

LICENSING HEARING PACK

Application

New Premises Licence Application

**Studio 18, Hope Mills Business Centre, Hope Mill Lane,
Brimscombe, Stroud**

Applicant

Studio 18 (Stroud) Ltd

Hearing Date

Friday 19th December 2025 – 10:00

**Council Chamber,
Stroud District Council Offices**

25/01189/LAPRNW

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Section 1 – Agenda

LICENSING PANEL

A meeting of the Licensing Panel is being held on **Friday 19th December 2025** in the Council Chamber, Ebley Mill, Ebley Wharf, Stroud at **10:00**

Members of the Panel: Councillor Martin Brown (Chair), Councillor Steve Robinson and Councillor Paul Turner

A G E N D A

1.	APOLOGIES To receive apologies for absence
2.	DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST To receive declarations of interest
3.	CONSIDERATION OF NEW APPLICATION FOR A PREMISES LICENCE: Studio 18, Hope Mills Business Centre, Hope Mill Lane, Brimscombe, GL5 2SE

Section 2 - Order of Proceedings

LICENSING HEARINGS – ORDER OF PROCEEDINGS

1. Introductions	
2. Hearing Report a. The Licensing Officer presents the Hearing Report	
3. Responsible Authorities a. Responsible Authorities address the Panel about their representations b. Questions to the Responsible Authorities	
4. Other Persons (this may be local residents, businesses or Parish/Town Councils) a. Other Persons address the Panel about their representations b. Questions to the Other Persons	
5. Applicant a. The Applicant addresses the Panel about the application b. Questions to the Applicant	
6. Summing Up a. Responsible Authorities sum up b. Other Persons sum up c. Applicants sum up.	
7. Panel Retire The Panel will retire to a private meeting to consider the application and make their decision.	
8. Decision A summary of the decision will be notified to all attendees by email as soon as possible but no later than 5 working days.	
9. Decision Notice A Decision Notice containing the full decision, any conditions imposed and the reasons, will be forwarded to applicant and all those persons that have made representation within 5 working days.	

Section 3 – Licensing Officer’s Report

PREMISES NAME: Studio 18

PREMISES ADDRESS: Unit 18, Hope Mills Business Centre, Hope Mill Lane, Brimscombe, GL5 2SE

APPLICANT: Studio 18 (Stroud) Ltd

APPLICATION TYPE: Application for a premises licence

APPLICATION REF: 25/01189/LAPRNW

1 BACKGROUND:

- 1.1 Studio 18 is an arts and community space in a converted warehouse located at Brimscombe Port, adjacent to the Canal. It consists of an inside event space and workshops and a small external area. Road access is via Hope Mill Lane which leads off London Road, and patrons can arrive on foot using the canal towpath.
- 1.2 Stroud District Council records show that temporary event notices have been submitted for events at Studio 18 since 2019 covering sale of alcohol and/or regulated entertainment. Temporary event notices are occasional ‘light touch’ permissions. A maximum of 15 are permitted per calendar year authorising events on no more than 21 days in total. If a temporary event notice goes past midnight it counts as two days. Only the Police or the Environmental Protection Team can object to temporary event notices.
- 1.3 From 2022 through to 2025, an average of 14 temporary event notices have been submitted, per year, for Studio 18. These cover events which include fundraising events with bar, DJs, electronic music, cultural music, live bands, art exhibitions with bar, Christmas events and birthday parties. The end times have ranged from 23:30 up to 02:30 and capacity has ranged between 50 and 350. Some of these temporary event notices have been submitted by the applicant for the premises licence, but the majority are submitted by different people depending on who is organising the event.

2 APPLICATION:

- 2.1 This application is a new premises licence application for sale of alcohol for consumption on the premises every day.
- 2.2 If sale of alcohol is granted, the applicant will have an entitlement, under live and recorded music exemptions, to provide live and recorded music, no later than 23:00, during the times that on sales of alcohol are permitted on the licence. This is an automatic entitlement and the licensing panel, when

considering an application for on sales of alcohol, cannot take account of the right to this entitlement when making their decision. The live and recorded music exemption cannot be a reason why sale of alcohol is refused or conditioned. A licence holder's right to the exemption can only be removed or conditioned through the review process.

