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Your Reference: LA03/Bar Expresso/117478
Date: 7th January 2012

For the attention of Ms Lisa Wright
Luton Borough Council
Licensing
Town Hall
Luton
LU1 2BQ

MR + MRS. P. MARSHALL
22, COLLINGDON COURT
COLLINGDON STREET
LUTON LU1 1ST

11 January 2012

Re: Licensing Act 2003 – Application for Variation of Premises Licence
Bar Expresso, 39-41 New Bedford Road Luton

Dear Ms Wright

Thank you for your letter dated 29 December 2011. After careful consideration, I would like to express the concerns that I have concerning for the Variation Premises Licence in relation to the above.

I firmly believe that to grant a licence or vary a licence would not be in the interests of the licensing objectives for the reasons outlined below.

Prevention of Crime and Disorder

It is a well established fact that alcohol fuels violent disorder and that drinking is the cause of a steep rise in violence, associated drug use and other crimes. The problem stems from the rapid growth in pubs and bars opening in city centres across the country. As a result, Home Office figures show that assault and wounding rose by 70 per cent in some parts of England last year. Furthermore the British Crime Survey and the NHS Accident and Emergency networks support this claim.

In addition, alcohol promotions will be inevitable at this premise. We all know that drinking is crammed into short periods of time such as "happy hours". Therefore disorder and violence escalates when drinkers are thrown on to the streets. Facts show, that there is a significant rise in violent crime on a Friday and Saturday and this has a direct correlation with disorder and increased crime rates.

We urge local authorities and magistrates to curb the number of new bars, especially those with late licenses.

Public Safety

In the circumstances, I would have to question Luton Borough Council's apparent lack of consideration for elderly residents by proposing to situate yet another late night refreshment bar, within approximately 50 metres of Collingdon Court Elderly Residents home, to add to the already numerous premises that supply alcohol within a short distance.

I am elderly person and I'm already terrified from the drunks pouring out on to the streets who disturb what used to be a peaceful neighbourhood. I do not believe that this further development is in my interests or in the interests of the general public. Furthermore, it will be nightmare for any person to walk on the path leading to ***Under Pass always fills up with weekends broken glass bottles and urinate*** and Council staff to clean up the mess drunkards leaving behind . I appreciate your imagination to see will be state of that ***SUBWAY*** during summer months weekends if the License is granted.

Prevention of Public Nuisance

In addition to the above, the presence of another bar will only exacerbate the noise levels in the immediate vicinity. Currently, this area becomes very rowdy from people shouting, being abusive and chanting late at night. Traffic levels increase significantly which can be disturbing, not to mention the noise at night caused by loud music and sirens.

The abundance of alcohol consumption and the culture of "hooliganism" already incites abusive chanting which I find intimidating and threatening. As a result, I am scared to leave my home.

Protection of Children from Harm

In this respect, I have concerns about our young and impressionable children in the local area. Encouraging people to stay out late at night until the early hours, intoxicated inevitably sets a bad example and encourages anti-social behaviour. I am concerned that this will have a detrimental effect on our youth and on society as a whole.

Yours sincerely [redacted] (Mr)

[redacted] (Mrs)