
Application for a review of an existing premises licence

Licensing (Hearings) Sub-Committee

Decision to be taken by: Licensing (Hearings)
Sub-Committee

Decision to be taken on/Date of meeting: 23/01/2026

Lead director/officer: Bobby Smiljanic

Useful information

- Ward(s) affected: Castle
- Report author: Amy Day
- Author contact details: 0116 454 3054
- Report version number: 1

1. Summary

- 1.1 This report outlines an application for a review of an existing premises licence for Victoria News and Booze and summarises the representations received. It also highlights the licensing objectives, the relevant parts of the guidance and regulations, and the pertinent sections of the Licensing Authority's Licensing Policy.

2. Determination to be made

- 2.1 Having considered the application and representations, Members must consider whether to
- Reject the review application
 - Modify the conditions of the licence
 - Exclude a licensable activity from the scope of the licence
 - Remove the designated premises supervisor
 - Suspend the licence for a period not exceeding three months
 - Revoke the licence
- 2.2 Where Members take the decision to reject the review application, they are permitted to issue an informal warning to the licence holder and / or recommend improvement within a particular period of time.

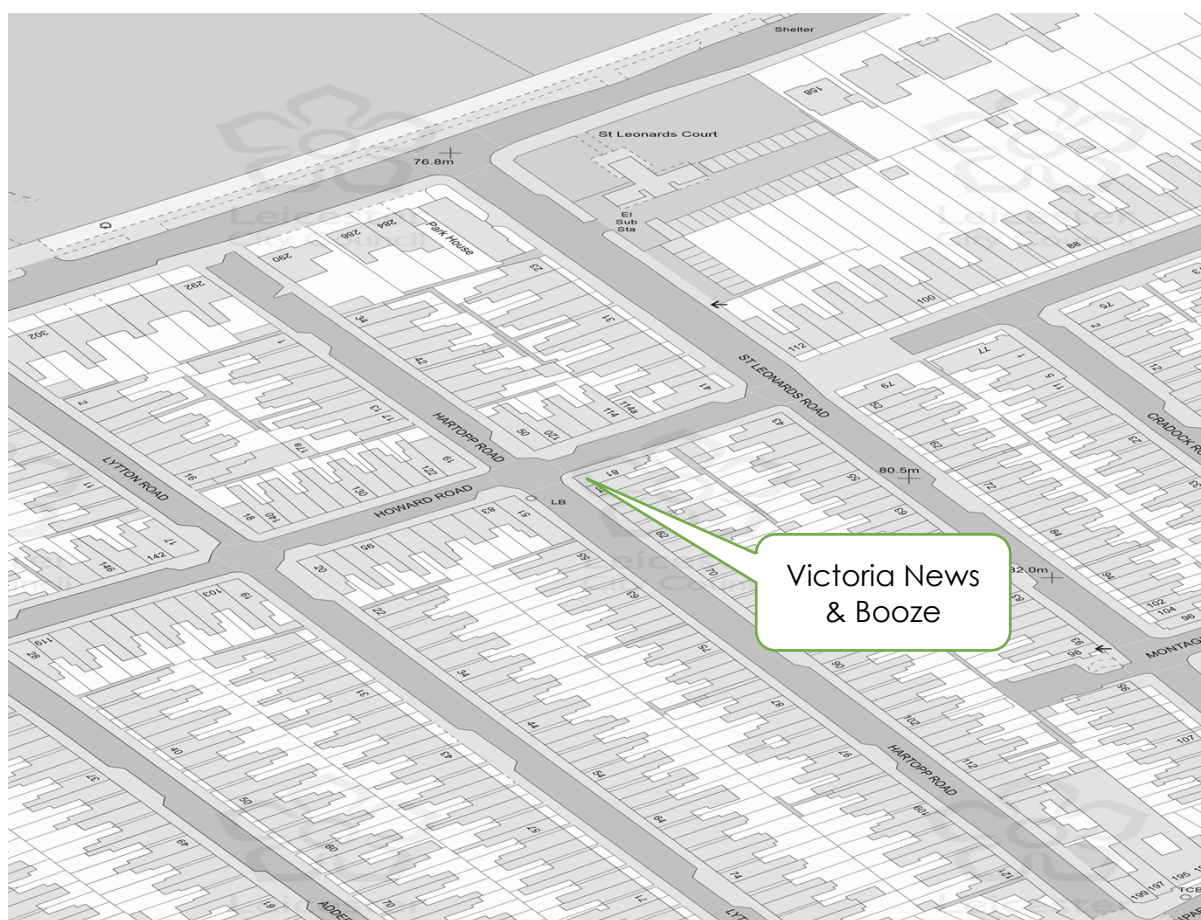
3. Application and promotion of the licensing objectives

