



**Kent
Police**

**Chief officer of police representation in relation to an
application for grant of premises licence made under Part
3 Section 17 Licensing Act 2003 (S18 Licensing Act 2003)**

Details of person making objection

Name of chief officer of police:	Supt Nick SPARKES 10648 - Divisional Operations Supt - North Division Command
Postal address: (Area headquarters)	Medway Police Station Purser Way Gillingham Kent ME7 1NE
Email address:	licensing.north.division@kent.police.uk or Carrie.knight@kent.police.uk
Telephone number:	01634 792733 - Licensing co-ordinator - Geoff Rowley Licensing officers - PC SMUTS 11250 PC SQUIRES 13355

Details of premises representation is about

Name of premises:	Budgens 1 Block C, Pioneer Wharf, Chatham Waterfront, ME4 4HA
Address of premises:	1 Block C, Pioneer Wharf, Chatham Waterfront, ME4 4HA Or as listed on the application 1-13 Medway Street Chatham Kent ME4 4HA as this is a new build premises.
Date application received by police:	10/06/2025
Date representation sent to Licensing Authority:	04/07/2025 <i>Must be within 28 days of receipt – The Licensing Act 2003 (Premises Licences and Club Premises Certificates) Regulations 2005. Part 4 Reg. 22.</i>

The chief officer of police has received an application for the grant of a premises licence made under the provisions of Section 17 Licensing Act 2003, and under Section 18 of that act, asks the Licensing Authority to consider these representations in respect of: -

Please tick one or more of the licensing objectives that the representation relates to:

Prevention of crime and disorder	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Public safety	<input type="checkbox"/>
Prevention of public nuisance	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Protection of children from harm	<input type="checkbox"/>

Is this a representation regarding the Designation of Premises Supervisor under S18 (9) Licensing Act 2003? ☐ Yes ☒ No

If yes, complete the following statement: -

The relevant representation within the meaning of S.18(6) of the Licensing Act satisfy the requirements of S.18(9) of that Act and are as follows:

Due to the exceptional circumstances of this case, I am satisfied that the designation of the person concerned as the premises supervisor under the premises licence would undermine the crime prevention objective because

N/a

Please use separate sheets where necessary

The relevant representations within the meaning of S.18(6) of the Licensing Act satisfy the requirements of S.18(7) of that Act and are as follows:

Please give the reason for the representation and detail the evidence supporting it:

Having assessed the application for a new premises licence for Budgens 1 Block C, Pioneer Wharf, Chatham Waterfront, ME4 Kent Police make representations against and request that the licence is not granted.

Please see additional word document detailing representations

Please use separate sheets where necessary

Suggested conditions that could be added to the licence to remedy the representation or other suggestions the Licensing Sub Committee may consider:

Please use separate sheets where necessary. Consider s106 Licensing Act 2003.

Please see additional continuation sheet with full details.

Signed: CLKNIGHT

Date: 04/07/2025

Print name: PC Carrie KNIGHT

Force Number: 11605

pp Chief Officer of Police for the Police Area in which the licensed premises are situated

Representation may be made at any time during the 28 consecutive days starting on the day after the day on which the application to which it relates was given to the authority by the applicant.

Please return this form along with any additional sheets to the Licensing Authority. This form must be returned within the statutory period.

Representations regarding Budgens, 1 Block C, Pioneer Wharf, Chatham Waterfront, ME4 4HA or as listed on the application 1-13 Medway Street Chatham Kent ME4 4HA as this is a new build premises.

Kent Police have been asked to assess an application for a new premises named as Budgens, 1 Block C, Pioneer Wharf, Chatham Waterfront, ME4 4HA.

From assessing the documentation provided by the applicant, Kent police make representations and request that this is not granted for the following reasons.

The application indicates the premises is a new build premises opening on a new waterfront development. It states that the store will be part of a community living development with the operator having previous experience. The proposal states the store will be opening late to support the need for residents. It will have a coffee machine, hot snacks all within the retail store.

The operating times for the off sale of alcohol has been provided as is 0600 – 0100 Monday to Sunday hours and late-night refreshments between 2300 until 0100 hours Monday to Sunday.

From knowledge of the area, the premises is located on a large a new build development, described as Chatham's newest riverside community. It consists of new high-rise apartments (yet to be fully completed and some still within the construction stage) and is directly next to the Chatham bus station, a large main hub for many local buses within Medway. The property is also within a short walk of Chatham high street, which has a mix of retail premises, restaurants, take aways and bars.

The premises will be located within a Cumulative Impact Area (CIP) as well as a Public Space Protection Order (PSPO) previously known as 'Alcohol Control Zones' and are zones which restrict drinking of alcohol in designated public places. The information for this is outlined by Medway council's cumulative impact and stress area policy. The CIP was recently renewed in 2024 and expires in 2027.

The area has been identified as being one of the most deprived areas of Medway which suffers a high volume of alcohol related crime, disorder, and public nuisance.

Evidence from the CIP suggests that this area has a high volume of the following –

- Anti-social behaviour
- Domestic abuse
- Criminal damage
- Assault
- Public order
- Arrests for drunk and disorderly behaviour
- Alcohol relates ambulance call outs.
- Hospital A&E assaults
- Street drinkers, public urination, and exposure

As such it is the responsibility of the applicant to research the local area when considering what measures/conditions they propose to adopt to reduce risks and promote the licencing objectives.

This application has been assessed and it is noted there is no mention of the premises being within a CIP/PSPO area or how the premises intends to promote the licencing objectives to alleviate risks associated as such. There is no mention of the issues with street drinking and its associated anti-social behaviour or what they intend to do to ensure the sale of alcohol will not add to the issues highlighted above.

Due to the existence of the CIP, it is the understanding of Kent Police that there is a rebuttable presumption of refusal of the application by the Authority in all but exceptional circumstances, unless the applicant can demonstrate that the premises would not adversely affect the licensing objectives. Kent Police believe the proposed conditions offered by the applicant fall far short of demonstrating exceptional circumstances. Kent Police are of the opinion that there are no meaningful conditions that can be added to this licence that will ensure that the four licensing objectives are being fully promoted and would ensure that the issues already experienced within this CIP area would not be exacerbated. Kent Police respectfully request that this application be refused.