

From: Ward, Adam

Sent: 26 October 2020 16:56

To: [REDACTED]

Subject: Objection to application vary premises licence - Fenny Stratford convenience store

Importance: High

Dear Mrs Manohar,

I am acting on behalf of the MK Licensing Authority in its statutory role as responsible authority. This requires me to consider the effect of your application, which is to vary your premises licence to extend its hours, on the licensing objectives. I am submitting a representation against your application for reasons I will explain below.

I note that there was an inspection by a colleague a year or so ago, and some matters were found that needed to be resolved.

I would like to arrange to inspect your premises on Tuesday 3 November 2020 at 11:00am to affirm that you are currently compliant with your premises licence and the legislation and to also discuss your application.

I am submitting this representation as the last date for representations is 31 October 2020 but I may withdraw or amend it after inspecting your premises.

The grounds for my objection is that there has previously been concerns about the sale of alcohol for consumption off the premises from licensed shops in Fenny Stratford. You will be aware that a few months ago an application was submitted for a neighbouring premises and you raised an objection to this. One of the things you cited was that there was "a culture of buying alcohol for pre-drinking or post-drinking following a night out." That the additional availability of alcohol would increase the chances of drunk and disorderly and anti-social behaviour. You also noted public safety risks of persons intoxicated falling into the canal and the nuisance caused to residents by them. I also understand you instigated a petition in which many residents repeated the same concerns.

Whilst the Council has no evidence of an issue in respect to Off-sales around the normal off sale hours (i.e. up until 23:00) I am aware that you had a strong feeling of concern that off-sales were causing a problem in the local area. The main source of concern to residents in Fenny Stratford, I believe, is related to Pink Punters and the flow of patrons to and from that venue. It is possible, perhaps very likely, given what you have previously cited, that some of your customers during your extended hours, will be from those pre-drinking or post-drinking in respect to a visit to the club.

The measures offered in your operating schedule are already conditions on your licence and there does not appear to be any further measures you consider necessary to take in respect to the extension of hours you seek. As such, I was interested as to whether you had considered if there would be further risks of the licensing objectives being undermined if alcohol sales were extended from 6am in the morning and until 1am in the evening.

As I cannot see that any further thought has been given to this issue, despite the concerns you previously raised, I am believe that your application, if granted will undermine the licensing objectives.

I would however be happy to conduct an inspection on Tuesday 3 November 2020 at 11:00am to discuss what measures may be needed to address these concerns and I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely

Adam Ward
Regulatory Unit Practitioner

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