- 3.1 An application was received on 25 November 2025 from Trading Standards for a review of the existing premises licence for Victoria News and Booze, 81 Howard Road, Leicester. The application was made on the grounds of the prevention of crime and disorder, public safety and the protection of children from harm. A copy of the application is attached at Appendix A.
- 3.2 Trading Standards are concerned that the premises and management have been selling non-compliant goods and that they also failed a test purchase in relation to underage sales of tobacco and vape products.
- 3.3 The existing licence is attached at Appendix B. The premises licence was previously reviewed in 2009 and as a result a condition was added to Annex 3 stating "Mr Pavandeep Takhar shall not be involved in the management of the premises or the sale of the alcohol in the premises."
- 3.4 The activities and hours permitted by the existing licence are as follows:

Licensable activity	Current hours
Supply of Alcohol & Opening Hours	Mon-Sat 08.00 -23.00

3.6 In arriving at its decision on the application, the Licensing Authority's primary consideration must be the promotion of the licensing objectives.

3.7 Location Plan



4. Representations

- 4.1 A representation was received on 18 December 2025 from Leicestershire Police. The representation relates to the prevention of crime and disorder, the prevention of public nuisance, public safety and the protection of children from harm. Leicester Police are concerned that the premises has had repeated failures to prevent underage sales, possession and sale of illegal vape and tobacco products, lack of staff training and poor management. A copy of the representation is attached at Appendix C1.
- 4.2 A representation was received on 27th November 2025 from a member of the public. This is a positive representation praising the premises and staff. A copy of the representation is attached at Appendix C2.

5. Statutory guidance and statement of licensing policy

- 5.1 Any decision made by the Licensing Authority must be in accordance with the licensing objectives. In addition, the government has issued guidance under section

182 of the Licensing Act 2003. The parts of the guidance that are particularly relevant in this case are as follows:

Section	Heading
1.2 – 1.5	Licensing objectives and aims
1.15 – 1.16	General Principles
1.17	Each application on its own merits
2.1 – 2.6	Crime & Disorder
2.7 – 2.14	Public Safety
2.15 – 2.21	Public nuisance
2.22 – 2.31	Protection of children from harm
8.41 – 8.49	Steps to promote the licensing objectives
9.11 – 9.12	Role of responsible authorities
9.31 – 9.41	Hearings
9.31 – 9.41	Hearings
9.42 – 9.44	Determining actions that are appropriate for the promotion of the licensing objectives
10.1 – 10.3	Conditions - general
10.8 – 10.9	Imposed conditions
10.10	Proportionality
10.13 - 10.15	Hours of trading
10.25 – 10.66	Mandatory conditions in relation to the supply of alcohol
11.1 – 11.29	Reviews
13.10 – 13.11	Giving reasons for decisions
14.51 – 14.52	Licensing Hours

- 5.2 The relevant parts of the Licensing Authority's Statement of Licensing Policy are as follows:

Section	Heading
4	Promotion of the Licensing Objectives
5	General Principles
6	Premises Licences and Club Premises Certificates
12	Enforcement and Reviews

6. Points for clarification

- 6.1 The applicant and the parties making the representation have been asked to clarify certain points at the hearing, as follows:

By the applicant

1. Whether the applicant considers that the concerns outlined in the representations are valid, and if not why not.
2. In the light of the representations made, whether the applicant wishes to propose any additional steps for the promotion of the licensing objectives.

By the parties making the representations

1. Whether they have any additional information to support the representation they have made.

2. Whether there are any additional steps that could be taken which would be equally effective in the promotion of the licensing objectives.

7. Financial, legal, equalities, climate emergency and other implications

7.1 Financial Implications

There are no significant financial implications arising from the contents of this report.

Jade Draper Principal Accountant

7th January 2026

7.2 Legal Implications

Legal advice specific to the application will be provided at the meeting by Legal Officers.

7.3 Equalities implications

Under the Equality Act 2010, public authorities have a Public Sector Equality Duty (PSED) which means that, in carrying out their functions, they have a statutory duty to pay due regard to the need to eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation and other conduct prohibited by the Act, to advance equality of opportunity between people who share a protected characteristic and those who don't and to foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and those who don't.

Protected Characteristics under the Equality Act 2010 are age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex, sexual orientation.

There are no direct equalities implications arising from the report. However it is important to consider issues of accessibility to the application process and its associated activities (such as lodging an appeal); The criteria used during determination of an application and its associated activities (such as lodging an appeal).

Signed: Surinder Singh, Equalities Officer

Dated: 7th January 2026

7.4 Climate Emergency implications

There are unlikely to be any significant climate emergency implications directly associated with this report and the licensing process.

Duncan Bell, Change Manager

7.5 Other implications (You will need to have considered other implications in preparing this report. Please indicate which ones apply?)

Crime and Disorder – see paragraph 3.1

8. Background information and other papers

None

9. Summary of appendices:

Appendix A – Application

Appendix B – Existing licence

Appendix C – Representations

- 10. Is this a private report (If so, please indicate the reasons and state why it is not in the public interest to be dealt with publicly)?**

No

- 11. Is this a “key decision”? If so, why?**

No