



**Application for the REVIEW of a Premises Licence ~~or Club Premises Certificate~~
under the Licensing Act 2003**

PLEASE READ THE FOLLOWING INSTRUCTIONS FIRST

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/~~ We Pendle Borough Council – Licensing Section

(Insert name of applicant)

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, if none, ordnance survey map reference or description

Name of Premises: **White Bear Inn**

Address: **Gisburn Road, Barrowford**

Post town **Nelson**

Post code (if known) **BB9 6EP**

Name of premises licence holder or club holding club premises certificate (if known)

Ms Amy Dee Coplen and Mr Carl Johnson

Number of Premises Licence or Club Premises Certificate (if known)

PEN(A)0249

Part 2 - Applicant details

I am:

Please tick ✓ yes

1) an individual, body or business which is not a responsible authority (please read guidance note 1, and complete (A) or (B) below)

☐

2) a responsible authority (please complete (C) below)

☒

3) a member of the club to which this application relates (please complete (A) below)

☐

(A) DETAILS OF INDIVIDUAL APPLICANT (fill in as applicable)

Please tick ✓ yes

Mr

☐

Mrs

☐

Miss

☐

Ms

☐

Other title
(for example, Rev)

Surname

First names

I am 18 years old or over

Please tick ✓ yes

☐

**Current postal
address if
different from
premises
address**

Post town

Post Code

Daytime contact telephone number

**E-mail address
(optional)**

(B) DETAILS OF OTHER APPLICANT

Name and address

Telephone number (if any)

E-mail address (optional)

(C) DETAILS OF RESPONSIBLE AUTHORITY APPLICANT

Name and address Name: Mr Wajed Iqbal Designation: Licensing Officer Place of work: c/o Pendle Borough Council Town Hall Market Street Nelson Lancashire BB9 7LG
Telephone number (if any) 01282-661025
E-mail address (optional) Wajed.iqbal@pendle.gov.uk

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

- 1) The Prevention of Crime and Disorder
- 2) Public Safety
- 3) The Prevention of Public Nuisance
- 4) The Protection of Children from Harm

Please tick one or more boxes ✓

☒
☒
☒
☒

Please state the ground(s) for review (please read guidance note 2)

The reason for the review is the premises has sold and exposed alcohol when there was not a named Designated Premises Supervisor (DPS) named on the licence thus deeming the Premises Licence being suspended, which is contrary to the Licensing Act 2003 and in accordance with the Premises Licence issued to the premises.

A Closure Order Notice was served by Lancashire Police advising the Premises Licence holders to close the premises due to the fact of there being no DPS on the Premises Licence which was ignored and they continued to trade.

The premises are not meeting the Licensing Act 2003 licence objectives being:

- The Prevention of Crime and Disorder
- Public Safety
- The Prevention of Public Nuisance
- The Protection of Children from Harm

See further down this form for full details.

Please provide as much information as possible to support the application
(please read guidance note 3)

On 8th July 2026 at 09:25hrs, I received an email from Miss Amy Coplen (joint Premises Licence holder and Designated Premises Supervisor) with the 'White Bear' in the subject field.

It was sent to two other persons who are Mr Carl Johnson and Ms Leann Tombs. Mr Carl Johnson is her partner in the business and other joint Premises Licence holder as well as having a personal relationship with him. Ms Leann Tombs is a Regional Manager for the Stonegate Group which owns the premises and leased it to Miss Coplen and Mr Johnson.

The email read as follows:

"Hi, So sorry but from immediate effect as I have no access to the White Bear or cameras, I cannot be the licensed DPS.

Please also cancel the meeting on Tuesday. I will be closing the shop."

I have printed a copy of this (and all relevant email communication) as **Exhibit W11** which contains the email communication concerned including Miss Coplen, Mr Johnson, Sgt Steve Dundon, Leann Tombs, Mrs Emma Barker (Pendle Council Legal Services), PC Phill Needham (Lancashire Police), Mr Neil Watson (Pendle Council Assistant Director covering Licensing)

From Miss Coplen's email stating she was removing herself as the Designated Premises Supervisor (DPS), this left the premises with no person to authorise the sale of alcohol and therefore the premises could not remain open until this matter was resolved.

