

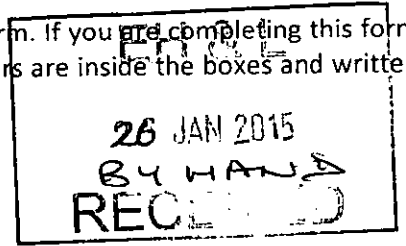
IS100157/LQN

Application for the review of a premises licence or club premises certificate under the Licensing Act 2003

PLEASE READ THE FOLLOWING INSTRUCTIONS FIRST

Before completing this form please read the guidance notes at the end of the form. If you are completing this form by hand, please write legibly in block capitals. In all cases ensure that your answers are inside the boxes and written in black ink. Use additional sheets if necessary.

You may wish to keep a copy of the completed form for your records.



I, **Steve Deane**, on behalf of the Chief Constable of Thames Valley Police,
(Insert name of applicant)

apply for the review of a premises licence under section 51 of the Licensing Act 2003 for the premises described in Part 1 below (delete as applicable).

Part 1 – Premises or club premises details

Postal address of premises or, if none, ordnance survey map reference or description

Crown Mead Stores, 12, Crown Mead, Bath Road

Post town **Thatcham**

Post code (if known) **RG18 3JW**

Name of premises licence holder or club holding club premises certificate (if known)

Mr. Harjit Singh Sandhu

Number of premises licence or club premises certificate (if known)

017703

Part 2 – Applicant details

I am

Please tick ✓ yes

- | | |
|---|-------------------------------------|
| 1) an interested party (please complete (A) or (B) below) | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| a) a person living in the vicinity of the premises | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| b) a body representing persons living in the vicinity of the premises | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| c) a person involved in business in the vicinity of the premises | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| d) a body representing persons involved in business in the vicinity of the premises | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2) a responsible authority (please complete (C) below) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 3) a member of the club to which this application relates (please complete (A) below) | <input type="checkbox"/> |

(A) DETAILS OF INDIVIDUAL APPLICANT (fill in as applicable)

Mr

Mrs

Miss

Ms

Other title
(for example, Rev)

Surname

First names

Please tick ✓ yes

I am 18 years old or over

Current address

Post Town

Postcode

Daytime contact telephone number

E-mail address

(optional)

(B) DETAILS OF OTHER APPLICANT

Name and address

Telephone number (if any)

E-mail address (optional)

(C) DETAILS OF RESPONSIBLE AUTHORITY APPLICANT

Name and address

**Thames Valley Police
Thames Valley Police Headquarters South
Oxford Road
Kidlington
OX5 2NX**

Telephone number (if any)

01865 846597

E-mail address (optional)

licensing@thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk

This application to review relates to the following licensing objective(s)

Tick one or more boxes ✓

1) the prevention of crime and disorder

2) public safety

3) the prevention of public nuisance

4) the protection of children from harm

Please state the ground(s) for review (please read guidance note 1)

It is the view of Thames Valley Police that Premises Licence Holder, and Designated Premises Supervisor (DPS), Mr Harjit Singh Sandhu is not fit and proper to hold a position of such responsibility – a view which is based on his flagrant and persistent disregard for the Prevention of Crime & Disorder licensing objective.

Mr Sandhu has recently been convicted, by Reading Crown Court, of Perverting the Course of Justice and Handling Stolen Goods which has been further exacerbated by his apparent refusal to engage with the police to address our inevitable concerns over the impact of his offending on the licensing objectives.

With such an unwillingness to engage and with such dishonest conduct evident, we have been left with no other option than to apply for a review of the licence.

Please provide as much information as possible to support the application (please read guidance note 2)

On 28th July 2013, a General Report (Appendix B) was received from the Neighbourhood Sergeant, Sgt Harrison, with reference to officer's visit to the premises.

On 4th July 2013, the premises were visited by PCs Eaton & Pringle in order to view the premises CCTV data that may have recorded the identity of a known offender who was stealing alcohol from local shops. The particular time in question was approx 16:30hrs on 3rd July 2013.

Mr. Sandhu stated he was personally too busy to assist officers at that particular time. His wife was called to assist. She advised the officers that they would have to wait 24 hours in order for the data they required to be obtained from the system. She instructed the officers to return the following day.

The officers observed Mr. Sandhu texting on his mobile phone. They formed the opinion that delaying tactics were being used. Officers made arrangements to return later in the day.

