

Durham Constabulary  
Force HQ  
Aykley Heads  
DH1 5TT

CERTIFICATE UNDER SECTION 53(a)(B) OF THE LICENSING ACT 2003

I hereby certify that in my opinion of the premise described below are associated with serious crime

Premises:  
GW HORNER'S  
2 FRONT STREET  
CHESTER LE STREET  
DH3 3BE

Premise licence no: DCCC/PLA0001

Name of Premises licence holder: AMBER TAVERNS

I am a superintendent in Durham Constabulary

I am giving this certificate because I am of the opinion that the other procedures under the licencing Act are inappropriate in this case, and that it is proportionate in the circumstance for the following reasons:

There has been an incident involving serious crime at the premises namely a section 20 assault (GBH) on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> April 2024 whereby the victim has sustained significant head injuries consisting of a fractured skull, bleed on the brain and a fractured cheek bone. The victim also has memory loss and is still in hospital. His long-term prognosis is still not known.

The circumstances around this incident and the assault bring into serious question the management and running of this premise. The incident was not reported to police by the premises and police are only aware of this incident when the victim's sister reported the assault on Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> April 2024 which was 6 days after the incident. The delay in the incident being reported to the police will have implications on the current investigation as vital evidence may have been lost.

Licensed premises have a responsibility to promote the licensing objectives however on this occasion staff have reached the conclusion that the victim has fallen or suffered a medical episode however they have not offered an account as to how they have reached this conclusion and even when paramedics have said police may be in contact, they have not thought to report the incident and have relied on others to do so.

Had the staff viewed the cctv at the time of the incident they would have been aware that the victim had not fallen or had a medical episode.

I note the licensed economy team did contact a representative from Amber Taverns following the report of this incident to request that they voluntary closure of the premises so training needs which had been highlighted could be addressed and the poor quality of cctv could be addressed and upgraded. The representative refused to consider a closure so therefore immediate action via a summary review is the option available to the police as a serious crime has occurred within the

premise and this process is available to reduce the risk to the public and prevent any further serious incidents taking place at the premises.

The summary review process would enable the police and licencing authority to seek the removal of the designated premises supervisor and the suspension of the premises licence whilst the criminal investigations are ongoing and to fully determine the suitability of persons involved in the ongoing running of this premise.

This is the only proportionate action available at the time to prevent any further crime and disorder at the premises.

Signed

Dated 24<sup>th</sup> April 2024

Print Name Neal Bickford

Title Superintendent 2431