The Premises was suspended by me until the matter was resolved i.e. a new named Vary DPS application specifying the DPS was received and processed at the Licensing Office of Pendle Borough Council for which Lancashire Police are the consultee as a responsible authority.

An email was sent by me on the same day at 12:24hrs to Miss Coplen and Mr Johnson as the Premises Licence holders along with Ms Tombs and the Police notifying the premises would have to close with immediate effect (**Exhibit W1.1**)

At 15:34hrs, Ms Tombs confirmed via email to me and Sgt Dundon that she had spoken to both Miss Coplen and Mr Johnson to close the premises.

At 18:01hrs I carried an enforcement visit to the premises and observed the premises to be fully open to the public with customers sat outside drinking. I parked up at the car park on the side of the pub and took a picture of Mr Johnson sat outside with customers. I observed customers coming out with drinks to consume in this area as it was a warm day.

At 18:42hrs I returned to my office at Nelson Town Hall and sent an email to Ms Tombs, Sgt Dundon, Mrs Barker, and Mr Watson.

In my email I informed the above parties, the premises was open and trading and that Mr Johnson was not answering my calls.

At 22:23 hrs and 22:37hrs, I received an email from Miss Coplen wishing to retract her removal of DPS and wishing to remain as DPS which I didn't see until Thursday

9th July 2026, when I came into the Nelson Town Hall and seen Miss Coplen's email.

At 7:58hrs I responded back to Miss Coplen and cc'd other relevant parties into the email.

I told Miss Coplen the retraction could not accepted as it had been processed. I advised the premises had continued to trade the day before contrary to the Licensing Act 2003 and the matter was pending an investigation. In my email I made it clear the premises remained closed until further notice and I would speak to Miss Tombs and Sgt Dundon and respond back later.

At 13:00hrs Mr Johnson came to see me at the Town Hall to discuss my emails and instructions for the premises to be closed.

He said he had closed on 08/07/2026 having spoken to Ms Tombs. He alleged he only opened once Miss Coplen had informed him, she was going to remain as DPS. Mr Johnson could not provide CCTV footage as requested.

He stated the CCTV hard drive had been changed due to electrical issues.

At 14:05hrs, I emailed Miss Tombs, Sgt Dundon and Mrs Barker with a briefing of the above visit.

At 14:42hrs and 15:17hrs emails were received from Sgt Dundon and Miss Tombs regarding the issue and their views.

After a phone discussion with both, it was agreed details which I put in an email and sent to Miss Coplen and Mr Johnson at 15:40hrs.

They were told to submit a Vary DPS application (which consists of an application by the Premises Licence holders and a Consent Form by the proposed DPS along with a fee of £23) to Pendle Borough Council which would be forwarded to the Police for consultation. They were advised not to open until advised by me to confirm I had received the application in full and this had been accepted.

I spoke to both Miss Coplen and Mr Johnson soon after my email that the forms had to be in by 16:30hrs as I was finishing work. Miss Coplen confirmed to me she was down in Hastings near London and was due to come up but didn't know when.

No application forms were received before this time and I left my office and logged out as I had to go assist a colleague with another matter.

On Friday 10th July 2026 I came into work in the morning. I saw an email from Miss Coplen sent at 16:47hrs with an attachment. This only contained a Vary DPS Consent Form allegedly completed by her.

At 13:30hrs on Friday 10th July 2026, an application was sent by email by Miss Coplen which had been sent to her by a company called 'Star Print' based in Nelson.

I checked the signatures of Miss Coplen to her previous signatures to ensure it was her that had signed.

I spoke to Miss Coplen over the phone, and she had concerns with Mr Johnson's actions around the premises being opened whilst the Premises Licence was suspended so she advised me to hold onto the application and not process it. I advised Miss Coplen to put this in writing.

