

R-LA4 (Rev 21/09/22)



HUMBERSIDE
Fire & Rescue Service

Your Ref: PM000885
Our Ref: FS/SB/00165274 (908923)
Date: 09 July 2026

Jo Bennett
North East Lincolnshire Council,
Doughty Road Depot
Doughty Road
Grimsby
DN32 0LL

PROTECTION

The person dealing with this matter is:
Sam Buller
Protection Inspector
Tel: 07929841773
Email: sbuller@humbersidefire.gov.uk

licensing@nelincs.gov.uk

Dear Madam,

**REGULATORY REFORM (FIRE SAFETY) ORDER 2005
LICENSING ACT 2003
APPLICATION FOR THE REVIEW OF A PREMISES LICENCE
PREMISES: THE SPICE OF LIFE
8-12 WELLOWGATE
GRIMSBY
DN32 0RA**

In reply to your letter and enclosures received on 22nd June 2026 and following correspondence regarding the above-mentioned application, please accept this additional submission to supersede the letter dated 6th July 2026.

The Fire Authority make the following comments regarding the review of the Premises Licence:

The last Fire Safety Audit was carried out in October 2019 in line with our Risk Based Inspection Program, at this visit advice was given on the maintenance of the fire safety provisions which includes the testing and maintenance of the Fire alarm system and Emergency light system.

Following this we have two licencing consultations, one November 2020 and the most recent being February 2024. On this application the following items were highlighted;

- **Means of Escape** - All final exit doors should be quickly and easily openable in the event of a fire without the use of a key or code.
- **Means of Giving Warning of Fire** - The fire alarm system should conform to British Standard 5839: Part 1: 2017.
- **Emergency Lighting** - The emergency lighting system should conform to British Standard 5266: Part 1: 2016
- **Signage** - Escape route signage should comply with British Standard 5499: Part 4: 2013



The plans with this application show the ground floor and first floor function rooms only. With the information provided we would not be aware that there was sleeping accommodation/HMO to the rear upper floors.

In March 2024 we received a Fire safety concern job from Immigration officers with concerns regarding the standard of the suspected HMO. A referral was made to NEL housing to ensure they had received the concern and let them know that we would be visiting the site to investigate the concern.

Inspectors visited site on 18th March 2024 and were unable to access the property. No sleeping accommodation or evidence of sleeping could be ascertained at this time. A joint visit would be arranged with NEL housing if required following their investigations.

In June 2025 Inspectors attended site as part of a Multi Agency Visit it was noted that there was sleeping accommodation/HMO to the rear upper floors and NEL housing were to take the lead on this under The Housing Act 2004.

In April 2026, Spice of Life, 8-12 Wellowgate, Grimsby, DN32 0RA has been selected by our Risk Based Inspection Program for a Routine Fire Safety Audit to be inspected between 1st April 2026 and 31st March 2027.

In June 2026 another Fire Safety Concern job was raised. This job was also sent through from immigration following a visit to site on the 4th June 2026. The fire safety concerns raised at this visit were:

- The only access stair to the 'flats' is from inside the premises.
- A fire door in the kitchen is bolted closed
- A final exit to the side of the building was 'nailed closed'
- The escape stairway had no lighting and had obstructions and storage of items for the restaurant.

The concern was also over the legitimacy and suitability of the upper floors being used as a HMO.

Following this concern Protection inspectors attended site with NEL housing on 11th June 2026. The following was found:

- The 'nailed closed' door had been fixed, this had been temporarily secured due to an alleged attempted break in.
- The other door that was fixed closed leads to a function room that is not currently in use.
- Advice was given on the requirements to extend the smoke detection in the restaurant as it is very large and did not have the required number of detectors to give early warning to the sleeping accommodation above.
- Designated fire doors required intumescent heat and cold smoke seals replacing as the were worn/missing.
- All times on all escape routes need to be removed so that all exits are kept clear from obstructions and combustibles at all times.

At this visit the Responsible person was notified that the premises has been chosen for inspection as part of our Risk Based Inspection Program and due to the concerns raised by other agencies this would be arranged as soon as possible. The Fire Safety audit was arranged for Monday the 6th July 2026 and has subsequently been re-arranged for Tuesday 21st July 2026.

If you require further advice or clarification of any of these matters, please contact the Protection Inspector at the address above.

Yours faithfully

Sam Buller

FOR THE CHIEF FIRE OFFICER & CHIEF EXECUTIVE