PC. Eaton confirmed his suspicions to Mr. Sandhu that he was trying to obstruct police by editing out the CCTV data police required in order to conceal the sale & purchase of stolen goods on the premises.

PC Bibbin & Sgt Bone attended the premises much later that day (4/7/13). Mrs. Sandhu reconfirm she was not able to access the relevant data & an engineer had been called so officers should call back the next day.

Early on Friday 5th July 2013, PC's Eaton & Pringle arrested Mr. Sandhu on suspicion of handling stolen goods. CCTV & Mobile phones belonging to Mr & Mrs Sandhu were seized. Mr. Sandhu's phone showed an exchange of text messages between his and his wife's. The content of the text was to withhold CCTV Evidence from the police. Mrs. Sandhu later stated the CCTV was not in fact recording.

In addition, on the phone were photographs of Lanson & Aubert Champagne which had now been confirmed as being stolen items from the Co-Operative Store in Burwood on 3rd July 2013. Also photographs of Vodka which was confirmed as being stolen from Waitrose at Thatcham the same day.

On 5th July 2013, a GEN 40 report (Appendix A) was received concerning a quantity of alcohol that was stolen from Waitrose & the Co-Op Stores in Thatcham indicating that Mr. Sandhu had purchased the said alcohol at a discounted price in order to sell in his own shop knowing or believing it to have been stolen.

During interview, Mr. Sandhu at first denied having anything to do with the stolen goods but later changed his mind. He subsequently claimed full responsibility for the offences for which he has been tried at the Crown Court.

Under the Licensing Objective of Crime & Disorder, due to the seriousness of dishonesty, compounded by the fact alcohol was the main contributing factor in the case, in conjunction with the conviction & therefore mismanagement of the premises, Thames Valley Police are of the opinion Mr. Sandhu is not a fit & proper person to continue being a Premises Licence Holder, let alone the Designated Premises Supervisor for the premises.

When the result of the Crown Court case was known, Mr. Deane, Police Licensing Officer for Thames Valley Police, telephoned the premises on a couple of occasions in order to discuss the situation with Mr. Sandhu. On each occasion, his wife answered the phone who stated he was unavailable.

Having been unable to liaise personally with Mr. Sandhu, on Wednesday 26th November 2014, Mr. Deane visited the store. Again, Mr. Sandhu was not available. Mr. Deane therefore hand delivered to his wife, a letter dated 27th November 2014, addressed to Mr. Sandhu (Appendix C). Its content was to inform Mr. Sandhu police were of the opinion he was not a fit & proper person to hold a premises licence or remain as the designated premises supervisor and should no communication be received within two weeks from the date of the letter (27 Nov 14) a Premises Licence Review with West Berkshire Council would be submitted. Mrs. Sandhu opened the letter.

Prior to Christmas, Mrs. Sandhu did speak on the telephone with Mr. Deane stating they were waiting upon the result of a person check so they could put forward a person for them becoming The Designated Premises Supervisor.

Under Section 182 of the Secretary of State's Guidance for the Licensing Act 2003, Section 4:16 states the holder of a Personal Licence is under a duty to notify any convictions for a relevant offence (in this instance Receiving Stolen Goods) to the Licensing Authority. In this case it is Slough Borough Council. To date 21st January 2015, no such notification has been received by them.

To date, 23rd January 2015, Police believe they have been more than patient with Mr. Sandhu in attempting to address the situation without the need to resort to a Premise Licensing Review. Telephone calls, a personal visit and a letter have all failed to resolve the situation.

With such dishonest and blatant disregard for the law and the licensing objectives, we are of the view that revocation of this premises licence is appropriate under the circumstances.

In preparing this application, we have considered the other steps that would be available to the sub-committee, but which we have precluded from our recommendations for the following reasons:

Removal of the DPS: - the premises is family run, so removing Mr Sandhu as DPS does not change the fact that he will remain in overall control of the business and therefore is unlikely to result in the alleviation of our concerns.

Removal of a Licensable Activity from the scope of the licence: the premises is licensed only for the sale of alcohol, so this option is tantamount to a revocation.

Modification of conditions: there are no conditions that would address our concerns and in any case, Mr Sandhu's behaviour has done nothing to satisfy us that any such conditions would be complied with.

