

COMMITTEE:	CENTRAL LICENSING SUB-COMMITTEE
DATE:	13 August 2025
TITLE:	APPLICATION FOR PREMISES LICENCE – SOCH, HIGH STREET, ABERSOCH, PWLLHELI, GWYNEDD LL53 7DS
PURPOSE:	FOR A DECISION
AUTHOR:	HEAD OF ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT

1. APPLICATION RECEIVED

An application is attached to vary the premises licence of Soch, High Street, Abersoch, Pwllheli, LL53 7DS from The Soch (NW) Ltd to extend the Licensing hours.

A Premises Licence currently exists. The applicant is seeking permission to vary the licence to extend the hours for licensable activities and to add Late Night Refreshments, Indoors and Outdoors, it is likely that the hours sought will not be used regularly but will take advantage of the busiest times during the seasons.

- 1.1 It is requested that the opening hours are extended until 00:30 on Sunday to Thursday night and to 01.30 on Friday and Saturday nights.
- 1.2 It is requested that the hours for supplying alcohol are extended both on and off the premises, up to 00:00 on Sunday night to Thursday night and to 01.00 on Friday and Saturday nights.
- 1.3 A request is made for permission to play live and recorded music until 00:30 on Sunday to Thursday night, and until 01:00 on weekend nights.
- 1.4 It is requested that Late Night Refreshments, indoors and outdoors, 00:00 Sunday night to Thursday night and to 01.00 on Friday and Saturday night is added.
- 1.5 The Licensing Authority officers are satisfied that there is sufficient evidence that the application has been submitted in accordance with the requirements of the Licensing Act 2003 and the relevant regulations and is therefore valid.
- 1.6 Representations were received on the application and, therefore, it has been referred to a hearing of this Sub-committee for a decision.

See the attached table for details of the proposed hours:

Trwydded Eiddo Presenol/Current Premises Licence	Trwydded Arfaethedig/Proposed Licence
Oriau Agor / Opening Hours	
Dydd Sul/Sunday 09:00-00:00	Dydd Sul/Sunday 08:00 - 00:30
Dydd Llun/Monday 09:00-00:00	Dydd Llun/Monday 08:00 - 00:30
Dydd Mawrth/Tuesday 09:00-00:00	Dydd Mawrth/Tuesday 08:00 - 00:30
Dydd Mercher/Wednesday 09:00-00:00	Dydd Mercher/Wednesday 08:00 - 00:30

Dydd Iau/Thursday 09:00-00:00 Dydd Gwener/Friday 09:00-00:00 Dydd Sadwrn/Saturday 09:00-00:00	Dydd Iau/Thursday 08:00 - 00:30 Dydd Gwener/Friday 08:00 – 01:30 Dydd Sadwrn/Saturday 08:00 – 01:30
Gweithgareddau Trwyddedadwy / Licensable Activities	
Cyflenwi Alcohol/Supply of Alcohol: Ar ac oddi ar yr Eiddo: Both on and off the Premises Dydd Sul/Sunday 09:00 – 00:00 Dydd Llun/Monday 09:00 – 00:00 Dydd Mawrth/Tuesday 09:00 – 00:00 Dydd Mercher/Wednesday 09:00 – 00:00 Dydd Iau/Thursday 09:00 – 00:00 Dydd Gwener/Friday 09:00 – 00:00 Dydd Sadwrn/Saturday 09:00 – 00:00	Cyflenwi Alcohol/Supply of Alcohol: Ar ac oddi ar yr Eiddo: Both on and off the Premises Dydd Sul/Sunday 10:00 – 00:00 Dydd Llun/Monday 10:00 – 00:00 Dydd Mawrth/Tuesday 10:00 – 00:00 Dydd Mercher/Wednesday 10:00 – 00:00 Dydd Iau/Thursday 10:00 – 00:00 Dydd Gwener/Friday 10:00 – 01:00 Dydd Sadwrn/Saturday 10:00 – 01:00 The outdoor bar will close at 23:00
Cerddoriaeth Fyw/Live Music: Tu Fewn: Indoors Dydd Sul/Sunday 09:00 - 00:00 Dydd Llun/Monday 09:00 – 00:00 Dydd Mawrth/Tuesday 09:00 – 00:00 Dydd Mercher/Wednesday 09:00 – 00:00 Dydd Iau/Thursday 09:00 – 00:00 Dydd Gwener/Friday 09:00 – 00:00 Dydd Sadwrn/Saturday 09:00 – 00:00	Cerddoriaeth Fyw/Live Music: Dan do ac Awyr Agored: Indoors and Outdoors Dydd Sul/Sunday 09:00 - 00:00 Dydd Llun/Monday 09:00 – 00:00 Dydd Mawrth/Tuesday 09:00 – 00:00 Dydd Mercher/Wednesday 09:00 – 00:00 Dydd Iau/Thursday 09:00 – 00:00 Dydd Gwener/Friday 09:00 – 01:00 Dydd Sadwrn/Saturday 09:00 – 01:00 The applicant has agreed for the outdoor Music to end at 22:00 on Sunday to Thursday and at 22:30 on Friday and Saturday nights.

