



**Representations On An Application By
A Responsible Authority
(Form LA10RA)**

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**Representations On A Current Application For A Grant/Variation Of A Premises
Licence Or Club Premises Certificate Under The Licensing Act 2003**

Section 1 – Licence Application Details

Applicant Name (If Known)	Mr Craig Harker
Premises Name and Address	The George Pub, 102 High Street, Stockton

Section 2 - Responsible Authority

- Cleveland Fire Service
- Cleveland Police
- Environmental Health
- Planning
- Protection of Children From Harm
- DPH Public Health
- Trading Standards

Section 3 – Representation Grounds

<p>The representation is relevant to one or more of the following licensing objectives:</p> <p>Please tick relevant box(es)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The prevention of crime and disorder • Public safety
<p>Please Select:</p> <p>I object to the application being granted at all</p> <p>I object to the application being granted in its current form*</p> <p>*If you choose this option remember to tell us what changes you would prefer to see.</p>	

The grounds of the representation is based on the following:

(Please continue on a separate sheet if necessary)

Public Health object to the licence granted to Mr Harker for the George Pub, High Street, Stockton-on-Tees. This is on the grounds there is strong evidence that alcohol misuse is associated with incidents of domestic abuse; with those at increased risk being women, children and young people and people from lower socioeconomic groups (Burton et al, 2016). The licence holder's attitude and approach to the marketing and advertisement of food being sold at his premises has been deemed to incite domestic abuse by the Advertising Standard Agency and Cleveland Police. Therefore, Public Health deem that the actions of the license holder do not provide assurance that the following licensing objectives can be upheld:

- The prevention of crime and disorder
- Public safety

Public Health strongly advocates for the reduction of domestic abuse and the protecting of vulnerable individuals. The Stockton-on-Tees Domestic Abuse Strategy (2017-2022) outlines 6 key priorities for the reduction of domestic abuse which include:

- Cultural Change
- Early Intervention
- Reducing the cycle of repeat perpetration of domestic abuse
- Identifying and supporting victims of domestic abuse
- Reducing the impact of domestic abuse on families
- Working together

The actions of the licence holder in inciting domestic abuse through social media posting is in direct opposition to the culture and values that Stockton-on-Tees local authority is seeking to develop to strengthen efforts to prevent domestic abuse, and also directly undermines the prevention of crime and disorder licencing objective.

With regard to Points **28 & 29** of the Statement of Licensing Policy (SLP) which refer to the Crime Survey for England and Wales (Office for National Statistics in 2014), the survey highlights a strong link between alcohol and violence. It reports 53% of all violent incidents being alcohol related, 36% of domestic violence incidents were alcohol related, and of the violent incidents reported between 10.00pm and 6.00am, over 80% involved alcohol.

Within Stockton Borough, there is a rate of 3.53 alcohol related violent crimes per 1,000 people per year, which is higher than the regional rate of 2.84 per year. In addition, there is evidence that repeat incidences of domestic abuse are high in Stockton-on-Tees (Stockton-on-Tees Domestic Abuse Strategy).

The George Pub is located within Stockton-on-Tees Town Centre ward, where:

- The rate of reported domestic abuse is 53.1 per 1000 population, the highest rate in the Borough (second highest = 27.9).
- The ward is ranked first for referrals to Harbour, the local domestic abuse service.

Therefore, the continued sale of alcohol alongside the licence holder's approach to the condoning of domestic abuse, as evidenced in his social media posts included in the Cleveland Police representation, presents a risk that this would encourage a culture of violence against women.

This evidence is further supported by the following case law:

Hope and Glory Public House v City of Westminster Magistrates' Court and Others

This case law illustrates that licensed premises, and the activities that take place in those premises, exist in a dynamic environment and should not be looked at entirely in isolation. Therefore, despite the issues in question not directly relating to the alcohol license, Public Health feel that there is evidence to suggest that the prevention of crime and disorder and public safety licensing objectives are at-risk of being undermined.

Public Health recognise that the licencing objectives have not yet been undermined but are of the opinion that the license holder's actions in ignoring the Advertising Standards Agency's ruling (Cleveland Police submission, evidence PH/4), will present a significant risk to these objectives being undermined in the future. Due to the license holder's continued attitude towards advertising and marketing:

East Lindsey District Council v Abu Hanif

In the case of East Lindsey District Council v Abu Hanif (t/a Zara's restaurant) (2016) Mr Justice Jay said:

[T]he prevention of crime and disorder required a prospective consideration of what is warranted in the public interest, having regard to the twin considerations of prevention and deterrence.

Signed:	Position: Projects and Partnership Officer	Dated: 20 th September 2019
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When complete this form should be returned to the address above or e-mailed to licensing.administration@stockton.gov.uk

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