Authority's Details

Responsible Authority's Details:

Please tick appropriate box:

☐	Police
☐	Fire Authority
☐	Planning Authority
☐	Health and Safety
☒	Environmental Health Service
☐	Child Protection
☐	Weights and Measures

	Licensing Authority	
	Immigration	
	Public Health Department	
Full name:	Rob Hall	
Job Title:	Unit Manager, Commercial Team Environmental Health	
Tele number:	0161 253 5526	
Email:	r.a.hall@bury.gov.uk	
Address: Bury Council, 3KP		

Section 3 – Representations

X	We object to the application being granted at all
	We object to the application being granted in its current form*

*If you choose this option remember to tell us in section 3B what changes you would like to see.

You need to complete the boxes below as fully as possible. If you do not then the Licensing Sub-Committee may not understand why you have made a representation (objection).

Please attach supporting documents/further pages as necessary. Please number all extra pages and add the applicant's name and your name to each page.

Section 3A – The Objectives	
To prevent crime and disorder	Please state your reasons:
Public safety	Please state your reasons:
To prevent public nuisance	<i>Please state your reasons:</i> Allowing the premises to open until 4am is likely to result in an increase in customer activity and the attendance of delivery platforms drivers. This additional activity has the potential to generate noise from customers congregating outside the premises, raised voices, vehicle engines, doors opening and closing, and vehicles arriving at and departing from the site during these early hours. The business is located immediately adjacent to a residential property and what looks like a residential accommodation situated on the first floor of this business. Given the proximity of these noise-sensitive receptors, there is significant potential for disturbance to nearby residents, particularly during a time when background noise levels are generally lower and residents would reasonably expect to sleep.
The protection of children from harm	<i>Please state your reasons:</i>
Section 3B – Suggestions/Further information	

Signed: 

Dated: 24/07/26

N.B if you do make a representation, you will be expected to attend the Licensing Sub-Committee hearing and any subsequent appeal proceedings.

Appendix 3

Representation from an Interested Party

From: Cllr. Quinn, Alan

Sent: 28 July 2026 10:56

To: Licensing

Cc: Cllr. Quinn, Deborah; Cllr. Gold, Richard

Subject: RE: New premises licence application - Pizza GoGo, 56 Bury New Road, Prestwich,

M25 0JU

I would like to object to the application, specifically the opening until 4am. Here are my reasons why.

☐ The prevention of public nuisance.

This is a residential area and the arrival of cars with the noise this generates, arriving up to 4am would affect residents that are sleeping at these hours. There would also be additional noise due to the workings of the premises themselves, e.g. noise from extractor fans.

☐ The prevention of crime and disorder.

☐ Late opening times would be a magnet for ASB with people, possibly intoxicated arriving and creating disorder.

Thanks,

Alan Quinn

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