

From:

Sent: 07 June 2020 16:49

To: Business Licence <business.licence@brent.gov.uk>

Subject: Gambling Licence 141 Kilburn High Road

Dear Sir or Madam

I write in respect of the application for a licence at premises at 141-143 Kilburn High Road. I am a resident of [REDACTED] which joins the Kilburn High Road at the corner where these premises are located.

I object to provision of a licence for Adult Gaming Centre premises at this location. My primary concern is that it will result in an increase in street crime in the area.

It is in a prominent location on the Kilburn High Road and will draw in a number of young and vulnerable people. I note that it is located very close to Kilburn Grange School – 1 minute's walk away on Priory Park Road. I do not understand how that close proximity is compatible with the objective of "protecting children and other vulnerable persons from being harmed or exploited by gambling."

Moreover, it is also located on the corner with Glengall Road. This road, because it is connected to Willesden Lane by roads that are only accessible to foot and two-wheeled traffic has proved to be a magnet for street crime: the geography allows for criminals to evade police vehicle pursuit. It is notorious that drug-users and criminals move from the busy Kilburn High Road to the more isolated, residential streets. For this reason the Council will be aware that the Kilburn SNT supported the placement of CCTV cameras in 2019 to cover the BT phonebox on the corner of Hazelmere Road and Victoria Road, which quickly adjoins Glengall Road.

Glengall Road has seen significant street crime since late 2018. There is a particular cluster of anti-social behaviour crime at Glengall Passage right by the proposed licensed premises. I am concerned the presence of an activity notorious for addictive behaviour will exacerbate that anti-social behaviour.

I note that there has been consistent complaint about gambling premises at this location because of the effect on crime in the local area <http://democracy.brent.gov.uk/documents/s19314/Application-Resident%20Repl.pdf>

Finally, I do not understand how the presence of another Adult Gaming Centre is necessary. There is already the "Mercur Cashino Kilburn" almost immediately opposite on the Camden side of Kilburn High Road, at the corner of Kilburn High Road and Quex Road. There would, if this license is approved, be two within less than 25 metres of each other. Inbetween them, on the opposite side of Glengall Road would be "H&T Pawnbrokers". I do not understand how a cluster of pawnbrokers and AGC can be anything but a magnet for cash based street crime, anti-social behaviour and exploitation of the vulnerable. It would appear to be contrary to the guidance published in <https://www.brent.gov.uk/media/9511196/A%20Fair%20Deal%20Betting%20Shops.%20Pay%20Day%20Loan%20Shops%20and%20Pawnbrokers%20in%20Brent.pdf>