

THAMES VALLEY POLICE

Appendix C

Division/Station : HQ Licensing

From : Debie Pearmain
Police Licensing Officer

To: Licensing Department
Slough Borough Council

Subject :

Ref :

Date : 13/06/2025

Tel.No.

Representation supporting Home Office Immigration Enforcement Review Application for Exotic Sweet Centre Limited, 262-264 Farnham Road, Slough, SL1 4XL

I, Debie Pearmain, Police Licensing Officer, on behalf of Thames Valley Police wish to make representation in support of the Review application made by the above Government Enforcement Agency.

The representation identifies that the Licensing Objective- Prevention of Crime and Disorder has been undermined by the actions of this premise.

On 5th September 2024 the South Central Immigration Compliance Enforcement (ICE) Team gained entry to the premise under Section 179 of the Licensing Act 2003. Police Officers and I were also present.

The Designated Premises Supervisor (DPS) Deep Rao was at the premise during the visit. It is important to recognise that the Premises Licence Holders (Exotic Sweets Centre Ltd./ M Adams and Associates Ltd. and Designated Premises Supervisor are responsible for the employment of staff and for carrying out due diligence checks regarding the right to work. These checks have clearly not been completed which have resulted in 3 employees being identified as immigration offenders.

I, the Police Licensing Officer conducted a Licensing check. The only issue I found was the CCTV system was 10 minutes fast so advice was given to correct the timing on the system. The DPS very co-operative when I was speaking with him.

There are a host of issues when illegal workers are employed, and such employment constitutes a criminal activity which has a serious impact on society. It can also in some circumstances have a serious and real implications relating to Modern Day Slavery.

The current Secretary of State Guidance pursuant to the Licensing Act 2003 specifically deal with this in sections 11.27 & 11.28;-

11.27 ;- There is a certain criminal activity that may arise in connection with licensed premises which should be treated particularly seriously. These are the use of the licensed premises:

For the sale and distribution of drugs controlled under the Misuse of Drugs Act 1971 and the laundering of the proceeds of drugs crime;
For the sale and distribution of illegal firearms;
For the evasion of copyright in respect of pirated or unlicensed films and music, which does considerable damage to the industries affected;

For the illegal purchase and consumption of alcohol by minors which impacts on the health, educational attainment, employment prospects and propensity for crime of young people;

For prostitution or the sale of unlawful pornography;

By organised groups of paedophiles to groom children;

As the base for the organisation of criminal activity, particularly by gangs;

For the organisation of racist activity or the promotion of racist attacks;

For employing a person who is disqualified from that work by reason of their immigration status in the UK;

For unlawful gambling; and

For the sale or storage of smuggled tobacco and alcohol.

1.28 It is envisaged that licensing authorities, the police, the Home Office (Immigration Enforcement) and other law enforcement agencies, which are responsible authorities, will use the review procedures effectively to deter such activities and crime. **Where reviews arise and the licensing authority determines that the Crime Prevention objective is being undermined through the premises being used to further crimes, it is expected that revocation of the licence — even in the first instance — should be seriously considered.**

Thames Valley Police fully support the Home Office Immigration in the request for the Premises Licence to be revoked, to assist in the promotion of the Prevention of Crime and Disorder and Public Safety Licensing objectives.