



**Application For A Review  
Of A Premises Licence  
Or Club Certificate  
(Form LA09)**

www.stockton.gov.uk

Trading Standards & Licensing, PO Box 232, 16 Church Road, Stockton on Tees TS18 1XD  
Tel: (01642) 526558 • Fax: (01642) 526584

**Application for A Review Of A Premises Licence Or Club Premises Certificate Under  
The Licensing Act 2003**

**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 (Insert name of applicant)

Paul Higgins

apply for the review of a premises licence under section 51/apply for the review of a club premises certificate under section 87 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 Club Premises, or if none, ordnance survey map reference or description The George 102 High Street	
Post Town Stockton on Tees	Post Code TS18 1BD
Name of premises licence holder or club holding club premises certificate (if known) Craig Harker	
Number of premises licence or club premise certificate (if known) 049468	

**PART 2 – APPLICANT DETAILS**

I am

Please  
Tick ✓

- |   |                          |
|---|--------------------------|
| 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)                                | x                        |
| 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

I am 18 years old or over

Yes  (Please Tick)

Current Address			
Post Town		Post Code	

Daytime contact telephone number

E-mail address (optional)

**(B) DETAILS OF OTHER APPLICANT**

Name and Address
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Telephone Number (If any)	
E-Mail address (optional)	

**(C) DETAILS OF RESPONSIBLE AUTHORITY APPLICANT**

Name and Address Chief Constable of Cleveland Police c/o Sgt Paul Higgins Licensing Unit Middlesbrough Police Bridge Street West Middlesbrough TS2 1AB
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Telephone Number (If any)	01642 302160
E-Mail address (optional)	Paul.higgins@cleveland.pnn.police.uk

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

	Please Tick ✓
1. The prevention of crime and disorder	X
2. Public safety	X
3. The prevention of public nuisance	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. The protection of children from harm	X

Cleveland Police make an application to review the premises licence at the George as it is the view of the Police that the management of the premises is undermining the Licensing objectives of, Crime and Disorder, Public Safety and the Protection of Children from Harm.

The premises has a licence to sell alcohol and conduct Regulated Entertainment from 11am until 1am and opening times from 11am until 01:30am daily.

The Premises Licence Holder is Craig Harker and he is also the Designated Premises Supervisor. The Police concerns relate to his behaviour and management of the pub in particular the promotion of the premises through a Facebook site titled @GeorgePubAndGrill which Mr Harker runs.

A summary of the concerns are thus

- The operator does not comply with conditions on his licence.
- The operator trivialises and condones domestic violence
- The operator ignored a ruling from the Advertising Standards Agency
- The operator runs competitions with sex toys as prizes without publicising age restrictions
- The operator runs eating challenges that have resulted in people attending hospital
- The operator has been abusive to Stockton council employees
- The operator has posted an abusive message on the Facebook site targeting a council employee
- The operator encourages his internet audience to make threats of violence by "liking" their comments.

The evidence of this is presented in more detail but can be summarised as thus

- In June 2016 the George pub ran a chilli chicken wing eating competition which resulted in 2 men attending North Tees Hospital for treatment. This story was widely reported in the media and on 28<sup>th</sup> July 2019 the @GeorgePubAndGrill celebrated this event by reposting an article from the Mail on Line under the title "Ah Good Times"
- In May 2017 the @GeorgePubAndGrill site posted an advert with the tag line "Would you punch your ex for a Parmo" This advert was subject to a ruling by the Advertising Standards Agency (ASA) who determined that it "trivialised and condoned domestic

violence". They ruled that it must be removed and not repeated. Cleveland Police warned Mr Harker that posting adverts of this nature undermined the Prevention of Crime and Disorder objective.

