

Durham Constabulary  
Force HQ  
Aykley Heads  
DH1 5TT

CERTIFICATE UNDER SECTION 53(a)(B) OF THE LICENSING ACT 2003

I hereby certify that in my opinion of the premise described below are associated with both serious crime and serious disorder.

Premises:

THE GEORGE  
107 BONDGATE  
DARLINGTON  
COUNTY DURHAM  
DL3 7LB

Premise licence no: DL16/00927/VARDPS

Name of Premises licence holder: George Maxwell SOWBERY

I am a Chief Superintendent in Durham Constabulary.

I am giving this certificate because I am of the opinion that the other procedures under the licencing Act 2003 are inappropriate in this case, and that it is proportionate in the circumstance for the reasons below.

Several incidents were reported to Durham Constabulary on Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY 2022 of serious disorder and violence in Darlington Town Centre. During the investigation it has been established that this licensed premises has failed to take any action which could have prevented the incident occurring.

CCTV footage at the premises shows several persons entering the venue prior to the incident. These persons entering the premise are identified as Darlington Football Club risk supporters of which are known to regularly attend The George public house.

These persons are not wearing face coverings / masks to cover their identities upon entering the premises. The group drink in the pub and then prior to leaving they put on face coverings and balaclavas to hide their identity. They also take with them a number of glasses, bottles and pool balls. A member of bar staff is seen collecting glasses around the group during this time.

Once the persons have left the premises there is a large-scale disturbance within Darlington Town centre where these persons have been involved.

If the bar staff / management had intervened, then the disturbance may not have occurred in front of members of the public including the elderly and young families.

This is the only proportionate action available at the time to prevent any further crime and disorder at the premises in the future.

Signed

Dated: 21<sup>st</sup> FEBRUARY 2022

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Adrian Green', with a stylized initial 'A' and a long horizontal flourish.

Print Name: Adrian GREEN

Title: Chief Superintendent 193