Suspension of the licence for up to 3 months: unless it were to facilitate the transferring of the licence (and changing the DPS) to someone more responsible, with the demonstrable assurance that Mr Sandhu would no longer have any control of the business, suspension would seem unlikely to achieve any significant benefit.

Please tick ✓ yes

Have you made an application for review relating to this premises before

If yes please state the date of that application

Day	Month	Year

If you have made representations before relating to this premises please state what they were and when you made them

Please tick ✓ yes

- I have sent copies of this form and enclosures to the responsible authorities and the premises licence holder or club holding the club premises certificate, as appropriate
- I understand that if I do not comply with the above requirements my application will be rejected

IT IS AN OFFENCE, LIABLE ON CONVICTION TO A FINE UP TO LEVEL 5 ON THE STANDARD SCALE, UNDER SECTION 158 OF THE LICENSING ACT 2003 TO MAKE A FALSE STATEMENT IN OR IN CONNECTION WITH THIS APPLICATION

Part 3 – Signatures (please read guidance note 3)

Signature of applicant or applicant’s solicitor or other duly authorised agent (please read guidance note 4). If signing on behalf of the applicant please state in what capacity.

Signature S. Deane *S. Deane*

Date 26th January 2015

Capacity Thames Valley Police Licensing Officer

Contact name (where not previously given) and address for correspondence associated with this application (please read guidance note 5)	
Post town	Post code
Telephone number (if any)	
If you would prefer us to correspond with you using an e-mail address, your e-mail address (optional)	

Notes for Guidance

1. The ground(s) for review must be based on one of the licensing objectives.
2. Please list any additional information or details for example dates of problems which are included in the grounds for review if available.

3. The application form must be signed.
4. An applicant's agent (for example solicitor) may sign the form on their behalf provided that they have actual authority to do so.
5. This is the address which we shall use to correspond with you about this application

LICENSED PREMISES INCIDENT REPORT

Submitting Officer: [REDACTED]
Shoulder No/Name: Jen BANFIELD **Station:** Newbury **LPA:** West Berks

Incident Reference: [REDACTED]
Premises Name/Location: Crown Mead Stores, Thatcham
Incident Date: 05/07/2013 **Incident Time:** 08.00
Command & Control URN: [REDACTED] **Crime Report(s):** [REDACTED]
CCTV Seized? No
Sources of Information: Police

Nature of Incident - what happened?
 A well known shoplifter from the Thatcham area has stolen items from Co-op and Waitrose and then proceeded to sell them to Crown Mead Stores. Knowing the items were stolen the DPS has bought these at a reduced price from the male and then proceeded to try and sell them in his shop.

Business Response - what did they do? (or do they react to the police or poor performance)?
 When police got an idea this was happening, they attended the shop to ask for CCTV. The DPS (Harjit SANDHU) had deleted the CCTV and was arrested along with [REDACTED]. When interviewed Harjit initially tried to blame [REDACTED] for the entire thing saying she was the one that bought the stolen goods and he didn't really know about it. However he changed his mind and on a second interview fully admitted the offence of handling stolen goods and buying alcohol and meat. He claimed he ate the meat but tried to sell the vodka and champagne in the shop to make some money.

Police Response - what action was taken? Please identify the main officers who dealt with the incident.
 Police arrested [REDACTED] Sandhu's and [REDACTED] interviewed. PC EATON is officer in the case and PC BANFIELD interviewed them both.
 [REDACTED]

Persons Involved - list names, roles and actions taken

Name	Date of Birth	Role	Action Taken	Ref No. (e.g. Custody, PND etc)
Harjit SANDHU		DPS	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]		[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]

When complete, please forward to the Licensing Officer for the area (and anyone else as per local instructions)

Division/Station : WEST BERKSHIRE

From : Sgt Caroline HARRISON
Thatcham Neighbourhood TeamTo : Insp Warren Mckeown
Thatcham and Pangbourne N'hd Team

Ref :

Date : 28 July 2013

Tel.No. 07800 702349

Subject :

CROWN MEAD STORES, THATCHAM

What follows is a report on recent criminal and suspicious activities by the proprietors of the above premise, namely –

