

# PUBLIC HEALTH COMMENTS

<b>To:</b>	Licensing Team	<b>Service Request No.:</b>	PL1130
<b>From:</b>	Public Health	<b>Contact:</b>	Jude Pinder
		<b>Land line:</b>	01803 207388

<b>Subject:</b>	Application for New Premises Licence	
	Variation application	
	License Review	v
<b>Premises Name:</b>	Zakopane	
<b>Premises Address:</b>	16 Market Street, Torquay	

1. I have no comments to make on the above application	
2. The application does not meet the following licensing objectives	
I. Prevention of crime and disorder	
II. Protection of children from harm	
III. Public safety	v
IV. Prevention of nuisance	

**Reasons** (please list those aspects of the application or variation that give you reason for concern and why you have these concerns)

I would like to make a representation in respect of this licensing review in relation to section 3.2 (a) (i) of the Torbay Council Licensing Statement of Principles 2016-2021 which requires the applicant to "Assess the risks to the public, staff and others associated with operating the Premises or event in accordance with their submitted Operating Schedule and measures implemented to reduce those risks".

My concerns lay in respect of the evidence from the Police (contained within the review documentation) that the licensee was stocking alcohol which has not had UK import duty paid and concern that they had not been purchased from a reputable wholesaler and that this activity poses a risk to public safety.

From a Public Health perspective there are risks to the local population of consuming potentially illicit alcohol.

Illicit alcohol can be identified by it having an unfamiliar brand name, the price may be significantly lower, it may have an unusual taste or smell, it may have low quality labelling and packaging, there may be no 'UK Duty Paid' stamp and it may not have manufacturer details.

Buying illicit alcohol can be dangerous and poses a real risk to health because these goods may not comply with the strict quality standards used by legitimate brand manufacturers. Counterfeit alcohol may also contain hazardous substances and of most concern – methanol. Consumption of methanol can cause nausea and vomiting, abdominal pain, drowsiness and dizziness. It can also lead to kidney or liver problems and even coma. Methanol may cause permanent blindness.

Whilst there is no evidence in the submission that the alcohol found in the premises has been linked to any individual health incidents in the local population we do not have the resources or infrastructure to directly correlate these events and confirm whether there was any impact of harm or not from consumption of the goods seized.

The only way to protect the public from the health harms associated with illicit alcohol consumption is through proactive approaches and relying on the sellers of alcohol to comply with the safety restrictions

in place to protect public safety, including-

- Buying alcohol with UK duty tax paid (the same risks apply to tobacco although this is not a licensed product).
- Buying alcohol from reputable wholesalers.
- Operating within recommended schemes such as 'Challenge 25' (to protect young people)
- Operating within special restrictions such as the Special Saturation Policy (Appendix 1 of Licensing Statement of Principles 2016-2021, Torbay Council) – to protect residents against anti-social behaviour and our vulnerable street drinking population.

If these proactive processes are not in place then there remains a risk to public safety.

<b>Signed:</b>		<b>Date:</b>	13/12/2018
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