

<b>Meeting</b>	Licensing Committee
<b>Portfolio Area</b>	Communities, Community Safety and Equalities
<b>Date</b>	9 <sup>th</sup> December 2025

**APPLICATIONS FOR FOUR TEMPORARY EVENT NOTICES AT THE ROYAL OAK PUB, STEVENAGE SG1 3RA.**

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**1 PURPOSE**

To determine four Temporary Event Notices applied for by the Tenant of The Royal Oak PH, 24 Walkern Road, Stevenage.

- 1.1 In reaching its decision, the Committee must have regard to its obligation to promote the four licensing objectives:
- The prevention of crime and disorder
  - Public safety
  - The prevention of public nuisance
  - The protection of children from harm

Matters which do not relate to the four licensing objectives must be disregarded.

## 2 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 That the Committee reviews the evidence submitted within the representations submitted by the responsible authorities and applicant (and/or representatives) and determines what action should be taken in respect of the four applications for temporary event notices.
- 2.2 That the Committee considers all evidence submitted within the representations, as well that provided by the applicant and/or their representatives, in order to determine the appropriate course of action in relation to this application. Following its assessment, the Committee may decide to:
- allow the licensable activities to proceed as set out in the notices.
  - to impose one or more of the existing licence conditions on the Temporary event Notices (TENs), insofar as those conditions are not inconsistent with the proposed events; or
  - conclude that the events would undermine the licensing objectives and therefore should not take place, in which case a counter notice may be issued. **A copy of the current Premises Licence and Plan are attached at Appendix 1**

## 3 SUMMARY OF APPLICATION

- 3.1 This report details four Temporary Event Notices (TENs) submitted by Mr. Paul Gould, tenant of The Royal Oak PH, located at 24 Walkern Road, Stevenage, which were duly processed by the licensing authority on 26th November 2025. The first of these notices pertains to a proposed event described as a "Live band in the main bar of the premises," scheduled for 19:00hrs on Friday, 12th December 2025, until 01:00 on Saturday, 13th December 2025. This event is intended to accommodate a maximum of 110 persons and requires authorisation for the sale of alcohol for consumption both on and off the premises, the provision of regulated entertainment, and the provision of late-night refreshments. **A full copy of the aforementioned TEN is attached at Appendix 2**
- 3.2 The second Temporary Event Notice (TEN) has been submitted for a proposed event described as a "Live band in the main bar of the premises and sports bar," scheduled to take place from 19:00 hrs on Friday, 19th December 2025, until 01:00 hrs on Saturday, 20th December 2025. This application seeks authorisation for the same licensable activities as the first notice: the sale of alcohol for consumption both on and off the premises, the provision of regulated entertainment, and the provision of late night refreshments. The maximum number of persons expected to be on the premises for this event is stated as 110. **A full copy of this TEN is attached at Appendix 3**
- 3.3 The third Temporary Event Notice (TEN) application submitted for the premises outlines a "Live band in the main bar of the premises and sports bar" event scheduled to take place from 19:00hrs on Friday, 26th December 2025,

concluding at 01:00 hrs on Saturday, 27th December 2025. The applicant proposes a maximum capacity of 110 attendees. The intended licensable activities for this specific event mirror those applied for in the previous two notices, encompassing the sale of alcohol (for consumption both on and off the premises), the provision of regulated entertainment, and the provision of late-night refreshments. A copy of this TEN is attached at **Appendix 4**

- 3.4 The fourth Temporary Event Notice (TEN) has been submitted for an event scheduled to take place on Wednesday, 31st December 2025, starting at 19:00 hrs and ending at 01:00 hrs on Thursday, 1st January 2026. The proposed event, described as a "Live band in the main bar of the premises and sports bar," The maximum number of persons expected to be on the premises for this event is 110 persons. The licensable activities sought under this notice include the sale of alcohol for consumption both on and off the premises, the provision of regulated entertainment, and the provision of late-night refreshments. A copy of this **TEN is attached at Appendix 5**

## **4 BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

- 4.1 The Royal Oak PH was built in 1866 and is situated in Walkern Road, Stevenage, **A Location Map is attached at Appendix 6.** The premises has a long regulatory history concerning noise complaints, resulting in ongoing engagement between the local authority, environmental health, the tenant and the premises licence holder, Details of which are outlined in the supporting evidence provided by Environmental Health. This is attached at **Appendix 7, A to E.**
- 4.2 On 10<sup>th</sup> January 2024 a Stevenage Borough Council Environmental Health Officer served a noise abatement notice to the then DPS Karl Crunkhurn, and the occupier of the premises under Section 79.(1)(g) of the Environmental protection act 1990.
- 4.3 A Minor Variation to the Premises Licence was granted to the licence holder, McMullen & Sons Ltd, on 17 November 2025. The variation was approved following an application submitted by the licence holder to voluntarily add and amend specific conditions to the premises licence. The intention behind the variation was to address reports of noise nuisance from local residents and to introduce additional measures aimed at managing noise nuisance more effectively. These changes were proposed in alignment with the licensing objective, prevention of public nuisance, and was a result of proactive engagement with both the Licensing Authority and Environmental Health. This variation was granted on 17 November 2025.

