

**From:**

**Sent:** 22 April 2026 21:45

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

**Subject:** Objection Licence Arcadia Casino

To the Licensing Authority,

Brent Civic Centre, Engineers Way, Wembley, HA9 0FJ

I write to formally object to the application by Arcadia Casino Limited for an Adult Gaming Centre premises licence at 1 Walm Lane, London, NW2 5SN under Section 159 of the Gambling Act 2005.

I am a resident/local business owner in the Willesden/Kilburn area and am directly affected by this application.

My objections are as follows:

#### 1. UNACCEPTABLE CONCENTRATION OF GAMBLING PREMISES

I draw the licensing authority's attention to the fact that Royal Casino Slots already operates at 9 Walm Lane — the same street as the proposed premises — and is open 24 hours a day, seven days a week. MERKUR Slots operates a further venue within approximately 300 metres at 51–55 Willesden High Street, also open daily. A Betfred bookmakers and a second MERKUR Slots branch operate within approximately 1km on Kilburn High Road.

The introduction of a further gambling establishment within such a small geographic area would represent an unacceptable concentration of gambling premises and poses a serious and demonstrable risk to public health and community wellbeing. I urge the authority to consider the cumulative impact of these venues together, rather than assessing this application in isolation.

#### 2. COMMUNITY HARM AND VULNERABILITY

The NW2 area has significant levels of deprivation and a high proportion of residents who are vulnerable to gambling-related harm. An Adult Gaming Centre in this location would increase access to fixed-odds and other gambling machines in a community that already faces considerable financial pressure. Problem gambling disproportionately affects lower-income households, and this application risks deepening existing inequalities.

#### 3. PATTERN OF PREDATORY PREMISES REPLACING ESSENTIAL SERVICES

This application follows a troubling pattern in our area whereby bank branches and other community-facing services close, only to be replaced by gambling

establishments. The loss of banking infrastructure is itself a blow to the community; replacing it with a gambling venue compounds that harm and does nothing to address local need.

#### 4. PROXIMITY TO SCHOOLS, COMMUNITY SPACES AND PLACES OF WORSHIP

I would ask the licensing authority to carefully consider the proximity of 1 Walm Lane to local schools, youth facilities, and community organisations. The presence of an Adult Gaming Centre on a busy high street normalises gambling and increases exposure among young people and other vulnerable groups.

For all of the above reasons, I respectfully urge the licensing authority to refuse this application, or at minimum to hold a full hearing at which local residents and community representatives can make their views known in person.