

28-02-2021

We are totally opposed to this application as we consider it goes against all four licensing objectives.

Use of the back garden: - This is a residential area and the use of the garden by customers would represent a substantial and continuous nuisance to the whole neighbourhood. - Our kitchen, bathroom and bedroom have windows at the back of the property. Already now, and even with our windows closed, we can often hear the noise generated by customers; and when the premise windows are open it is extremely disruptive and irritating as the noise resonates heavily in the back courtyard. - From time to time, the previous staff used to take cigarette breaks in the back courtyard. Because of the layout of the buildings, conversations resonate and can be very disturbing even when there are only two or three people. Plus the cigarettes smoke gets pushed towards our building and sometimes infiltrates our flat even with our windows closed; and if our windows are open, the smell covers our flat in no time. We can't even start to imagine what kind of hell it would be if the back courtyard and garden were to be filled with customers. - As highlighted by the London Fire And Emergency Planning Authority in September 2013 in response to a similar application, the use of the back garden would pose a real safety risk.

Background music: - Based on our long and painful experience with all the previous owners, we are against the use of so-called background music. - This is a residential area, with solid party walls that propagate sound from both customers and music. - Also, having any kind of noise late in the evening is absolutely not acceptable in such a residential area. There are families, working people and school children who need to get up early, and we all have the right to peaceful nights!

Late night refreshments: - Whether indoors or outdoors, this is again not compatible with a residential area like ours as it naturally leads to both noise and behavioural issues. - And the idea of allowing alcohol outside, like on the front decking for example, is absolutely not acceptable.

Opening times: - The proposed operating hours are completely inappropriate. Serving until midnight and 7 days a week is way too late and too much for a residential area. - Customer will be noisy when in the premises, and noisy too when leaving. - The staff will still work beyond midnight for cleaning and garbage, and this can be very noisy as we have sadly experienced in the past.

In conclusion, allowing the proposed licence would make our lives a daily and nightly nightmare both in terms of noise nuisance and of air pollution. As residents, we have a right to clean air and to a reasonably quiet environment.