Licensing Act Sub Committee Hearing (held at Belle Vue Community, Sports and Youth Centre, Kendal Road, Hartlepool) Monday 2nd April 2007

Members of the Panel:	Councillors Dr Morris (Chair), Rayner and Rogan
Application Premises:	Belle Stores, 43-45 Murray Street
Applicant and Applicants representative(s):	
Officers present:	Ralph Harrison, Head of Public Protection & Housing
	Tony Macnab, Solicitor
	Pat Watson, Democratic Services Officer
Statutory Consultees Present:	
Respondent Premises Licence Holder:	
Decision:	
That the meeting stand adjourned, with the consent of all parties, at the request of the Respondent Premises Licence Holder to enable him to be represented, and be reconvened on Monday 14 th May at 10.00am.	
Monday 14 th May, 2007	
Upon re∞nvening, the following were present:	
Members of the Panel:	Councillors R Cook (Chair) Morris and Richardson
Application Premises:	Bells Stores, 43-45 Murray Street
Applicant and Applicants representative(s):	Brian Dinning, Senior Technical Officer

Officers present:	Ralph Harrison, Head of Public Protection
	Ann McMorris, Head of Safeguard and Review Unit
	Tony Macnab, Solicitor
	Jo Wilson, Democratic Services Officer
Statutory Consultees Present:	
Respondent Premises Licence Holder:	Claire Moorby, Designated Premises Supervisor
	Jonathan Smith, Legal Representative for Bells Stores
	Barry Hodson, Sainsburys Regional Profit Protection Manager
	Dave Lester, Sainsburys Loss Prevention Officer
	Joanne Surguy, Sainsburys Legal Licensing Team
Destrict	
Decision:	

The Licensing Authority considered that the application for a review of the premises licence by the Trading Standards, Responsible Authority, was relevant to the licensing objective relating to the protection of children from ham.

The application related to the commission of an offence of the sale of alcohol to an individual aged under 18 on 13th October 2006 at the respondent premises. The shop assistant who made the sale was convicted on the 12th February 2007 and was fined £130 and ordered to pay £120 costs.

The Responsible Authority for children, made a representation under the category of protection of children from ham. They stated that the implications of supplying alcohol to a minor places the child at risk, both in terms of their health and personal safety. Alcohol can have a serious impact on anti-social behaviour in an area and be a nuisance to residents.

Jonathan Smith, Solicitor for the Respondent Premises Licence Holder put forward representations concerning the policies and procedures in place to ensure compliance with the Licensing Act. These were well documented in papers supplied to the Committee.

The Licensing Authority was satisfied that there were detailed documented policies and procedures in place to prevent the sale of alcohol to under 18s at these premises.

The Licensing Authority therefore did not consider that it was necessary to take any of the steps mentioned in subsection 4 of section 52 of the Licensing Act 2003 and therefore no action is taken in respect of the premises licence.

ROB COOK

CHAIR