02.Rep Response

Thank you for the opportunity to respond to the concerns raised regarding my application to extend the opening hours at Rossi's Bar. I fully acknowledge the importance of protecting the amenity, safety, and wellbeing of local residents. I therefore wish to clarify several points and outline the measures already in place to ensure continued compliance with all four licensing objectives.

1. Prevention of Public Nuisance

The representation expresses concerns about potential noise disturbance, sleep disruption, and general nuisance. I would like to respectfully note:

- Rossi's Bar has no history of noise complaints or nuisance issues since opening.
- The premises is equipped with sound proofing which we are currently in the process of upgrading prior to the potential use of music etc, this including acoustic panelling and sealed frontage, ensuring music does not escape into the street or residential units above.
- The property itself is owned by the same landlord as the immediate surrounding businesses and residents, who have been made aware of the plans and are confident they will not be effected by noise with the measures in place.
- All music is played indoors only, with doors kept closed except for access/egress.
- A strict dispersal policy will be in place to ensure customers leave quietly and promptly, with staff supervising the immediate frontage.
- Outdoor congregation is not permitted, and signage will reinforce this.
- Waste and litter are managed through scheduled nightly clear-downs.

2. Prevention of Crime and Disorder

The representation suggests that later hours may "invite trouble" or increase anti-social behaviour. To clarify:

- There have been no police incidents, ASB reports, or crime linked to Rossi's Bar.
- The premises operates a Challenge 25 policy, CCTV throughout, and trained SIA-licensed door staff during busy periods.
- Staff are trained in conflict management and responsible alcohol retailing.
- Extended hours do not inherently increase crime; rather, managed, supervised environments reduce the likelihood of street drinking or unregulated gatherings.

3. Public Safety

The representation raises concerns about "worrying security and safety issues" and residents "feeling unsafe." I wish to reassure the council that Rossi's Bar operates with robust, proactive safety measures in place at all times.

The premises has a full and up-to-date fire safety risk assessment, supported by clearly marked evacuation routes, and regular checks to ensure all exits remain unobstructed. CCTV covers all internal areas, entry and exit points, and the external frontage, providing comprehensive visibility and supporting incident prevention.

Door supervisors manage entry during higher-risk periods, ensuring controlled access, preventing overcrowding, and maintaining a safe and orderly environment. Staff are trained to identify intoxication, intervene early, and respond appropriately to any safety concerns. Staff have training on First Aid and conflict management.

Rossi's Bar has never been associated with any safety-related incidents, demonstrating a consistent track record of safe operation and effective management controls.

4. Protection of Children from Harm

The representation mentions children's sleep, which is a public nuisance concern rather than a child protection issue. Rossi's Bar:

- Does not permit unaccompanied minors.
- Does not host events aimed at children.
- Has no history of child-related incidents.

There is no licensing-relevant concern under this objective.

I fully understand the concerns raised and appreciate the importance of safeguarding the comfort, safety, and wellbeing of local residents. Rossi's Bar has been built on responsible management, proactive safety measures, and a genuine commitment to operating harmoniously within the neighbourhood. I believe the measures outlined above demonstrate that the premises is already well-equipped to continue meeting all four licensing objectives, even with the modest extension of hours requested.

Our aim is to provide a safe, well-supervised venue where people can enjoy themselves in a controlled environment, rather than in unregulated outdoor spaces. We are committed to working with residents, listening to feedback, and ensuring everyone feels safe and respected. It is also important to note that several other establishments locally already operate with later licences, and Rossi's Bar seeks only to align with these.

In recent months, Edgware Road has seen several businesses close, reducing footfall and weakening the local economy. As Rossi's Bar grows, our intention is to contribute positively to the area by supporting local revenue, increasing activity on the high street, and helping maintain a vibrant, safe, and sustainable local community. We are confident that the measures in place, combined with our ongoing commitment to responsible operation, will ensure that the extended hours do not undermine the amenity of residents or the character of the area.