- 2.3 The applicant has applied, under the non-standard times section on the application form, for an extension on New Year's Eve. This is to extend sale of alcohol and also to include recorded music after 23:00 (this is because permission is needed on the licence for any live and recorded music that is outside of the times permitted under the exemption).

- 2.4 The licensable activities and times requested are:

On Sales of Alcohol	Sunday to Wednesday Thursday to Saturday New Years Eve	12:00 to 22:00 12:00 to 23:00 12:00 to 02:30
Recorded Music	New Years Eve	23:00 to 03:00
Opening Hours	Sunday to Wednesday Thursday to Saturday New Years Eve	12:00 to 22:30 12:00 to 23:30 12:00 to 03:00

- 2.5 Section 4 of the Hearing Pack is the Application Form
- 2.6 Section 5 of the Hearing Pack is the Application Plan which shows the area proposed to be licensed. There is a red line around the internal area and the garden area. The applicant is requesting the times and activities above for all areas within the red boundary line.
- 2.7 Section 6 of the Hearing Pack is an aerial plan included by the applicant which includes a red line around the building and outside area.
- 2.8 Section 7 of the Hearing Pack is a noise mitigation policy submitted by the applicant.
- 2.9 Section 8 is a location plan.

2.10 The applicant has agreed the following condition with the Environmental Protection Team.

- The licence holder will comply with the Noise Management Plan

It should be remembered that the hearing panel cannot condition live and recorded music permitted under the exemption. Therefore, the above condition, if imposed on the licence by the panel, can only be regarding noise caused by on sales of alcohol, apart from on New Year's Eve, where conditions could be imposed for recorded music after 23:00.

2.11 The applicant has agreed the following conditions with the Police:

- **Incident Log**

An incident log (written or electronic) shall be kept and maintained on the premises and made available on request to Police or the Licensing Authority, which will record the following:

- a. All crime reported to the venue
- b. All ejections of patrons
- c. Any complaints received
- d. Any incidents of disorder
- e. All seizures of drugs or weapons
- f. Any refusals of alcohol sales

Each entry shall be legible and include the time and date of the relevant occurrence, the name and signature of the person making the entry. The log must be kept for a minimum of 12 months from the date of the last entry.

- **Staff Training**

All persons involved in the sale of alcohol shall receive training commensurate to their role regarding underage sales, proxy sales, drunk sales, the licensing objectives, and conditions attached to the licence. Refresher training will be carried out at least once every twelve months. Legible records (written or electronic) of such training along with any training material used must be kept by the Designated Premises Supervisor for a period of not less than twelve months from the date of the last training. All training records shall be produced to Police and authorised officers of the Licensing Authority upon request.

- **Challenge 25**

The Challenge 25 scheme shall be adopted so that any customer attempting to purchase alcohol who appears to be under the age of 25 shall be asked for photographic ID (Passport, Photo Driving Licence or PASS accredited card) and the sale shall not be made unless valid ID is produced. Suitable signage will also be displayed advertising the scheme.

- **CCTV**

A CCTV system will be installed at the premises which shall:

- a. Continually record whilst the premises is open for licensable activities and during all times when customers remain on the premises for such activities.
- b. Cover all entrances, exits, bar area and public event spaces, including the outside area on the plans.
- c. Display the correct time and date stamping (taking account of GMT & BST).
- d. Record clear images permitting the identification of individuals.
- e. Be maintained to ensure that it is working and recording correctly.

All recordings are to be stored chronologically for a period of no less than 31 days and viewable copies downloaded and produced to Police and authorised officers of the Licensing Authority as soon as reasonably practicable. The licence holder shall notify the Licensing Authority within 24 hours when they become aware that the CCTV system provided is not in operation.

