

West Mercia Police Representation

West Mercia Police are in receipt of an application to vary the premises licence for a licensed premises known as **Mace City Services, Commercial Road, Hereford**. The application is to vary the hours for the sale/supply of alcohol and late night refreshment.

West Mercia Police OBJECT to this application on the grounds to grant it will undermine the licensing objectives - in particular that of the prevention of crime and disorder.

This premises is within an area covered by the special cumulative impact policy contained in the licensing policy of Herefordshire Council. This special policy has been in place for a number of years and is still relevant due to the concentration of licensed premises within the designated area and the disproportionate level of alcohol related crime and disorder associated to the area.

The guidance issued under S182 of the Licensing Act 2003 states that it is a rebuttable assumption that no new applications for new premises licences or variations will be allowed unless the applicant shows how the application will not undermine this policy and the licensing objectives.

The applicant has failed to recognise the existence of this policy in their application and has additionally the need to address the requirements of the S182 guidance. This premises already operates 24/07 as a garage and convenience store and does attract large numbers of foot trade from members of the public passing through the area after leaving other late night licensed venues. It is the understanding of the Police that on most nights the premises is staffed by one member of staff and operates through a window service. The fact that this premises is already operating 24/07 means that levels of disorder do occur on or near the area.

If this matter progresses to a licensing hearing West Mercia Police will provide further information to support their objection.