



Licensing Act 2003

REPRESENTATION FORM FROM RESPONSIBLE AUTHORITIES Stevenage Borough Council LICENSING AUTHORITY

Responsible Authority: Hertfordshire Constabulary

Your Name	
Job Title	Senior Licensing Officer
Postal address	Stevenage Police Station Lytton Way Stevenage Herts, SG1 1HF
Email Address	
Contact telephone number	

Name of the premises you are making a representation about	Borough 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 - The licence was revoked at a Licensing.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 was due to be held in December 2025, however it was not heard and a new date to be set is awaited. - Application for Minor Variation was objected to by Herts Constabulary and Trading Standard in August 2025, this was upheld an application was refused on 18th August 2025. - Multiple Representations have been made by Stevenage Police Senior Licensing Officer, on behalf of Hertfordshire Constabulary has made representation against the application made by to become DPS of Borough Wines (formerly Oval Wines), each time, the application has been withdrawn prior to the hearing date and re-submitted as a new application on the same day.

		- There have been 17 applications by [REDACTED] premises Licence holder), for the position of DPS. All have been withdrawn. - This the first application for [REDACTED] - Circumstances have not changed, only the applicant, who is believed to be a current member of staff at the Borough Wines premises, for the Role of DPS
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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 believed to be a current member of staff employed by [REDACTED] (Premises Licence Holder) for Borough Wines (formerly 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 [REDACTED] 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 was re-scheduled until later in 2026 to be heard at SMC. 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. • Following enquiries into this complaint, [REDACTED] 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. • [REDACTED] was also sent a letter in relation to sale of alcohol to a drunk, which is also attached. 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. On 29th January 2026, there was an incident at Oval Shopping Centre, Stevenage, when a robbery was committed at a Chemist shop in the Oval precinct. Though the incident did not involve Borough Wines, it highlighted a concern about customers with balaclava's being served by staff at Borough Wines, which is being looked in to at this time. The customer being served at Borough Wines, on that still, is the suspect in the robbery case, who had attended Borough Wines, just before the robbery. The still will be available when investigations are completed. More recently (4/5/2026) there has been an incident at the Oval, which culminated in the offender arriving at Borough Wines, and 'asking' the staff including [REDACTED] to shield/hide him from the Officers - he has just threatened with a large knife. The incident commenced at a residence above the run of shops; however, the offender ran to the shop to make good his escape. CCTV was requested from the shop. and has been provided to both Police

		and Stevenage Borough Council Licensing Dept. Viewing of this footage is highly recommended and will show the situation and the knife. It will also show that the applicant [REDACTED], was also on the scene whilst this happened.
Public safety	YES	It is reported, and also admitted, by [REDACTED] the Premises Licence Holder and the previously 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.’ Added to the above information - This is important as the incident described above, was also disruptive and caused distress locally. [REDACTED] was a member of staff believed to have been on site at this time and involved in this situation.
To prevent public nuisance	YES	Members of the ‘Oval’ gang have 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 [REDACTED] NPT, produced. The proposed DPS at that time, and Premises Licence holder 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. See comment added on the Prevent Crime and Disorder section above, in relation to the problems still being experienced in and around the Oval, which involves the shop, and staff.
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 previous failure by [REDACTED], 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 were/are not permanent, and it is believed they will resume their activities in the future. • Additional information: Please see comments in relation to a recent incident when an offender attended Borough Wines to evade Police Officers, and in possession of a large knife. (CCTV obtained from the premises shows this offender inside the store with the large knife).
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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.

	Hertfordshire Constabulary is of the view that the newly proposed DPS will not conform with the licence, as: • He is not experienced. • Does not have a proven record of experience of managing a licenced premises, and it is a concern he would be taking 'control' of a problematic business. • 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 of the premises will be responsible person but will be 'managed' by the previous applicant, who Police do not believe can be trusted to adhere to the four Licensing Objectives. The previous 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. <u>OTHER CONSIDERATIONS:</u> Attitude of Premises Licence holder (previously proposed DPS), towards Police Officers and Police staff on occasions, have been unacceptable, and it is believed this will still continue. The below concerns raised, are still current, as the applicant will need to be in charge of the CCTV system, and producing it – this might be difficult as the PLH has the footage on his phone. which is managed by [REDACTED], and it is believed still will be in the future. Various attempts to retrieve downloads of CCTV footage for specific dates, have been made, and though some have now been received, there have been unacceptable delays, and Police hours wasted attempting to collect them. There have been other requests by Police, visits made and advice given by Officers, when Good Sam was offered as a tool to assist [REDACTED] (after reminders), to transfer the CCTV download, for access by officers. Additional information attached as evidence, due to content offered, and missing footage. This is believed to become more difficult should the applicant take full
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	responsibility for premises. There continues to be concerns with regard to activities around the vicinity of the Oval and there have been additional patrols in place which include the Oval, due to the historical issues in and around what is now known as Borough Wines (previously known as Oval wines), As shown, problems are resuming and Police are dealing with organised crime within this area. Police are concerned that this applicant has no previous experience in a management position, has only been employed part time since April 2026, and would be responsible for at least two additional staff, as well as the premises and would be unable to take full responsibility for an already problematic premises, in a very problematic area. We remain concerned that the application is being pursued in name only, whilst [REDACTED] would continue to exercise day-to-day control and responsibility for the business. In our view, this arrangement appears designed to circumvent the concerns previously raised regarding [REDACTED] involvement. As such, we are not satisfied that the applicant has demonstrated they are a fit and proper person, nor that they would exercise genuine and independent control of the licensed operation.
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Should you require clarification on any matter being made, please contact the named officer to discuss further.

Signed ... [REDACTED]

Date: ...22/09/2026.....

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.