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Sent: 11 February 2016 10:40
To: Murray, Michaela
Cc: Robson, Linda
Subject: DPS Variation - Red Rock Steak House

Morning

We are in receipt of an application to vary the Designated Premises Supervisor at Red Rock Steak House, Station Road, Hesketh Bank. The proposed DPS is Shaun Hartley. With regards this application the police feel there are exceptional circumstances which mean the granting of this application would undermine the Prevention of Crime and Disorder Licensing Objective.

The grounds for the representations are as follows;

Shaun Hartley appeared before Blackpool Magistrates on 14th January 2015 where he was convicted for offences of selling goods bearing false trade marks. Although this is not a relevant offence under Schedule 4 of the Licensing Act 2003, as the goods subject of the offence were not alcohol it is a criminal offence with a dishonest element.

It has also come to police attention that Lancashire Trading Standards are investigating offences relating to the substitution of alcohol at the premises subject of this information. They have tried on numerous occasions to arrange to interview Hartley in relation to these offences. Hartley has indicated that he will meet with them but to date has failed to do so. It is the intention of Trading Standards that if unable to obtain an explanation from Hartley they will have no alternative but to prosecute him.

The police have contacted Hartley to arrange an interview in relation to the application to be DPS, during the conversation it was pointed out to Hartley that Trading Standards needed to speak to him and that there was a possibility he may face prosecution for the offences. He stated he would resolve the problem and contact them.

Arrangements were made to meet Hartley at 10am Thursday 11th February 2016, however he contacted the police to inform them that he is shutting the premises and will be withdrawing his application to become DPS. A check with Trading Standards confirms that Hartley has failed to make contact with them as promised.

The substitution of alcohol is a criminal offence and it would appear that Hartley is actively failing to co-operate with authorities, we feel a DPS should be someone who is willing to work with responsible authorities and if they demonstrate they are unable to do so then it is felt they are not suitable to be involved in running or managing licensed premises.

Regards

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