

**LICENSING, HEALTH AND SAFETY AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE****LICENSING PANEL****27 MAY 2016**

<b>REPORT TITLE</b>	<b>APPLICATION FOR A PREMISES TO BE APPROVED AS A VENUE FOR CIVIL MARRIAGES AND CIVIL PARTNERSHIPS</b>
<b>REPORT OF</b>	<b>ASSISTANT CHIEF EXECUTIVE</b>

**REPORT SUMMARY**

The purpose of this report is to consider an application for a premises to be approved as a venue for civil marriages and civil partnerships. The application is made by Marston's PLC and relates to the premises known as Eastham Ferry Hotel, Ferry Road, Eastham.

**RECOMMENDATION/S**

The Licensing Panel are asked to consider an application for the approval of the Eastham Ferry Hotel as a venue for civil marriages and civil partnerships.

## **SUPPORTING INFORMATION**

### **1.0 REASON/S FOR RECOMMENDATION/S**

- 1.1 Members are asked to consider this application as the venue does not comply with the Council's requirement that such premises must have suitable disabled access. In these circumstances an officer does not have authority to determine the application.

### **2.0 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED**

- 2.1 There is no provision for other options to be considered.

### **3.0 BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

- 3.1 The Council may only grant an application for the approval of venues for civil marriages and civil partnerships if it is satisfied that the application has been made in accordance with the Regulations and that the premises fulfil the requirements set out in Schedule 1 and 1A to the Regulations. Schedule 1 and 1A can be found at Appendix 1. In addition the Council may determine other reasonable requirements which it considers appropriate to ensure the facilities provided at the premises are suitable. The Council has set out that one reasonable requirement is that the premises has suitable disabled access.

- 3.2 In determining the application the Council may refuse to grant approval, or attach such additional conditions to an approval that it considers appropriate.

### **3.3 APPLICATION**

An application for a premises to be approved as a venue for civil marriages and civil partnerships has been received from Marston's PLC and relates to the premises known as Eastham Ferry Hotel, Ferry Road, Eastham. The proposed area to be licensed is the first floor function room which has no disabled access. The application and plan of the proposed area is available.

- 3.4 As part of the application process, the Council is required to publish a notice of the application on the Council's Website for a period of 21 days. This notice has been published and to date no objections have been received.

### **4.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 4.1 There are no specific implications arising from this report.

### **5.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 5.1 A decision of this Committee can be subject to Appeal.

### **6.0 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS: ICT, STAFFING AND ASSETS**

- 6.1 There are no specific implications arising from this report.

### **7.0 RELEVANT RISKS**

- 7.1 There are none arising directly from this report.

### **8.0 ENGAGEMENT/CONSULTATION**

- 8.1 Consultation is currently being undertaken in respect of this application.

## 9.0 EQUALITY IMPLICATIONS

9.1 Has the potential impact of your proposal(s) been reviewed with regard to equality?

Yes and impact review is attached.

**REPORT AUTHOR:** *Richard Leyland*  
*Licensing Team Leader*  
telephone: (0151) 691 8478  
email: [richardleyland@wirral.gov.uk](mailto:richardleyland@wirral.gov.uk)

## APPENDICES

Appendix 1 – Schedule 1 and 1A of the Regulations

## REFERENCE MATERIAL

- Application for a premises to be approved as a venue for marriages

## SUBJECT HISTORY (last 3 years)

Council Meeting	Date



**SCHEDULE 1**  
**REQUIREMENTS FOR THE GRANT OF APPROVAL OF PREMISES THAT ARE NOT**  
**RELIGIOUS PREMISES**

1. Having regard to their primary use, situation, construction and state of repair, the premises must, in the opinion of the authority, be a seemly and dignified venue for the proceedings.
2. The premises must be regularly available to the public for use for—
  - (a) the solemnization of marriages; or
  - (b) the formation of civil partnerships.
3. The premises must have the benefit of such fire precautions as may reasonably be required by the authority, having consulted with the fire and rescue authority, and such other reasonable provision for the health and safety of persons employed in or visiting the premises as the authority considers appropriate.
4. The premises must not be—
  - (a) religious premises;
  - (b) a register office, but this paragraph does not apply to premises in which a register office is situated, provided that the room which is subject to approval is not the same room as the room which is the register office.
5. The room or rooms in which the proceedings are to take place if approval is granted must be identifiable by description as a distinct part of the premises.

**SCHEDULE 1A**  
**REQUIREMENTS FOR THE GRANT OF APPROVAL OF RELIGIOUS PREMISES**

- 1.** Having regard to their primary use, situation, construction and state of repair, the premises must, in the opinion of the authority, be a seemly and dignified venue for the proceedings.
- 2.** Except in so far as section 196 of, and paragraph 2 of Schedule 23 to, the Equality Act 2010 may apply, the premises must be regularly available to the public for the formation of civil partnerships.
- 3.** The premises must have the benefit of such fire precautions as may reasonably be required by the authority, having consulted with the fire and rescue authority, and such other reasonable provision for the health and safety of the persons employed in or visiting the premises as the authority considers appropriate.
- 4.** The room or rooms in which the proceedings are to take place if approval is granted must be identifiable by description as a distinct part of the premises.