- On Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> July 2019 the @GeorgePubAndGrill site posted the same advert using the same wording having changed only the picture and exchanging the word "parmo" for "steak" this resulted in the ASA making the same ruling and contacting Facebook for the advert to be removed. This latest advert not only created many complaints to the ASA, Cleveland Police and Stockton Council but even 2 complaints to the Metropolitan Police Hate Crime unit.
- During an inspection of the premises in August 2017, at a meeting regarding the controversial adverts, it was identified the premises had no working CCTV. Mr Harker stated that a new CCTV system was going to be installed. A recent Inspection on 13<sup>th</sup> August 2019 revealed that there was no CCTV operating and Mr Harker again stated a new system was going to be installed. There is a condition on the licence requiring a CCTV system which records for 30 days. There is also a condition requiring the operator to be a participating member of Pub Watch whilst no one from the premises currently attends the Stockton Pub Watch.
- On 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2019 the @GeorgePubAndGrill posted 2 letters from Stockton Council planning department which had been sent to the Premises Licence Holder regarding 2 structures at the pub which did not have planning permission. The @GeorgePubAndGrill then asked its followers for advice on how to deal with "a lovely pack of council men and women or No genders or any of them that identify as a fucking table". The @GeorgePubAndGrill then "liked" a comment posted by a follower who suggested the operator do an "Albert Dryden" referencing the murder of a planning officer
- On 20<sup>th</sup> July 2019 the @GeorgePubAndGrill site ran a competition titled "girls just wanna have fun" where one of the prizes was a "cheeky rampant rabbit dildo". The site is an open Facebook site where anyone over 13 with a Facebook site can access it. The competition had no rules around age restriction
- On Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> August 2019 a Council enforcement Officer went to the George Pub to make enquiries about an outstanding liability of Council tax on the flat above. Following that incident the @GeorgePubAndGrill posted a message describing Stockton Council employees as "Absolute Scum". The message included a photo taken of the Officer and described him as a "dick head" and a "tosser". This was then commented upon by followers of the pub who similarly abused the officer and threatened to assault the officer.

It is recognised that this premises does not have a record of crime and disorder occurring on the premises, however, in the same way as alcohol related disorder does not happen within Off Licensed premises, in order to prevent alcohol related disorder occurring elsewhere it is essential that Licensed premises are operated responsibly and uphold the Licensing Objectives.

Domestic violence in particular is strongly linked to alcohol consumption and is a significant problem both locally and nationally. Trivialising and condoning domestic violence along with posting abusive messages and "liking" threatening messages undermines the Crime and Disorder Objective. Conducting dangerous food challenges resulting in hospital treatment in a Licensed Premises undermines the Public Safety objective, similarly running competitions for sex toys in a food led Licensed Premises open to under 18s undermines the Protection of Children from Harm objective.

Please provide as much information as possible to support the application. (Please read guidance note 2) Further evidence in support of the above will follow.

Please Tick ✓

Have you made an application for review relating to these premises before?

If Yes, please state the date of that application

Day		Month		Year			

If you have made representation before relating to these premises please state what they were and when you made them.

Please Tick ✓

- 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 Standards Scale Under Section 158 Of The Licensing Act 2003 To Make A False Statement In Or In Connection With This Application.**

#### How We Collect And Use Information

The information collected, on this form and from supporting evidence, by Stockton on Tees Borough Council will be used to process your application. The information may be passed to other Enforcement Agencies as permitted by law.

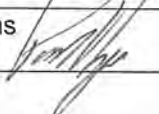
We may check information provided by you, or information about you provided by a third party, with other information held by us. We may also get information from certain third parties, or give information to them to check the accuracy of information, to prevent or detect crime, or to protect public funds in other ways, as permitted by law. These third parties include Government Departments and local authorities.

We will not disclose information about you to anyone outside Stockton on Tees Borough Council nor use information about you for other purposes unless the law permits us to.

Stockton on Tees Borough Council is the Data Controller for the purposes of the Data Protection Act 1998. If you want to know more about what information we have about you, or the way we use your information, you can ask at; Trading Standards and Licensing, PO Box 232, 16 Church Road, Stockton on Tees, TS18 1XD

**Part 3 – Signatures** (Please read guidance note 3)

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

Signature	P. Higgins 	Date	23/08/19
Capacity	Licensing Sgt		

Contact name (where not previously given) and address for correspondence associated with this application. (Please read guidance note 5)	
Sgt P. Higgins Middlesbrough Police Station Bridge Street West Middlesbrough	
Post Town Middlesbrough	Post Code TS2 1AB

Telephone Number (if any)	01642 302160
E-mail Address (optional)	Paul.higgins@cleveland.pnn.police.uk

**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 applicable.
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.
6. Information on the Licensing Act 2003 is available at [www.tradingstandards.gov.uk/stockton](http://www.tradingstandards.gov.uk/stockton) and you are advised to read any relevant guidance leaflets before completing this form.