

LICENSING SUB-COMMITTEE HEARING

DETERMINATION NOTICE

Date of Hearing	16 th October 2025
Sub-Committee Members	Councillors Bhondi (Chair), Everett (Vice Chair) and Moriarty
Legal Adviser	James Arrandale
Licensing Officer	Marie Malt – Licensing Service Manager
Democratic Services Officer	Lauren Steele
Applicant's Name	Encore Venues Ltd
Premises Address	'The Encore', 105 Norfolk Street, King's Lynn, Norfolk, PE30 1AQ
Application	Application for a new premises licence

APPLICATION

King's Lynn and West Norfolk Borough Council (the **Council**), being the relevant licensing authority, has received an application for a new Premises Licence for 'The Encore', 105 Norfolk Street, King's Lynn, Norfolk, PE30 1AQ.

During the 28-day representation period, the Council received two letters of representation from other persons to consider. There were no representations from Responsible Authorities.

HEARING

On 16th October 2025, a hearing was held to consider the application for the new premises licence. The Sub-Committee listened to all the evidence and submissions. It heard from:

- The Licensing Service Manager
- The Applicant

SUMMARY OF EVIDENCE

The Licensing Service Manager presented her report and outlined the application which had been submitted. The Applicant had no questions.

In response to a question from Cllr Moriarty, the Licensing Service Manager confirmed that many premises on Norfolk Street operate until 3am or 4am with music.

The Applicant presented its case.

In response to questions from the Licensing Service Manager, the Applicant explained plans regarding management of clientele entering and exiting the premises. It confirmed that it would have SIA door staff every time that it hosted live music, as well as from 9pm on Friday and Saturday.

In response to questions from Cllr Moriarty, the Applicant further explained its clientele entry/exit plans, and expanded on the types of music they intend to play. Details were given as to the location of CCTV.

In response to questions from Cllr Everett, the Applicant explained the sound management measures it had taken and the cost of secondary glazing.

In response to questions from Cllr Bhondi, the Applicant gave its views on the feasibility of installing a lobby. The Applicant acknowledged that it cannot forcibly control entry and exit.

The parties all summed up.

FINDINGS

The Sub-Committee has determined the application with a view to promoting the four licensing objectives. It considered the application on its own merits. In reaching its determination, the Sub-Committee had regard to the following matters:

- The Licensing Service Manager's report;
- Relevant parts of the written and oral evidence before them;
- The Council's Licensing Policy;
- Statutory Guidance issued under the Licensing Act 2003

The Sub-Committee considered that it was not convinced by evidence that the installation of a lobby was technically unfeasible, and that a lobby could ultimately be beneficial to the Applicant's ability to comply with both its noise management responsibilities, and to its compliance with the public safety elements of the licensing regime.

However, the Sub-Committee also took account of officers' evidence regarding ambient noise levels on Norfolk Street, and the fact that the Applicant would need to comply with a Noise Management Plan.

With that in mind, the Sub-Committee was minded not to require the installation of a lobby, but recommended to the Applicant that this option be kept under review.

DETERMINATION

The Sub-Committee determined to grant the licence subject to the mandatory and proposed conditions as set out in the Report, subject to the following amendments:

- 4(a) "... Cameras should cover entrance **including outside queuing areas, garden areas** and till areas and provide facial recognition ..."
- 4(d) At least 1 member of SIA door staff must be present at the premises on Fridays, Saturdays, and all Bank Holiday Sundays from 9pm until 15 minutes after the premises closes, **and for the duration of all live music performances on any other days.**"

RIGHT OF APPEAL

There is a right of appeal against this decision to the Magistrates' Court. An appeal must be commenced within 21 days beginning with the day on which you receive notification of the

decision. You may wish to seek independent legal advice from a solicitor or the Citizens Advice Bureau regarding this.

Signed.....
Councillor Jim Bhondi (Chair of the Licensing Committee)

Date: 16th October 2025