- **Security**

The Designated Premises Supervisor must complete an event specific Risk Assessment (written or electronic) for all events held at the premises where over 200 attendees are reasonably likely to attend. Each risk assessment shall include (at a minimum):

1. Type and timings of event
2. Special occasion (New Years Eve, Halloween, Local Events etc.)
3. Age demographics
4. Genre of music
5. Anticipated number of attendees
6. Staffing/Volunteer levels
7. History of any previous issues with the event

Should a Risk Assessment reasonably identify that Door Supervisors are required, then a minimum of one Door Supervisor must be on duty from 20:00 and remain on duty until the premises are closed and all the customers have left. Risk Assessments must be kept for a minimum of 12 months following the end date of the relevant event for which they exist and produced to Police or authorised officers of the Licensing Authority upon reasonable request.

- **Outside Area**

The external area shall be cleared of customers by 23:00 hours (11pm) and that persons shall only be permitted to use the area for the purpose of smoking after that time, not drinking. The Designated Premises Supervisor shall ensure, as far as reasonably practicable, that patrons in external areas behave in an orderly and considerate manner.

Lighting shall be in place to illuminate the gate area identified on the plans that accesses the canal path during hours of darkness when licensable activities are taking place.

- **Children**

Access of unaccompanied children shall not be permitted on the premises during licensable activities, and the bar will not be open for alcohol sales during any under 18 only events.

- **Miscellaneous**

The sale of alcohol shall be ancillary to the operation of the premises as an 'Art Studio' and customers will not be permitted to bring alcoholic drinks onto the premises.

Licensable activities shall only take place in those indoor areas designated on the approved plans lodged with the Licensing Authority.

The maximum number of persons to be accommodated on the premises at any one time shall not exceed 350.

Admission shall be refused to any person found with, or suspected of carrying, or under the influence of drugs / carrying an offensive weapon.

- 2.12 During the application process, the applicant has provided health and safety risk assessments and fire capacity information at the request of the Council's Health and Safety Officer. These are being considered by the Health and Safety Officer together in consultation with the Fire Service. This information does not form part of the licence application, as these are matters that can be dealt with under other legislation, such as Health and Safety At Work and Fire Regulations.
- 2.13 If the panel are minded to add the condition in paragraph 2.11 about occupancy, they may wish to add that occupancy will not exceed numbers deemed safe by a fire risk assessment for evacuation of the building in the event of a fire
- 2.14 It should be noted that if the premises licence is granted, the applicant, and/or other persons, will still be entitled to apply for temporary event notices to cover any extensions or activities over and above any permissions on the premises licence. The normal process for temporary event notices will apply.

3 REPRESENTATIONS:

Responsible Authorities

- 3.1 There have been no representations from the responsible authorities.

Other Parties

- 3.2 The Authority has received five representations against the application. Three are from local residents, one is from a local business, and one is from the Parish Council. The main relevant concerns raised relate to:
- History of noise disturbance from previous events at Studio 18, some of which been reported to the Police and Environmental Protection Team

- Loud amplified music and heavy bass
- Noise from persons gathered outside the premises, shouting and causing disturbance
- Anti-social behaviour from patrons including litter
- Allegations of drug use by patrons
- Concerns about parking and access

3.3 The authority has received nine representations in support of the application, these include users of the venue and parish and ward councillors. Points raised include:

- Positive impact the venue has for users, especially young people
- Community and cultural benefit
- Offers a safe space for young artists
- Contribution to local art scene

4 THE HEARING:

4.1 The Hearing Panel should seek to focus on concerns and comments raised in the representations that are relevant to the licensing objectives and within the scope of the Licensing Act 2003.

4.2 The licensing objectives are:

- a) Prevention of crime and disorder
- b) Prevention of public nuisance
- c) Public safety
- d) Protection of children

4.5 The Hearing Panel may, with the consent of all parties to the hearing, allow the introduction of additional evidence at the hearing that supports or amplifies the existing representation or the application. However, the introduction of further representations to those disclosed to the applicant prior to the hearing will not be allowed.

4.6 Having considered the application and the representation the Hearing Panel may take the following actions:

- Refuse the application for a premises licence
- Grant the application in the terms applied for
- Grant the application with conditions or amendments

4.7 If the Hearing Panel decides to attach conditions to the Premises Licence, those conditions must be appropriate to promote the Act's objectives and proportionate to the type of premises.