



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	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Police applied for review of Oval Wines Premises licence on 29th October, 2024.- The licence was revoked at a Licensing Hearing at SBC on 19th December 2024.- Appeal was lodged and hearing at Stevenage Magistrates Court will be held in December 2025.- Application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	<p>The proposed DPS is Premises Licence Holder for Oval Wines.</p> <p>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 –</p> <p>This is part of the revocation case, which is being appealed against and to be heard in December 2025, at SMC.</p> <p>A complaint was recently received by Police, which has now been investigated in relation to the conduct of Management of Oval Wines, and alleged breaches of the Licensing Act 2003. Statements and downloads of house CCTV are available to be viewed.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Following enquiries into this complaint, Mr Oruc did not offer CCTV download, requested on several occasions, and was sent a warning letter in respect of a breach of his Licencing Conditions. See attached letter Mr Oruc was also sent a letter in relation to sale of alcohol to a drunk, which is also attached. <p>An incident was reported to Police on 9th September, 2025, and reports and evidence are attached to this application. This incident has evidenced that the customer involved was highly intoxicated and was able to purchase alcohol at Oval Wines.</p>
Public safety	YES	<p>It is reported, and also admitted, by Mr Oruc, (the proposed DPS) that he has been on scene when:</p> <p>‘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.’</p>
To prevent public nuisance	YES	<p>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.</p> <p>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.</p>

		<p>*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.</p>
To protect children from harm	YES	<p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>Knife carrying has also been mentioned.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>– Please also see recent failure by Mr Oruc, to furnish Police with download of CCTV, requested on several occasions.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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.

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.

<p>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</p>	<p>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).</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p><u>OTHER CONSIDERATIONS:</u></p> <p>Previous attitude of proposed DPS towards Police Officers,</p>
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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,.

'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 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.

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

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

Date: ...22/09/2025.....

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.

NOTES – INCIDENT AT OVAL WINES 9th SEPTEMBER 2025

On Tuesday 9th September 2025, at approximately 17:00 hours, Police received a 999-call stating there was a fight at the Oval Wines Store, 9, The Oval, Stevenage.

I have collated below the evidence I now offer, with regard to the incident.

The information I have, I offer in relation to this shop serving to drunks, as Police have already received complaints from a member of the public regarding an alcoholic being able to purchase alcohol from Oval Wines – see previous information recently submitted.

Report and observations from Pc Pickering

The informant stated there was a fight outside the shop, involving five people, including two Asian men who worked in the shop. Police arrived.

PC Pickering was among three officers attending the incident at the Oval.

His version of events explained that when police arrived, they were made aware of two separate allegations with regard to the incident.

The person who is employed at the shop was working the tills and the other party entered the shop three to four times throughout the day.

He was eventually refused alcohol by him, and the shop assistant and another, believed to be employed by the shop, attempted to escort him out of the store. He stated that the customer had then pushed him, so he pushed him back.

The customer then briefly left the store before returning as he believed that he had left his phone in the shop.

The shop assistant said that the customer then punched him to the left-hand side of his face, causing no injury, over not being able to find his phone.

Allegations made by Customer:

He stated that he entered the store to purchase alcohol.

He was refused the alcohol.

A verbal altercation ensued which resulted in the customer being pushed. As a result of that push, the customer fell backwards into a puddle.

The Officer stated that the staff failed to provide CCTV when it was requested, telling Pc Pickering that 'The boss wasn't in,' and he did not know how to work it?

On Wednesday 10th September, Pc Parker attended Oval Wines, and requested the CCTV download from Mr Oruc, who was in attendance at the shop. Mr Oruc, once again, told Police that he was unable to download CCTV at any length but in 10-minute snippets.

See below from Pc Parker:

'I was shown the CCTV from Oval wines, I have sent him a goodsam link for him to upload the footage, he said it will come in 10 min chunks.

I've requested 16:30-17:00 under 09092025-0532 and 16:00-16:45 under 41/85817/25.'

Mr Oruc has since supplied CCTV download, via GOODSAM, though in several 10-minute snippets, which have been downloaded onto a CD by Police, due to it being confusing, out of sequence, and duplicates of some of the snippets. See notes to accompany the viewing of the CD.



OVAL WINES camera
footage notes.docx

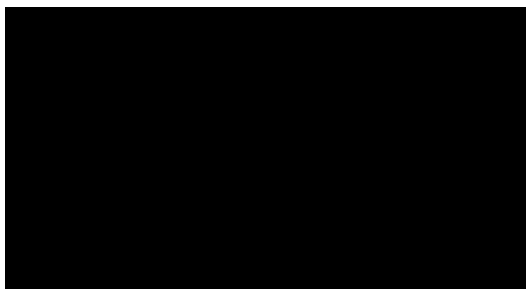
Attached is the statement from Pc Pickering, who was one of the Officers dealing with this incident, and who has made subsequent enquires to clarify points raised.



MG11 1585
PICKERING, Jack 2009

There is no footage of Pc Pickering attending the Oval, which, if required, would be offered at any hearing, by himself.

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In a non-emergency, [report information online](#), [speak to us via web chat](#) or call via 101 (in an emergency, always dial 999).