At 15:00hrs, I spoke to Sgt Dundon and advised him of my conversation with Miss Coplen and concerns. Sgt Dundon and I were due to carry out a site visit at another premises at 15:30hrs and Sgt Dundon informed me he would do a drive past the

premises being White Bear on Gisburn Road Barrowford. Prior to me leaving my office, Sgt Dundon sent me a text message stating the premises was open to the public with customers sat outside consuming alcohol in the beer garden.

After our other visit to the other premises, we attended the White Bear pub at approximately 16:25hrs. I had my Pendle Council issued CCTV bodycam which recorded as a video which I used and can be shown.

As we were walking in the premises which was open and trading despite the Premises Licence being suspended and the licence holders Miss Coplen and Mr Johnson told not to open.

We identified ourselves to members of staff and asked to see Mr Johnson. We were told he was not present and asked the staff to contact him to return to the premises. Within a few minutes Mr Johnson returned and we spoke to him in a separate room.

Mr Johnson was asked why he was open despite being told by me and his Regional Manager Ms Tombs to close. Mr Johnson replied he had spoken to Miss Coplen, and she had allegedly told him to open the premises. I made it clear that my emails had informed them both the premises had to remain closed and not open until the Vary DPS application had been accepted and processed.

Mr Johnson was alleging that he could not close as he had borrowed money to buy stock which he had to pay back by Monday (13th July 2026) otherwise there would be consequences. He asked for leniency from both me and Sgt Dundon. Both me and Sgt Dundon advised Mr Johnson, that he was operating illegally and subject to possible prosecution and from my understanding it was something that he wasn't bothered about.

Both Sgt Dundon and I left the premises and advised Mr Johnson we would return after having a consultation between ourselves. We left the premises which remained open.

Both Sgt Dundon and I decided that a s19 Closure Notice (Criminal Justice and Police Act 2001) would be issued by Sgt Dundon.

We travelled to Burnley Police Station for Sgt Dundon to get this, and we returned to the premises at 17:45hrs. Sgt Dundon and I sat with Mr Johnson within the premises, and the s.19 notice was issued to him. Mr Johnson refused to sign which was noted.

During the conversation and the conclusion of it, Mr Johnson stated he would remain open and would deal with the consequences later. He was clearly informed of the possible consequences being an unlimited fine and / or six months imprisonment under the Licensing Act 2003.

Sgt Dundon and I then left the premises and noted of Mr Johnson's actions and stance.

At 19:17hrs, Sgt Dundon emailed Miss Coplen and Stonegate (as premises owners) legal team, and managers of the s.19 notice that had been served on Mr Johnson as well other info. (Exhibit WI1)

On Saturday 11th July 2026 at approximately 15:00hrs, I observed the premises was open to the public with customers sat outside consuming with what appeared alcohol. I made notes in my PACE notebook.

On Monday 13th July 2026 at 11:18hrs, Miss Coplen had emailed me to confirm her instruction from Friday not to process her Vary DPS application.

At 12:00hrs, PC Phill Needham from Lancashire Police (east Division Licensing and colleague of Sgt Dundon) sent an email following our conversation about an incident which occurred on Saturday night. Details are in Exhibit WI1.

From the Police log, it states, there was anti-social behaviour at the premises and youths drunk and a window had been smashed.

On Tuesday 14th July 2026, an online TEAMS meeting was conducted between Sgt Dundon, Mrs Barker and I to discuss the issues and the plan of action to close the premises with immediate effect.

We discussed the ongoing non-compliance by the Premises especially from Mr Johnson as Premises Licence holder in opening to the public whilst there was no DPS in place, the offences committed under Licensing Act 2003 and the incident on the Saturday night after the Closure Notice had been issued.

It was decided to issue a Closure of Premises Notice under s76 and s77 Anti-social behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 on Tuesday 14th July 2026.

Mrs Barker would draft this up and get it signed by Pendle Council Chief Executive and served on the premises and all associated persons the same day. Exhibit WI2.

