



Licensing Act 2003

REPRESENTATION FORM FROM RESPONSIBLE AUTHORITIES Stevenage Borough Council LICENSING AUTHORITY

Responsible Authority: Hertfordshire Constabulary

Your Name	Gillian Akroyd
Job Title	Senior Licensing Officer
Postal address	Stevenage Police Station Lytton Way Stevenage Herts, SG1 1HF
Email Address	Gillian.akroyd@herts.police.uk
Contact telephone number	077334496130

Name of the premises you are making a representation about	Oval Wines, application to vary DPS	
Address of the premises you are making a representation about	9 THE OVAL, VARDON ROAD STEVENAGE HERTFORDSHIRE SG1 5RA	
Is this the first objection in respect of these premises	No	- Police applied for review of Oval Wines Premises licence on 29th October, 2024. - The licence was revoked at a Licensing Hearing at SBC on 19th December 2024. - Appeal was lodged and hearing at Stevenage Magistrates Court will be held in December 2025. - Application for Minor Variation was objected to by Herts Constabulary and Trading Standard in August 2025, this was upheld and an application was refused on 18th August 2025.

Hertfordshire Constabulary, being a nominated Responsible Authority under the Licensing Act 2003, wish to make representation to this application.

Our representation(s) are made in consideration to the below licensing objectives, as we believe the operating schedule does not adequately demonstrate how you, the applicant will best support this.

Licensing Objections

YES	Yes Or No	<i>Evidence supporting representation or reason for representation. Please use continuation sheet as required</i>
To prevent crime and disorder	YES	The proposed DPS is Premises Licence Holder for Oval Wines. Evidence of multiple incidents of breaches of licence including sales of illegal/illicit products, evidence of drugs paraphernalia and residue of cocaine in various areas of premises. The proposed has been made aware of these breaches, has been warned in writing by SLO Akroyd, and has been viewed on video footage at the scene of crime and disorder. See video footage produced – This is part of the revocation case, which is being appealed against and to be heard in December 2025, at SMC. A complaint has recently been received by Police, which is currently being investigated in relation to the conduct of Management of Oval Wines, and alleged breaches of the Licensing Act 2003. Information to hand is attached to this application.
Public safety	YES	It is reported, and also admitted, by Mr Oruc, (the proposed DPS) that he has been on scene when: ‘Disruption and violent disorder by customers around the vicinity of Oval Wines, regarding activities, caused distress and alarm to other businesses and their customers. CCTV footage is available.’
To prevent public nuisance	YES	Members of the ‘Oval’ gang used this as their hub and constantly frequented the shop and gathered in close proximity outside. These males were causing distress and anti-social behaviour in and around the Oval shopping precinct. Meeting in large numbers as many as 20 to 30 people, smoking and believed to be dealing drugs. Using foul and abusive language, intimidating people visiting the precinct and causing a nuisance to customers and other local businesses. Statement from Policed Sergeant Fathers, NPT, produced. The proposed DPS/owner was aware and there is video footage of him on scene when the gang have entered and exited the premises, during an incident. *Though the gang was dispersed by Police during additional emergency patrols at that time, these are not permanent, and it is believed they will resume their activities in the future.
To protect children from harm	YES	As there was evidence of drug use in the shop, due to residue being found within that shop, (also there are concerns and gang related ASB), there was no chance of the applicant/ owner, who attends the shop on a daily basis, not to being aware of this.

	It has also been proven that illegal tobacco and other substances/medication have been stored and found in the rear of the shop, which is of concern. There are various Intelligence reports which refer to drugs and young males attending the premises, some as young as 11 years of age and there is cause for concern. Knife carrying has also been mentioned. Local authority CCTV has shown that previously suspects at the Oval in possession of large machetes chasing this group, (many of whom are children), and some have sought refuge in Oval Wines. When requested the licensee and owner/applicant, have been unable to provide footage that shows this incident. – Please also see recent failure by Mr Oruc, to furnish Police with download of CCTV, requested on several occasions. As previously alluded to, though the gang was dispersed by Police during additional emergency patrols at that time, these are not permanent, and it is believed they will resume their activities in the future.
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The below additions to the Schedule as provided at Part 4 of the application, identifies those matters that we believe are necessary, to promote the licensing objectives.

Suggested conditions that could be added to the licence to remedy your representation or other suggestions you would like the Licensing Sub Committee to take into account. Please use separate sheets where necessary and refer to ee	Hertfordshire Constabulary is of the view that the proposed DPS will not conform with the licence and have proven, by way of constant breaches to which he will not adhere to it. (See attached notes). Added to this, the use of these premises for the purpose of selling illegal vapes. tobacco/cigarettes, in the past, and the evidence of drugs within the shop, Police do not believe that the proposed DPS/Management of the premises can be trusted to adhere to the four Licensing Objectives. The proposed DPS/PLH challenged police, in support of the youths, during enquiries being conducted following incidents around the premises, indicating that the youths were not doing anything wrong. As already stated, there is currently an outstanding complaint from a MOP, being investigated in relation to an alleged breach of the Licensing Act 2003, which, if founded will deem Mr. Oruc as not fit and proper to be DPS at Oval Wines. <u>OTHER CONSIDERATIONS:</u> Previous attitude of proposed DPS towards Police Officers, Police staff on occasions, have been unacceptable. Recent complaint from MOP is being investigated, including attitude of management towards the complainant. Information to be submitted with this application, however, extract below from the complainant's statement regarding a drunk purchasing alcohol from the shop,. <i>'This person in particular, was irate when I mentioned the licencing act and he said, "IF HE PICKS UP A 6 PACK OF BEER, IM SELLING IT TO HIM, WE ARE A</i>
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SHOP”.

