

Appendix 2.

Notice of Review. 21/00793/FUL

Re: 43, High Street, Hawick TD9 9BU

The applicant, Khanh Hoang Limited, is a family-owned business based in Langholm. The family is British, all working members hold British passports and are of Vietnamese origin. The business in Langholm is a licensed convenience store and the family also have beauty-related businesses in Carlisle and Hawick. It maybe helpful to explain the particular requirements and characteristics of the business to which the applicant wishes to put these premises.

In recent years, people of mainly Vietnamese origin have been significantly involved in the development of beauty salons that have become known as nail bars. The applicant had an existing business at 41, High Street, Hawick trading as Cleo's Nail & Beauty. Although there were salons that provided such services, the number that specialised in nails has expanded greatly over that past 10 year driven mainly by people from Vietnam seeking to start profitable businesses in the UK. The nature of the business is often to provide employment to family members but it is also the case that fellow nationals, with the appropriate skills, are given the opportunity of employment.

Many immigrants are drawn to the large cities such as London, Glasgow, Edinburgh and Birmingham and it is not always easy to encourage them to come to less urban areas to work. Although residential accommodation is available in Hawick, it is not often available or practical to rent it for periods of less than 6 months. Given that some basic facilities such as kitchen, shower and toilet were already existed at 43, High Street, Hawick, the premises provided the opportunity, with easy adaptations, for modest residential use by management and staff working in the salon. It is also the case that the services provided are to some extent seasonal driven by Christmas and New Year peaks, the summer holiday period and local festivals such as the Common Riding.

Currently, any visiting staff are accommodated at the applicant's family home in Langholm. At a personal level this is not always convenient and transportation can be come an issue if the staff have to use public transport.

If unused parts of the premises were brought into use in accordance with the application it would provide an additional, though not required, means of emergency escape.

It should also be considered that this building already incorporates 2 separate residential flats on the first and second floors that utilise existing means of access at ground level.