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Your Ref: 28920

Our ref: 01QK/531/23/1187NW

Date: 09th August 2023

Police representations to the application for a new Premises Licence for 'Newsfare, 33, Craven Park Road, NW10 8SE'

Police certify that we have considered the application shown above and wish to make representations that the likely effect of the grant of the application is detrimental to the Council's Licensing Objectives for the reasons indicated below.

**Officer: PC Brendon MCINNES
Licensing Constable 1187NW**

An officer of the Metropolitan Police, in whose area the premises are situated, who is authorised for the purposes of exercising its statutory function as a 'Responsible Authority' under the Licensing Act 2003.

The application has been made for a new premises licence under section 17 of the Licensing act 2003. The Police representations are concerned with all four of the licensing objectives, namely:

- The prevention of crime and disorder;
- Public safety;
- The prevention of public nuisance; and
- The protection of children from harm.

The Application

The application is for a new Off License / Convenience Store in Craven Park Road in between Manor Park Road Tavistock Road.

The applicant is asking for venue to be open from 07.00 hours to 23.00 hours Monday through to Sunday. The sale of alcohol is requested from 07.00 hours to 22.00 hours Monday through to Sunday.

The application quite rightly states that the venue is located within one of Brent's Cumulative Impact Zones (CIZ).

Cumulative Impact Zones

Brent Council Licensing Policy introduced CIZ's on 7th January 2020 in order to combat a rise in crime, disorder, public nuisance, anti-social behaviour and street drinking all of which is fuelled by the sale and consumption of alcohol

There are many studies reflecting the relationship between alcohol consumption/abuse with increases in ASB and violent crimes, as highlighted by such organisations as the Institute of Alcohol Studies. There is also evidence that the most disadvantaged of socio-economic groups (as represented by some of the local populous) that they are disproportionately at risk of alcohol-related violence.

Police Representations

I've run intelligence checks on Craven Park Road where the venue is situated from 08/02/2023 to 08/08/2023 (a six month period), which shows the following figures:-

- (a) One Hundred and fifty four (154) Recorded crimes. These are a wide variety of crimes including assaults, possession of drugs, racially aggravated public order offences, GBH, domestic assaults and numerous thefts.
- (b) Two Hundred and forty (240) Calls to police.
- (c) Thirty seven (37) Stop and searches by police.
- (d) Forty six (46) Arrests.
- (e) Thirty (30) calls for Anti-social behaviour.

Overall there are 507 intelligence hits for this stretch of road. None of these figures include the surrounding roads such as, Manor Park Road, High Street Harlesden, Park Parade, Acton Lane and Station Road. All which is a two minute walk from where the venue is situated.

In addition to this area which is already suffering from very high crime figures, there are at present Seven (7) other licensed premises selling alcohol to the public in Craven Park Road, never mind the surrounding roads mentioned above. This community does not require another venue selling alcohol which will only fuel the street crime, ASB and create price wars between rival off licenses.

The applicant is for a 'standard' off license / convenience store with no 'speciality' theme or products. I see no benefits in adding another bog standard off license to Neasden Lane with the existing crime rate.

Taking into account of Police concerns and guidance related to CIZ's given in the Brent Council guidance; the presumption is that the application will be refused unless the applicant can satisfactorily evidence that their application or variation will not negatively impact on the licensing objectives.

Due to all the points raised above, the Police licensing team oppose the granting of this premises licence.

Yours Sincerely,

PC Brendon MCINNES
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