Police do not expect this sort of behaviour from a DPS – see comments made by the witness on statements with regard to the sale of alcohol to a paying customer.

CCTV has recently been requested and was not readily available on the day – 21st August 2025.

Since this date various attempts to retrieve downloads of CCTV footage for specific dates have been requested and as at Wednesday evening, 27th August, have not been successful.

It is a condition of the premises licence, (Condition 1 of Annex 2) that The Oval Wines have CCTV in place which will record and retain unedited images for up to 30 days and which will be made available to any Responsible Authority on request.

Additional Note;

More recently revised/replacement conditions were offered by Mr Oruc, on the recently refused Minor application for Oval Wines, as below:

Conditions to be added:

- 1. Closed Circuit Television (CCTV) systems that capture head and shoulders images of persons entering the premises and all points of sale shall be installed, operate and record video images at all times that the premises are open to the public.*
- 2. All CCTV recordings made shall be retained for not less than 31 days and be made available to Police or an authorised officer of any responsible authority within one hour upon request. In accordance with current data protection legislation.*
- 3. A member of staff capable of operating the CCTV system and downloading images shall be at the premises at all times that the premises are open to the public.*
- 4. The CCTV system shall display on any recording, the correct date and time of the recording.*

Should you require clarification on any matter being made, please contact the named officer to discuss further.

Signed ...*Gillian Akroyd*.....

Date: ...27/08/2025.....

Note for Officers:

Please submit this form along with any additional sheets to: Licensing at Stevenage Borough Council or email to licensing@stevenage.gov.uk

This form must be returned within the Statutory Period.

Complaint – Sale of alcohol to a drunk person by staff at Oval Wines

ON 22nd July 2025, a call was received at Hertfordshire Police Headquarters, from a member of public, who was genuinely concerned that a male who lives at the same address, was able to purchase alcohol from Oval Wines, 9, The Oval, Stevenage, Herts.

He stated that this male was an alcoholic, was constantly drunk, and was already inebriated when purchasing more alcohol from Oval Wines.

The complainant told the Police Operator that he (the complainant), had attended Oval Wines on two occasions to report this situation, and his concerns.

(see below transcript written by Police Headquarters operator, at the time).

He stated that the first visit was acknowledged, and he was told by a sales assistant that the shop staff would not sell alcohol to this individual in the future.

As this was not adhered to, the Complainant attended a second time, and was confronted by a male, **who he believes was the responsible person**, (description given in his statement), who was not at all helpful and made comment that he would continue to sell to the individual in the future.

As the complainant was so concerned about the drunken male, he contacted Police.

A Police Constable, on behalf of SLO Akroyd, spoke to the complainant on the telephone, and arranged to take a statement from him. **(Statements attached).**

This person also offered downloads from the house CCTV, which showed the inebriated state the individual was in when he left the house, to go to purchase alcohol from Oval Wines,(at one stage falling over and losing a shoe), and then showed him on his return to the house with his purchase, and the difficulty he had to enter the residence with his door key, due to his confused state.

Footage from the house camera is available by way of Good Sam and will be offered by Police, at any hearing arranged.

Following receipt of this information, and the CCTV being reviewed, Pc Brown of the Neighbourhood Policing Team attended Oval Wines on the morning of Thursday 21st August. He requested footage for the times between the drunk individual leaving his residence and when he returned to that residence, to verify that he had purchased his alcohol from Oval Wines.

Timeline:

- The Sales assistant told Pc Brown that he was unable to download as he had no 'mouse,' therefore Pc Brown attended the Police Station and returned later that morning with a mouse. By that time **Mr. Oruc, owner and applicant for DPS**, had been contacted by the sales assistant, and spoke on the phone to Pc Brown, telling him that he was unable to produce the CCTV footage requested, at that time, but offered to furnish him with the footage later, but asap

- PC Brown re-contacted Mr Oruc on 22nd August, as there had been no contact from him, and was told by Mr. Oruc that he was unable to offer it until the beginning of the following week.
- On Saturday 23rd August Mr Oruc made contact via e mail, with Pc Brown, stating he was unable to download the CCTV. But if somebody from the Police were to attend the shop, they could download.
- Following Bank Holiday Monday, on Tuesday 26th August two PCSO's from Stevenage Neighbourhood Policing Team, attended Oval Wines, as requested by M Oruc, to attempt to download the CCTV footage which had been requested by Pc Brown previously.
- When the PCSO's attended on that afternoon and requested the CCTV. Mr Orun was not on site and had left a message that he unable to provide the CCTV as he had said, and it was not accessible. This was captured on Body Worn Camera, which will have the exact times.
- Mr Oruc then spoke with the PCSO's over the phone and asked that an officer attend the shop on Thursday between 16:00 and 17:00 as he will be on site and would have it accessible for download by Police.

Transcript by Police Control Room Operator sent to Licensing Dept, Stevenage.

Good afternoon,

I have been advised to email yourselves by FCR supervisors as I have received a call from a male called Daniel Stacey 07513871443 advising that one of his tenants called Solloss is a known alcoholic and is constantly intoxicated but the Oval wine off license keeps on selling alcohol to him despite knowing this. Daniel has tried going into the off license and speaking to the staff to ask them to stop selling alcohol to him, but they have refused despite Daniel advising this is against legislation. Daniel has CCTV footage of the male leaving the address highly intoxicated and coming back with alcohol from the Oval off license on many occasions over the last couple of weeks. He is happy to share this with police if required. Daniel is happy to be spoken to for further information as well.

Thank you.

Name and number redacted.

Force Communications Room

Redacted Statements from complainant attached - Name and address are available for Responsible Authorities.



MG 11 statement
redacted re Oval Win



MG11 second
statement redacted.doc