This was served by me accompanied by Sgt Dundon and PC1199 Dawe on Miss Coplen who met us at the premises, and she signed my PACE notebook. Notices were displayed on the premises and pictures taken as Exhibit WI.3. Mr Johnson was not present, and an email of the notice was sent to him.

Mr Dundon and I went to the living quarters accompanied by Miss Coplen as we had requested the CCTV hard drive. This had been removed and not present. Images are included in Exhibit WI.3. The premises were locked up and Miss Coplen advised of all matters relating to the closure which she fully understood.

At the Magistrates hearing at Burnley Magistrates on Thursday 16th July 2026, to determine the Closure Order of 14/07/2026, whereby Pendle Borough Council were seeking an extension of three months closure of the premises, this was adjourned to the following Friday 24th July 2026.

On Friday 24th July 2026, the Magistrates hearing took place, and the closure was refused and the Premises Licence holders (Miss Coplen and Mr Johnson) were advised the premises could re-open if the Vary DPS application was submitted and accepted and their licence conditions were fully met.

The Magistrates were made aware of the pending prosecutions against both Premises Licence holders and a possible review against the Premises Licence.

On the same day, Miss Coplen requested her Vary DPS application be put forward for consideration which was sent to the Lancashire Police. This allowed her to begin trading subject to meeting the Premises Licence conditions especially the CCTV being in use.

On 30th July 2026, a formal representation was submitted by Sgt Dundon (Lancashire Police) against the application. This was forwarded to the Premises Licence holders by email.

A Licensing Committee Hearing has been scheduled for 1st September 2026.

On 5th August 2026, Miss Coplen supplied images upon request of the CCTV being in operation which allowed the premises to re-open, and this was confirmed by me by email.

As a Licensing Officer, I believe if there were any enforceable conditions on the Premises Licence, this would have not deterred the premises to close despite there being no DPS specified on the licence which is an offence under the Licensing Act 2003.

The Premises Licence holders have a total disregard of the law and have gained financially from opening when advised not to do so by both Lancashire Police and me.

There was an incident involving young persons at the premises when the premises should have not been opened.

The offences committed by the Premises Licence holders are subject to a separate prosecution being brought by Pendle Borough Council with the support of Lancashire Police.

I am therefore requesting the Premises Licence be revoked due to the total ignorance of the law by the Premises Licence holders.

Please tick ✓ yes

Have you made an application for review relating to the premises before

☐

If yes please state the date of that application

Day	Month	Year

If you have made representations before relating to the premises, please state what they were and when you made them

Not applicable.

Please tick ✓yes

- 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, UNDER SECTION 158 OF THE LICENSING ACT 2003, TO MAKE A FALSE STATEMENT IN OR IN CONNECTION WITH THIS APPLICATION. THOSE WHO MAKE A FALSE STATEMENT MAY BE LIABLE ON SUMMARY CONVICTION TO A FINE OF ANY AMOUNT.

Part 3 – Signatures (please read guidance note 4)

Signature of applicant or applicant's solicitor or other duly authorised agent (please read guidance note 5). **If signing on behalf of the applicant please state in what capacity.**

Signature *Wajed Iqbal*

.....

Date **06-08-2026**

.....

Capacity **Licensing Officer**

.....

Contact name (where not previously given) and postal address for correspondence associated with this application (please read guidance note 6)

Post town

Post Code

Telephone number (if any)

If you would prefer us to correspond with you using an e-mail address your e-mail address (optional)

Notes for Guidance

1. A responsible authority includes the local police, fire and rescue authority and other statutory bodies which exercise specific functions in the local area.
2. The ground(s) for review must be based on one of the licensing objectives.
3. Please list any additional information or details for example dates of problems which are included in the grounds for review if available.
4. The application form must be signed.
5. An applicant's agent (for example solicitor) may sign the form on their behalf provided that they have actual authority to do so.
6. This is the address which we shall use to correspond with you about this application.