<p>Cerddoriaeth wedi ei Recordio/Recorded Music: Tu Fewn: Indoors</p> <p>Dydd Sul/Sunday 09:00 - 00:00</p> <p>Dydd Llun/Monday 09:00 – 00:00</p> <p>Dydd Mawrth/Tuesday 09:00 – 00:00</p> <p>Dydd Mercher/Wednesday 09:00 – 00:00</p> <p>Dydd Iau/Thursday 09:00 – 00:00</p> <p>Dydd Gwener/Friday 09:00 – 00:00</p> <p>Dydd Sadwrn/Saturday 09:00 – 00:00</p>	<p>Cerddoriaeth wedi ei Recordio/Recorded Music: Dan do ac Awyr Agored: Indoors and Outdoors</p> <p>Dydd Sul/Sunday 09:00 - 00:00</p> <p>Dydd Llun/Monday 09:00 – 00:00</p> <p>Dydd Mawrth/Tuesday 09:00 – 00:00</p> <p>Dydd Mercher/Wednesday 09:00 – 00:00</p> <p>Dydd Iau/Thursday 09:00 – 00:00</p> <p>Dydd Gwener/Friday 09:00 – 01:00</p> <p>Dydd Sadwrn/Saturday 09:00 – 01:00</p> <p>The applicant has agreed for the outdoor Music to end at 22:00 on Sunday to Thursday and at 22:30 on Friday and Saturday nights.</p>
<p>Lluniaeth yn Hwyr y Nos: Dan do ac Awyr Agored: /Late night refreshments: Indoors and Outdoors</p> <p>Dydd Sul/Sunday</p> <p>Dydd Llun/Monday</p> <p>Dydd Mawrth/Tuesday</p> <p>Dydd Mercher/Wednesday</p> <p>Dydd Iau/Thursday</p> <p>Dydd Gwener/Friday</p> <p>Dydd Sadwrn/Saturday</p>	<p>Lluniaeth yn Hwyr y Nos: Dan do ac Awyr Agored: /Late night refreshments: Indoors and Outdoors</p> <p>Dydd Sul/Sunday 23:00 – 00:00</p> <p>Dydd Llun/Monday 23:00 – 00:00</p> <p>Dydd Mawrth/Tuesday 23:00 – 00:00</p> <p>Dydd Mercher/Wednesday 23:00 – 00:00</p> <p>Dydd Iau/Thursday 23:00 – 00:00</p> <p>Dydd Gwener/Friday 23:00 – 01:00</p> <p>Dydd Sadwrn/Saturday 23:00 – 01:00</p> <p>The applicant has agreed for the outdoor area to close at 23:00 on Sunday night to Thursday night and at 00:00 on Friday and Saturday nights.</p>

2. Measures recommended by the applicant to promote the licensing objectives

The measures recommended by the applicant in the application's operating schedule include the following -

- Staff training on licensing legislation
- Maintain a register of refusals to sell alcohol which will be available to authorised officers and the Police.

