

**Premises Licence Application in Respect of H &Q Café Shop, 242 Bennetts Castle Lane, Dagenham, RM8 3UU – Representation**

I write with regard to the application for a new premises licence made by H & Q Café Shop Limited in respect of the trading premises known as H &Q Café Shop, 242 Bennetts Castle Lane, Dagenham, RM8 3UU.

Having considered the content of the application, which seeks consent for the supply of alcohol 'on' sales between 10:00 and 23:00 and LNR between 23:00 to 00:00 seven days a week, I would wish to make a representation on behalf of the Licensing Authority under the following licensing objectives

- The prevention of crime and disorder
- Public safety
- The prevention of public nuisance

This representation is made on the basis that the premises is located in a mixed commercial / residential area. There are a significant number of local residents living in close proximity to the premises and there is a care home within 200m of the premises. Given this there is potential for the residents to be subject to anti-social behaviour and nuisance, particularly from customers using tables and chairs to the front of the premises on the highway and in the rear garden of the premises, and while leaving the premises at night-time.

In my view, the potential could be reduced by imposing an earlier closing time together with a staggered reduction in the premises external operation. On this basis, I would like to see

- A reduction of the terminal licensed hour sought from midnight to 23.00
- The last permitted sales of alcohol to be made at 22.30 allowing for 30 minutes drinking up time
- Restriction placed on the use of tables and chairs in the rear garden to 22.00 and
- Restriction placed on the use of tables and chairs at the front of the premises to 21.00 with the street furniture used being stored in the premises each night or otherwise made inaccessible to the public

Furthermore, the application describes the premises as a 'café. However, the operating schedule provided contains no provisions intended to ensure that the premises, once licensed, operates as such. The operating schedule proposes a condition only that states "Alcohol shall be supplied to seated customers only; there shall be no vertical consumption of alcohol on the premises at any time".

There is potential, therefore, that the premises business becomes alcohol rather than food led and evolves into a bar rather than a café. I would also wish to see a condition added to any licence granted that states “Alcohol shall only be purchased for consumption on the premises when it is an accompaniment to a sit down substantial plated meal served at a table”.

If agreement is given to these additions, I would be prepared to withdraw this representation.

Samena Baloch, Licensing Authority Responsible Authority Officer