## **5 RESPONSIBLE AUTHORITIES**

- 5.1 Objection was received from environmental health for all four TENs under the licensing objective of prevention of public nuisance. A copy of the objection is Attached at **Appendix 8 -11.**

5.2 In summary environmental health's core concern is that granting the TENs would disapply the existing public nuisance safeguards under the Premises licence. This is further supported by the fact that the licence holder recently sought to impose tighter controls relating to noise indicating recognition of existing issues relating to noise nuisance.

5.3 No objections were received from Police in respect of all four TEN applications.

## **6 IMPLICATIONS**

### **6.1 Financial Implications**

6.1.1 Whilst the application for a TEN itself has a relatively low fee (£21 per notice), the process of responding to an objection can lead to increased costs to the Council, e.g. administration and legal costs.

6.1.2 If the objection results in the event being prevented or delayed, this can lead to significant financial losses. The event organiser may have already made commitments for staffing, equipment rental/booking of entertainment, marketing, and ticket sales. Depending on the type of event, the cancellation could result in lost revenue and potentially damage the reputation of the organiser

### **6.2 Legal Implications**

6.2.1 Local authorities can only object to a TEN on specific, legally defined grounds, as outlined in the Licensing Act 2003. The grounds for objection are limited to:

- **Public Nuisance:** The event could result in noise, disturbance, or other impacts that affect local residents or businesses.
- **Public Safety:** The event may pose a risk to the safety of attendees, staff, or the general public.
- **Protection of Children from Harm:** The event may involve activities that are unsuitable for children or that could put them at risk.
- **Prevention of Crime and Disorder:** There may be concerns about the event facilitating illegal activities or public order issues.

6.2.2 A local authority must demonstrate that it has a reasonable belief that one or more of these criteria will be violated if the event proceeds as applied for. The council's objection must be evidence-based, not simply subjective or arbitrary. If the objection is not based on these legal grounds, it could be legally challenged.

6.2.3 The Licensing Act 2003 states that only the licensing authority can impose conditions to a TEN from the existing conditions on the premises licence or club premises certificate at the venue. The licensing authority can only do so:

- if the police or Environmental Health have objected to the TEN;

- if that objection has not been withdrawn;
  - if there is a licence or certificate in relation to at least a part of the premises in respect of which the TEN is given;
  - and if the licensing authority considers it appropriate for the promotion of the licensing objectives to impose one or more conditions. The conditions must be notified to the premises user on the form prescribed by regulations.
- 6.2.5 Should the Committee decide that the event should not go ahead, a counter notice must be issued
- 6.2.6 The committee must under Section 106A (3) notify the premises user and provide a notice to each relevant party.
- 6.2.7 An applicant has the right to appeal the decision of the Licensing Committee should they issue a counter notice in response to an objection from police or environmental health.

### **6.3 Policy Implications**

There are no policy implications.

### **6.4 Equalities and Diversity Implications**

- 6.4.1 Any decision by the Committee is based on evidence before it at the meeting; there are no equalities and diversity implications.

## **7 BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS**

**BD1** [Licensing Act 2003](#) (Section 100 – 106)

**BD2** [Revised guidance issued under section 182 of the Licensing Act 2003 \(November 2025\) \(accessible version\) - GOV.UK](#) (Section 7)

**BD3** <https://www.stevenage.gov.uk/documents/licensing/statement-of-licensing-policy-2025-2030.pdf>

## **8 APPENDICES**

- 1 Premises Licence and Plan
- 2 Temporary Event Notice for 12<sup>th</sup> December 2025
- 3 Temporary Event Notice for 19<sup>th</sup> December 2025
4. Temporary Event Notice for 26<sup>th</sup> December 2025
5. Temporary Event Notice for 31<sup>st</sup> January 2026
6. Royal Oak Location Map
7. Supporting Evidence pack
- A. Environmental Health Officer Investigation Summary Apr-May 2023
- B. Noise Abatement Notice to Occupier 10.01.24

- C. Noise Abatement Notice to Named Person 10.01.24
- D. Noise Abatement Order to Tenant at a different Venue 26.09.17
- E. Anti-Social Behaviour Log 20<sup>th</sup>, 27<sup>th</sup> Nov and 1<sup>st</sup> Dec
- 8. Environmental Health Representation Form- TEN 12<sup>th</sup> December 2025
- 9. Environmental Health Representation Form – TEN 19<sup>th</sup> December 2025
- 10. Environmental Health Representation Form – TEN 26<sup>th</sup> December 2025
- 11. Environmental Health Representation Form – TEN 31<sup>st</sup> December 2025