SANDHU – Harjit Singh,
SANDHU – Navdeep,

On Thursday 4th of July 2013, at about 1510hrs officers – PC EATON & PC PRINGLE, attended Crown Mead Store off license and requested to view CCTV at the premise for a suspicious male. This was as a result of information received that a well known offender was stealing high priced alcohol from local shops and selling them to the owner of Crown Mead Stores at a hugely discounted price. PC EATON asked to view the CCTV for a suspect for an offence which had occurred nearby. These officers were obstructed firstly by Mr SANDHU who stated he was too busy but called his wife to assist. Mrs SANDHU took several minutes to appear and when she did she informed officers that there was a need to wait 24hrs for footage to be saved on the system. Mrs SANDHU instructed officer there was a need to come back the following day to see the footage they required. While this was going on officers were aware that Mr SANDHU was texting on his mobile phone and generally got the impression they had been fobbed off by both Mr & Mrs SANDHU. PCs EATON & PRINGLE subsequently requested that I make arrangements to for officers to re attend the premise later that day as they were specifically interested in footage from about 1630hrs on 3rd July. Before officers attended I received further contact from PC EATON confirming his suspicions that the SANDHUs were intending to edit the CCTV to frustrate the police investigation into the sale/purchase of stolen goods on the premise. PC BIBBINS and SGT BONE re attended this premise much later in the evening but were told by Mrs SANDHU that she was not able to access the relevant footage and that an engineer had been called so officers should re attend the following day. I subsequently informed PCs EATON & PRINGLE of this.

Early on Friday 5th July 2013, PCs EATON & PRINGLE attended Crown Mead Stores and were taken to the SANDHU's home address nearby where they arrested Mr SANDHU on suspicion of handling stolen goods. The CCTV system and mobile phones belonging to them were also seized. Subsequent examination of Mr SANDHU's phone showed an exchange of text messages between Mr and Mrs SANDHU where they were discussing withholding CCTV evidence from the police. Photographs were also viewed by PC EATON on this phone. These photos showed Lanson & Aubert Champagne which has now been confirmed as being stolen from the Co-op Burdwood on the afternoon of 3rd July 2013, bottles of Vodka now confirmed as stolen from Waitrose, Thatcham the same day, and two photos of large quantities of meat from the co-op also believed to have been stolen. The photos of the meat were dated 01/07/13 and 04/07/13 respectively. Mr. Sandhu was subsequently interviewed about the allegations and initially Mr SANDHU blamed his wife for any wrong doing, claiming not to have been involved in any way with the handling of stolen goods. This was retracted a short time later after legal consultation. Mr SANDHU subsequently claimed full responsibility for buying stolen meat and alcohol from a male known to him as '?????'. .

On 16/07/13 Mr SANDHU were charged with Perverting the Course of Justice in relation to the obstruction of police when trying to obtain relevant CCTV footage. Mr SANDHU was also charged with another offence..

There have been concerns about the lack of responsible retailing from this premise for some time with reports of selling to under age persons – both ??????? and alcohol – being prevalent over time. Given that we now have confirmation that the DPS Harjit SANDHU is actively involved in criminal activity I feel this should proceed to full review of the license. Mr. Sandhu is the Premises Licence Holder & Designated Premises Supervisor. As such as requesting removal of DPS is unlikely to provide a satisfactory proprietor.

This report is submitted for your consideration.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'C Harrison', written in a cursive style.

Sgt Caroline Harrison
Thattham Neighbourhood Team



Steve Deane - Licensing Officer
West Berkshire & Wokingham Police Areas

Wokingham Police Station
Seymour House, The Courtyard
Denmark Street
Wokingham
RG40 2AZ

steve.deane@thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk

Tel. 0118 936 5919

27th November 2014

Dear Mr. Sandhu,

Reference to Premises Licence Number 017703.

I'm writing in response to your recent Reading Crown Court appearance on 24th October 2014 when it was proved you were guilty of Dishonesty Offences. You received a suspended imprisonment sentence for 8 months wholly suspended for 24 months as well as costs and unpaid work.

The offences are relevant convictions under the Theft Act and The Licensing Act. Due to these offences, Thames Valley Police are of the opinion you are therefore not a fit and proper person to retain the Premises Licence for Crown Mead Stores or indeed remain the Designated Premises Supervisor.

I'm therefore notifying you if I do not receive any form of communication from you within two weeks from the date of this letter, I shall instigate a Premises Licence Review with West Berks Council.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "S. Deane".

Steve Deane
Police Licensing Officer