



LICENSING SUB-COMMITTEE

20 April 2026

REPORT

Subject heading:

Bestone

Report author and contact details:

**5-7 Boxmoor Road Romford RM5 2SH
Premises licence transfer application
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These applications to transfer a premises licence and to vary a DPS were made by Mrs Gurmeet Kaur Hakimzada under sections 42 and 37 of the Licensing Act 2003 (*the Act*). The completed applications were received by Havering's Licensing Authority on 12th March 2026.

Geographical description of the area and description of the building

Best One, formerly known as Candy Stores, is located in a short parade of eight purpose-built, ground floor commercial outlets with residential properties located above them. The rest of the area surrounding the parade is residential in nature.

Details of the application

An incomplete application to transfer the premises licence for this premises and to vary the DPS were submitted on 2nd March 2026. The completed transfer application was received on 12th March 2026 at which point the transfer to the new licence holder could begin. The new licence holder was therefore permitted to vary the DPS. A fourteen-day consultation period began at this point during which the transfer application and the DPS variation were given an interim granted status under the authority of s.43(1) and s.38(1) of the Act. In accordance with the provisions of s.42 of the Act the transfer application was provided to the relevant responsible authorities, namely the Immigration Service and the Police. The s.37 DPS variation application was provided to the Police only, in accordance with s.37(4). During this consultation period the Immigration Enforcement Licensing Compliance Team submitted an objection notice on the behalf of the Secretary of State under the authority of s.42(8) of the Act which opposes the grant of the transfer to Mrs Gurmeet Kaur Hakimzada. This section of the Act states:

- Where the Secretary of State is given notice under subsection (5ZA) and is satisfied that the exceptional circumstances of the case are such that granting the application would be prejudicial to the prevention of illegal working in licensed premises, the Secretary of State must give the relevant licensing authority a notice stating the reasons for being so satisfied.

The Police also submitted an objection notice to the s.42 transfer application and to the s.37 DPS variation application.

Summary

Section 44 of the Act addresses the determination of an application to transfer a premises licence. S.44(5)(b)(ii) requires that a licensing authority must:

- where the notice is given under section 42(8), reject the application if it considers it appropriate for the prevention of illegal working in licensed premises to do so.

The licensing sub-committee must therefore determine whether to grant or to refuse this application to transfer a premises licence and to vary the DPS. If the decision is to refuse the application to transfer the licence the DPS variation application will no longer be valid and the licence will then revert to its previous holder and DPS.