

From: Steven Mellor [REDACTED] >
Sent: 31 March 2025 13:26
To: Singh, Amitabh
Subject: Newport Premier

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I, PC 2705 Mellor, an appointed Licensing Officer with West Mercia Police, having delegated authority from the Chief Officer to exercise powers under the Licensing Act 2003, hereby give notice of support to a review application received by West Mercia Police on the 20th of March 2025 and submitted by Telford & Wrekin Council Trading Standards.

The police grounds to this review relate to the objectives of preventing crime and disorder.

Newport Premier Stores operates in accordance with its premises licence which contains the following conditions around the objective of prevention of crime and disorder.

- A CCTV system will be maintained in working order and operational during opening hours.
- All tapes will be retained for 30 days and made available to the Police upon request.
- Alcohol will be displayed in full view of the counter and high % abv products will be displayed behind the checkout counter.

On the 31st of January 2025 I, PC Mellor, visited the premises in company of Sgt Masters.
This visit was to ensure premises was complying with the conditions outlined above. I recorded the following breaches.

Staff were asked to provide access to the CCTV but could not do so. Police could not even ascertain what system was being used or its retention time due to staff not being able to use the system.

At the time of the visit, I also noticed and recorded that a number of high strength alcohol products, including Gin, Vodka and Whiskey where openly displayed in front of the counter in multiple, non-secured areas. This being in breach of the condition saying that they should be displayed behind the counter.

In addition to this, and whilst not a breach of any conditions, Police were concerned by a number of items the store had on sale such as small glass pipes similar to “crack pipes” as was as what appeared to be cannabis rolling kits.

Letters were sent to the DPS / PLH advising of these breaches and that police would revisit to ensure the issues had been rectified.

I then revisited on the 13th of March 2025 at 13:15 hours.

On this occasion the member of staff was able to use the CCTV and show me footage on an iPad.
It should be noted that the licensing conditions are now outdated as they make mention to a previous “tape” based system.

Despite it being previously raised, not much had changed regards the storage of alcohol. Spirits were still found on a shelf in front of the counter and left within easy reach. In addition to this I located a cupboard at the front of the store, opposite the counter, which contained Gin and Vodka. There was no lock on the cupboard, and it was easily accessible. Again, this is in breach of the licence conditions.

Police confirm they support this review and the actions of the council and support the objective of having the licence for the premises removed.

Kind regards,

Steve

PC 2705 Steven MELLOR
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