

**From:** Walsall Licensing <H\_WALSALL\_LICENSING@west-midlands.pnn.police.uk>

**Sent:** 05 January 2021 13:03

**To:** Licensing <Licensing@walsall.gov.uk>

**Subject:** RE: [External]: European Off Licence, Licence Review

**CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the council. If you have any doubts do not click links or open attachments. You should never be asked to enter your username and password into an external link.**

Further to receipt of the above mention Review, Walsall Police fully support the application for the revocation of this premise licence.

This premise is known to us in relation to intelligence on drugs and under aged sales of alcohol dating back a number of years, however no evidence has been confirmed for the police to share with the committee and all information for illegal tobacco has been forwarded to Trading Standards as per protocol which has reinforced their actions resulting in the submission of the Review document. Walsall Police have supported Trading Standards on 13 September 2019 and 28<sup>th</sup> August 2020 during the searches of the premises when illegal tobacco has been found.

Mr Mann has clearly no control over the business which is operating on the Premise Licence issued to him which has impacted on the licensing objectives. The prevention of Crime and Disorder has clearly been undermined but I ask the committee to consider Public Safety and the Protection of Children from Harm. Mr Mann due to his lack of management has allowed illegal tobacco to be sold, the contents of the tobacco are unknown therefore the safety of those patrons making a purchase has to be in question, so is the cost which attracts and makes it affordable for children to purchase. The sales of illegal tobacco has no duty paid, they are unregulated and manufactured in unknown conditions with no regard to the consumer. These sales affects the income of legitimate shop owners therefore Walsall Police can only see that this has been done for the purpose of profit and financial gain, when other premises, have been abiding by the law. The trading in illegal tobacco can and is often linked to criminality both low level and large scale organised crime groups. This can include serious crime, people trafficking, money laundering but it also brings criminals into our local neighbourhood to supply local sellers, a situation we do not need in Walsall.

Walsall Police also believe this application seeking the revocation of the licence is not only about the illegal sales of tobacco, it is about the abuse of Mr Mann's position as a Premise Licence holder in allowing his tenants to trade under his name without any responsibilities or consequences. Mr Mann is also the named Designated Premise Supervisor for this licence yet has no day to day responsibility/control or any interest in this business. I therefore suggest that any sales of alcohol would be currently unlawful. Mr Mann has therefore allowed owner A and B to conduct their business and their illegal sales of tobacco with a total disregard to the Premise Licence he holds and the Licensing Act 2003.

Although we have no additional evidence to offer, the guidance issued under section 182 of the Licensing Act 2003, Crime and Disorder 2.1 states Licensing authorities should look to the police as the main source of advice on crime and disorder. We believe there is sufficient information contained in this Review document for the committee to revoke this licence and would welcome the opportunity to attend the Review hearing.

Kind regards

Jennifer Mellor

Walsall Licensing and Regulatory Services Officer

Walsall Partnership Team

Walsall Police

Civic Centre, Walsall

Tel: 101 ext 8896324

Email: [j.mellor@west-midlands.pnn.police.uk](mailto:j.mellor@west-midlands.pnn.police.uk)