



Licensing Authority
London Borough of Havering

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Police Representation - Premises Licence Application – BOKA By Palms, Palms Hotel Southend Arterial Road Hornchurch RM113UJ

Dear Licensing Authority

Police acknowledge receipt of a Premises Licence Application for BOKA By Palms, Palms Hotel Southend Arterial Road Hornchurch RM113UJ which we received by email on the 19th November 2025.

The application states that the venue wish to carry out:-

Regulated entertainment & the supply of alcohol Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday 10:00 - midnight, Thursday 10:00 - 0100, Friday & Saturday 10:00 - 02:00 & Sunday 12:00 - 22:30.

Late night refreshment Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday 23:00 - midnight, Thursday 23:00 - 01:00 & Friday & Saturday 23:00 - 02:00.

The application states the **opening hours** will be:- **Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday 10:00 - 00:20, Thursday 10:00 - 01:20, Friday & Saturday 1000 - 02:20 & Sunday 1200 - 22:50.**

On behalf of the Commissioner of Police of the Metropolis, consideration has been given to this application and Police object to the application under the following licensing objectives:-

The prevention of crime and disorder & public nuisance.

Having reviewed the application Police do not entirely object in principle to the granting of a premises licence. However, concerns arise due to the lack of clarity around the use of the outside area, the lack of conditions in this area to uphold the licensing objectives & the applicant's wish to operate hours outside of the Havering licensing policy.

Police have found this application process at times to be rather muddled & has given the impression of inefficiency.

The application received by the Police stated the premises would be operating as a restaurant with a capacity of over 200 people inside and about 70 people outside.

On the 11th June 2025 a male was attacked in the lobby of the Palms Hotel & received stab wounds to his upper body & a laceration to the head after being hit by a glass bottle (**01-7603834-25 refers**). As a result of the incident discussions took place between the Police, the Council & the hotel owners. The purpose of these discussions was to update the existing premises licence with conditions adequate for a modern day establishment as the previous conditions were outdated & complex. The majority of conditions were agreed, apart from the condition around dry hire. It was the dry hire of the venue which was a major factor in the incident in the Summer. The minor variation wasn't granted & those proposed conditions are attached (**Appendix II**).

During this consultation process an agreement was reached with the applicant's agent regarding conditions for the premises (**Appendix I**).

However, concerns remain as to the intended use of the outside area & the conditions in place for it. For instance, in appendix I under the heading **GENERAL CONDITIONS APPLICABLE TO RESTAURANT** there's mention of using either toughened glass or polycarbonate material & the use of an incident log but none of these conditions feature under the heading **GENERAL CONDITIONS RELATING TO OUTDOOR AREA**.

We're now at a point where the premises in effect have two areas which could operate completely independently of one another with different conditions resulting in Police being uncertain as to the purpose & use of this outside area. As already pointed out the application stated the premises would be operating as a restaurant.

Police would normally expect one set of conditions to cover an entire premises.

Police also note that the proposed hours are outside the Havering Licensing Policy for a restaurant. This raises concerns that such late hours exceed what would ordinarily be expected for a restaurant & are more consistent with premises operating primarily as late-night venues.

Experience shows that premises open beyond midnight present an increased risk of alcohol-related crime, disorder & antisocial behaviour due to drunkenness which can reduce inhibitions, impair judgment & increase aggression.

While the Police do not seek refusal of this application, the unclear and muddled nature of the application means that the licensing objectives cannot be relied upon to be met unless the licence is appropriately conditioned.

The Police therefore respectfully request that, should the sub-committee be minded to grant the application it does so with a reduction in hours & additional conditions providing clarity as to the operation of the premises and ensure effective controls are in place to promote all four licensing objectives.

Submitted respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'C. Stockman', written in a cursive style.

PC Chris Stockman - East Area Licensing Team