

EXAMPLE: REQUEST FOR VARIATION OF OFF LICENSE TO INCREASE HOURS FROM MIDNIGHT TO 2AM (2017)

Residents attended hearing as an interested party and spoke in objection along with responsible authorities (GM Police, Licensing). The applicant did not turn up but hearing went ahead.

OUTCOME: REFUSED ON GROUNDS OF PREVENTION OF CRIME & DISORDER AND PREVENTION OF PUBLIC NUISANCE.

Objection sent by email.

Dear Sirs

**Premises Licence variation 192744/BJ1:**

I am writing on behalf of Community Guardian residents in SE Fallowfield and Withington. We are writing to object to the variation license application for a 2am license at XXXXXX.

**Withington Stress Licensing Policy**

Withington village is covered by a special stress zone licensing policy because of concerns by residents about the excessive problems of anti social behaviour further up Wilmslow Road in Fallowfield which have arisen due to a large number of pubs, bars, off licenses and take aways with late licenses. There is concern that now Fallowfield is 'full', alcohol and take away outlets would move further south to nearby Withington causing similar problems to arise there.

Withington already has a number of licensed premises which do cause noise and disturbances. Residents do not wish to see any premises selling alcohol in the early hours. We feel that the current hours are already sufficiently late (midnight Sun-Thurs and 00.30hrs Fri & Sat).

**Preventing Public Nuisance & Crime & Disorder**

Fallowfield and Withington both have a very high density of students, thousands of young people are concentrated in and around our area and this is a factor which contributes significantly to night time noise for residents. Many young people enjoy the night economy and licensed premises open during the early hours act as a magnet for groups. The provision of late night alcohol adds to this sort of nuisance and can be a source of extra refuelling for house parties which regularly occur in this neighbourhood. XXXXXX is also situated on the main Wilmslow Road near bus stops which could encourage people returning from nights out to purchase alcohol to drink on their walk home. Transient noise from on street drinking is a problem which disturbs residents during the night time. There are also a number of rough sleepers in Withington. Providing another late night source of alcohol could increase problems associated with drunken disturbances and aggressive behaviour.

There have been serious late night assaults in Withington village including an attack on a Manchester University medical student which left him hospitalised in a critical condition (Oct 2013). There is currently evidence of public nuisance and we feel this would increase with a later opening off license. Residents feel that a later opening hours for alcohol off sales will undermine the licensing objectives for public safety, public nuisance and could lead to an increase crime and disorder. Littering is also likely to increase and this is currently a major concern to Withington residents.

Later hours of alcohol sales would be very likely to increase the cumulative stress of noise and nuisance in the Withington area. Residents are keen to make sure that Withington does not turn into a village of bars, off licenses and take aways and thus create the problems that are so well documented in Fallowfield. We feel that the licensing objectives would be compromised if this convenience store were granted later alcohol off sales. We would ask you to refuse this license and take note of the special license policy that exists for Withington to protect the village.

Yours

Name & Address

