

**REVIEW OF THE PREMISES LICENCE FOR
THE SPICE LOUNGE, 22-24 HIGH STREET, HIGHAM FERRERS
LICENSING PANEL HEARING – MONDAY 8 APRIL 2019**

The Licensing Panel has considered this application for a Review of the Premises Licence for the Spice Lounge, 22-24 High Street, Higham Ferrers and has taken into account the report from East Northamptonshire Council's Health Protection Manager, the application submitted by the Police, Witness Statement submitted by Chief Immigration Officer and the subsequent representations submitted by two officers of the Arrest Team at the Immigration Compliance and Enforcement Team. Officer representation from East Northamptonshire Council's Licensing Enforcement Officer. The Panel carefully considered representations made on behalf of the Premises Licence Holder and Designated Premises Supervisor.

The Panel have therefore decided unanimously:

1. To suspend the premises licence with immediate effect for a period of one month relating to the Spice Lounge, 22-24 High Street, Higham Ferrers
2. To remove the Designated Premises Supervisor from the licence.

The Panel received legal advice in terms of:

- 1) The licensing object prevention of serious crime and disorder
- 2) The options available to the Panel under Section 53B
- 3) Section 182 and Section 53A Summary Review Guidance
- 4) The legal test to be applied
- 5) Its own statement of licensing policy
- 6) The legal test to be applied – Promotion of Licensing Objective of Prevention of Crime and Disorder.

The reasons for the decision are:

- 1) The Panel accepted the representations made by Northamptonshire Police, and decided that on balance of probability that suspension of the Premises Licence is appropriate to deter the premises being used as a vehicle for criminal activity and to prevent the exploitation of vulnerable individuals which may also involve defrauding the Revenue.
- 2) The Designated Premises Supervisors failure to adhere to conditions already applied to the licence.

The Decision Notice will be sent out in writing. If aggrieved with the Panel's decision, the Applicant and any Party that has made representation has the Right to Appeal to the Magistrates Court within 21 days of the Decision Notification letter.

Councillor P Wathen
Chairman
8 March 2019