

Licensing Panel

Licensing Act 2003 – Application for New Premises Licence, Northern Roots

Report of Director of Environment

Officer Contact: Nicola Lord

Date of Hearing: Tuesday 6 October 2026

Reason for Hearing:

The purpose of this report is to inform members of an application for the grant of a premises licence in respect of Northern Roots, Kings Road, Oldham, OL8 2BJ, which, due to representations being received, has been referred to this Panel for determination.

Recommendations:

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



Licensing Panel – Tuesday 6 October 2026

Application for a New Premises Licence for Northern Roots, Kings Road, Oldham, OL8 2BJ

1. Purpose of Report

1.1 The purpose of this report is to inform members of an application for the grant of a premises licence in respect of Northern Roots, Kings Road, Oldham, OL8 2BJ, which, due to representations being received, has been referred to this Panel for determination.

2. Recommendations

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

3. The Application

3.1 On 12 August 2026 the applicant, Northern Roots (Oldham) Ltd applied for the grant of a premises licence for Northern Roots. The last date for representations in relation to this application was 9 September 2026.

3.2 Details of the licensable activities and the times applied for are as follows:

Activity	Indoors / Outdoors	Hours
Live Music	Both	Monday to Sunday 8:00 am to Midnight
Recorded Music	Both	Monday to Sunday 8:00 am to Midnight
Late Night Refreshment	Both	Monday to Sunday 11:00 pm to Midnight
Supply of Alcohol	Both	Monday to Sunday 11:00 am to Midnight
Hours Premises are Open to the Public	N/A	Monday to Sunday 8:00 am to 12:30 pm

3.3 A copy of the application is attached at **Appendix 14.1**. The proposed plan is attached at **Appendix 14.2**.

4. Representations

4.1 Following the submission and advertisement of the application, representations were received. These are set out at **Appendices 14.3 and 14.4** of this report.

4.2 In accordance with the Act, copies of the representations received were served on the applicant.

4.3 Following receipt of the representations, the applicant was given the opportunity to respond to the concerns raised and subsequently proposed a number of amended conditions. A copy of the proposed amendments is attached at **Appendix 14.5**.

4.4 The proposed amendments were circulated to the representors for consideration. Whilst the representors acknowledged receipt of the amended conditions, they have confirmed that they do not consider them sufficient to address the concerns raised within their representation and have requested that their representation remains for determination by the Sub-Committee. The representors' detailed responses are attached at **Appendices 14.6 and 14.7** of this report.

4.5 Given that a significant proportion of the concerns raised within the representations relate to music and entertainment, the Principal Licensing Officer provided the representors with further information regarding the legislative provisions relating to live and recorded music and offered to facilitate a meeting between the applicant and the representors to discuss the concerns raised. This is attached at **Appendix 14.8**. At the time of writing this report, no response to this offer had been received.

5. Licensing Policy

5.1 Members considering this application should take note of the Authority's Licensing Policy Statement. Attention should be drawn to page 13, Prevention of Public Nuisance and page 15, Protection of Children from Harm.

5.2 In relation to 'Public Nuisance' the following paragraph(s) provide:-

"When addressing public nuisance, the applicant should initially identify any particular issues (having regard to their particular type of premises and/or activities), which are likely to adversely affect the promotion of the public nuisance objective. Such steps as are required to deal with these identified issues should be included within the applicants operating schedule."

"If relevant representations are received, the Authority may impose conditions to prevent nuisance, noise, disturbance, light pollution, noxious smells, vermin and pest infestations and accumulations of rubbish and litter."

5.2 A full copy of the Council's Licensing Policy Statement will be available at the hearing.

6. Secretary of State's Guidance

6.1 Members also need to consider statutory guidance issued, by the Secretary of State, under Section 182 of the Licensing Act 2003 (September 2026).

6.2 Chapter 2 of the guidelines deals with the Licensing Objectives and potential measures licence holders, and the licensing authority should consider so they are not being undermined.

In relation to 'Public Nuisance', the following paragraphs provide:-

Where applications have given rise to representations, any appropriate conditions should normally focus on the most sensitive periods. For example, the most sensitive period for people being disturbed by unreasonably loud music is at night and into the early morning when residents in adjacent properties may be attempting to go to sleep or are sleeping. This is why there is still a need for a licence for performances of live music between 11 pm and 8 am. In certain circumstances, conditions relating to noise emanating from the premises may also be appropriate to address any disturbance anticipated as customers enter and leave.

Beyond the immediate area surrounding the premises, these are matters for the personal responsibility of individuals under the law. An individual who engages in anti-social behaviour is accountable in their own right.

In relation to 'Protecting of children from harm', the following paragraphs provide:-

The protection of children from harm includes the protection of children from moral, psychological, and physical harm. This includes not only protecting children from the harms associated directly with alcohol consumption but also wider harms such as exposure to strong language and sexual expletives (for example, in the context of exposure to certain films or adult entertainment). Licensing authorities must also consider the need to protect children from sexual exploitation when undertaking licensing functions.

Licensing authorities and responsible authorities should expect applicants, when preparing an operating schedule or club operating schedule, to set out the steps to be taken to protect children from harm when on the premises.

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

7. Options

7.1 When determining the application Members, having had regard to the representations, may take such steps as they consider appropriate for the promotion of the licensing objectives. The steps available to Members are:

- a. Grant the application as applied
- b. Grant the application but modify the operating schedule in relation to hours, days, conditions, or activities
- c. Reject the application

7.2 Any steps appropriate to promote the licensing objectives should be specified. If no 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.

7.4 The decision should be based on the individual merits of the application.

8. Consultation

8.1 Consultation in accordance with the Act has taken place with all responsible bodies and notice has been given to allow for any representations from interested parties.

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 or any other person who made relevant representations in relation to the application have a right of appeal to the Magistrates' court. (A Evans)

10. Environmental and Health & Safety Implications

10.1 Contained within the body of the report.

11. Equality, Community Cohesion & Crime Implications

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

12. Equality Impact Assessment Completed?

12.1 No

13. Background Papers

13.1 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

14. Appendices

Appendix 14.1 Application
Appendix 14.2 Plan
Appendix 14.3 Mr Bird Representation
Appendix 14.4 Mrs Bird Representation
Appendix 14.5 Applicants proposed amended conditions
Appendix 14.5 Mr Birds response to amended conditions
Appendix 14.6 Mr Birds response to amended conditions
Appendix 14.7 Principal Licensing Officers email to representors