

## **Licensing Panel**

### **Licensing Act 2003 – Review of a Premises Licence under Section 53C of the Licensing Act 2003**

**Church Inn  
477 Oldham Road, Failsworth, M35 0AA**

Report of: Executive Member – Neighbourhoods

Officer Contact: Nicola Lord

**Date of Hearing: 4 November 2025**

#### **Reason for Hearing:**

Pursuant to Section 53C of the Licensing Act 2003, the purpose of this report is to ask Members to consider a Review of the premises licence in respect of Church Inn, 477 Oldham Road, Failsworth, following an application for a Summary Review made by Greater Manchester Police on 3 November 2025.

#### **Recommendations**

Members are recommended to consider the application, taking into account the representations received.

## Licensing Panel

Application for Section 53C Review

Church Inn, 477 Oldham Road, Failsworth, M35 0AA

### 1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1 Pursuant to Section 53C of the Licensing Act 2003, the purpose of this report is to ask Members to consider a Review of the premises licence in respect of Church Inn, 477 Oldham Road, Failsworth, following an application for a Summary Review made by Greater Manchester Police on 3 November 2025.

### 2. The Application

- 2.1 On 3 November 2025 Greater Manchester Police applied for a summary review of Church Inn. The application and accompanying authorisation certificate are attached to the report at **Appendix 12.1**.
- 2.2 The application relates to an incident of serious disorder at the premises on 1 November 2025 which resulted in the serious injury of a police officer. The application also outlines a series of earlier incidents occurring at the premises.
- 2.3 The Police used powers under Section 76 of the Antisocial Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 1976 to close the premises for 48 hours following the incident.
- 2.4 The existing premises licence is attached at **Appendix 12.2**.

### 3. Interim Steps

- 3.1 In accordance with Section 53B of the Licensing Act 2003, the Licensing Panel considered whether it was necessary to impose interim steps against the premises licence pending the full review hearing. On 4 November 2025 the panel resolved to suspend the premises licence pending the hearing.
- 3.2 On 17 November 2025 the premises licence holder made representations against the interim steps, which the Licensing Panel duly considered on 18 November 2025. A temporary agreement between Greater Manchester Police and the premises licence holder was presented to Members for their consideration, which is attached at **Appendix 12.3**. The Panel resolved to lift the suspension with effect from 18 November 2025 and impose the conditions specified in Appendix 12.3.

### 4. Review of Interim Steps

- 4.1 The Panel's decision on the review of the premises licence does not take effect until the end of the 21 day period for appealing the decision. To ensure that there are appropriate and proportionate adequate safeguards in place at all times, when Members have made their decision on what action, if any, to take against the premises licence, a review of the Interim Steps must take place.

4.2 In reviewing the interim steps Members must consider whether it is appropriate for the promotion of the licensing objectives for the interim steps to remain in place or if they should be withdrawn or modified. In making their decision Members must consider any relevant representations made.

4.3 If members are minded to say the interim steps should continue but be modified, the options open to Members include:-

- a) The modification of the conditions of the premises licence;
- b) The exclusion of the sale of alcohol by retail from the scope of the licence;
- c) The removal of the designated premises supervisor from the licence;
- d) The suspension of the licence

Any interim steps taken at the review hearing apply until the end of the 21 day appeal period referred to above, or if an appeal is made, until the outcome of that appeal or such other time period determined by the Panel.

## 5. Representations

5.1 The Licensing Authority has received no formal representations relating to the review of the premises licence but has received emails of support for the premises which have been included at **Appendix 12.4**.

## 6. Statutory Guidance

6.1 Members must consider statutory guidance issued, by the Secretary of State, under Section 182 of the Licensing Act 2003 (revised February 2025). Of particular note are the following sections:

12.22 The licensing authority must hold a full review of the premises licence and determine the review within 28 days after the day of receipt of the chief officer's application. There can be no adjournment of the hearing or delay in reaching a determination beyond the end of the 28 day period. This must take place even if the chief officer or other responsible authority and/or other person asks to withdraw their application or representation (as the case may be). At the review hearing, the licensing authority must consider what steps are appropriate for the promotion of the licensing objectives taking into account the application and any change in circumstances since any interim steps were imposed, consider any relevant representations, and review the interim steps already taken (if any).

12.23 In making its final determination the steps the licensing authority can take are:

- the modification of the conditions of the premises licence;
- the exclusion of a licensable activity from the scope of the licence;
- the removal of the designated premises supervisor from the licence;
- the suspension of the licence for a period not exceeding 3 months; and
- the revocation of the licence.

12.24 Modification of the conditions of the premises licence can include the alteration or modification of existing conditions or addition of any new conditions, including those that restrict the times at which licensable activities authorised by the licence can take place.

6.2 A full copy of the guidelines will be available at the hearing.



## 7. Options

7.1 The options available to Members, having had regard to the information before them, including any verbal representations made by parties to the hearing are:

- the modification of the conditions of the premises licence;
- the exclusion of a licensable activity from the scope of the licence;
- the removal of the designated premises supervisor from the licence;
- the suspension of the licence for a period not exceeding 3 months; and
- the revocation of the licence.

Modification of the conditions of the premises licence can include the alteration or modification of existing conditions or addition of any new conditions, including those that restrict the times at which licensable activities authorised by the licence can take place.

7.2 Any steps appropriate to promote the licensing objectives should be specified. If none of the steps are appropriate and proportionate, no action should be taken.

7.3 In arriving at a decision Members must have regard to the relevant provisions of national guidance and the licensing policy statement and reasons must be given for any departure. The decision should be based on the individual merits of the application.

## 8. Consultation

8.1 Consultation in accordance with the Licensing Act 2003 was undertaken.

## 9. Legal Services Comments

9.1 In determining the application Members should have regard to the Authority's licensing policy statement and the Secretary of State's Guidance. The applicant for the review, the holder of the premises licence or any other person who made relevant representations in relation to the application have a right of appeal to the Magistrates' court within 21 days of being notified of the Council's decision. (A Evans)

## 10. Environmental and Health & Safety Implications

10.1 None

## 11. Equality, Community Cohesion & Crime Implications

11.1 The Council's Statement of Licensing Policy considers these matters. All decisions made by the Licensing Panel must have regard to this policy and national guidance.

## 12. Background Papers

12.1 The following is a list of background papers on which this report is based in accordance with the requirements of Section 100(1) of the Local Government Act 1972. It does not include documents which would disclose exempt or confidential information as defined by the Act:

File Ref: Records held in Directorate  
Officer Name: Nicola Lord

## 13. Appendices

- 13.1 Application
- 13.2 Premises licence
- 13.3 Temporary Agreement
- 13.4 Emails of Support