- That a CCTV system is available, with the records kept for at least 31 days and available at the request of authorised officers and the Police.
- Measures to prevent crime and disorder, to ensure public safety and the safety of children and vulnerable adults
- Co-operate with the Police and other agencies
- Carry out age verification processes and ensure comprehensive training for staff on age verification processes
- Children under 18 will not be allowed to stay on the premises after 21:00
- Implement a 'Challenge 25' policy

Full details of the recommended measures can be found in section M of the application in the appendix.

3. CONSULTATION

RESPONSES	REPRESENTATIONS
North Wales Police	No objection
Fire Service	No objection
Llanengan Community Council Clerk	No objection
Public Protection Service – Environmental Health	E-mail – objection
Objection from the Public	3 objections regarding concern with Preventing Crime and Disorder, public nuisance

3.1 Observations from North Wales Police

This premises has operated as a restaurant in recent years, known as (Fresh) and there have been no concerns.

The building has been significantly refurbished and is now a new business called Soch. Since the refurbishment work has been completed, Soch has operated the sale of alcohol under a Temporary Events Notice several times without any problem or any need to call on our services. North Wales Police have no objection to the application.

3.2 Observations from the Fire Service

The Fire Authority have not submitted any observations to the Licensing Authority regarding the application.

3.3 Llanengan Community Council Clerk

No objection from the Members to the above application.

3.4 Public Protection Service – Environmental Health

The recommendation and the advice of the Environmental Health Officer notes that there will be no objection provided the applicant accepts and implements the approved noise management plan.

On the recommendation and the advice of the Environmental Health Officer the applicant has agreed as noted -

. Recorded music:

- Hours permitted: Up to 01:00 (Fri-Sat), 00:00 (Sun-Thurs), in accordance with the application for a premises licence.
- Control of Noise Level: Staff to monitor the noise level and make adjustments as required. The music noise level will be reduced 15 minutes before closing, however, there is no specific 'quieting down' requirement.
- Management of numbers: monitored by staff and adjusted as required.
- Windows and Doors: To be kept closed during live or recorded music except for access/exit.
- Location of Speaker: Speakers to be placed away from the windows and external doors.
- Monitoring: Staff undertake regular perimeter checks during peak hours.
- Acoustic barriers to be in place (curtains) should any concerns arise.
- Background music only when there is no band or other entertainment.

Outdoor music

- Use: Occasional outdoor music events permitted until 22:30 (Fri–Sat), 22:00 (Sun–Thurs).
- Notice: Neighbours to be notified of organised outdoor events.
- Direction of Speakers: Not to be directed towards residential premises.
- Management: Staff allocated to monitor and respond to matters promptly.

Smoking Shelter and Outdoor Seating Areas

- Hours of use: Open until 23:00 Sun-Thurs, 00:00 Fri and Sat.
- Furniture: Outdoor tables and chairs to have rubber feet to reduce noise.
- Supervision: The staff monitor the areas and remind guests to be respectful.
There are also signs that reinforce this.

A full copy of the management plan is attached.

3.5 Representations and Objection from the public

Representations were submitted based on concerns that the licensing objective of Preventing Public Nuisance would be undermined due to the intention to hold licensable activities later than what is noted on the current licence.

The resident is already very concerned about the noise and feels that permitting the extended hours would cause a public nuisance and set a precedent for other businesses.

It is noted that temporary events licence applications have been in place over the last few weeks, it is also confirmed that noise complaints have been received recently from a nearby resident regarding loud music, customers shouting and being noisy when leaving the premises.

A full copy of the concerns and the objection from the public and nearby residents is attached.

4. RECOMMENDATION

The applicant has provided a noise management report, however the applicant's ability to control public nuisance should be questioned as noise complaints have been received recently, despite a noise management Plan having been submitted.

Should the Committee approve the application, it is recommended that further conditions are introduced to what has been agreed in the Noise Management Plan to ensure that the licensing objectives are not undermined. Additional noise conditions have been proposed by Environmental Health to be added to the proposed Noise Management Plan, in response to the recent noise complaints.