

Notification of an application for a Premises Licence Variation – Athena Take Away, 7 Broad Street, Barry.

I have concerns about this application because the take-away is situated in a residential area, and residents have reported to me that there is anti-social and criminal behaviour in the early hours of the morning after the pubs, clubs, restaurants and take-aways have closed.

Residents have told me that they no longer report incidents to 101 because their calls are not answered. Residents are also generally unaware that they can report to the council directly.

In view of the lack of publicity for licensing applications which means that the public are unaware of applications in their area, I ask that a survey of public perceptions of anti-social behaviour in this area is undertaken before any decision on granting of this license, new licenses, or extensions of licenses, is taken.

Further, there is evidence that the accumulation of licensed premises in this area is causing the licensing objectives to be undermined. I think the licensing authority should consider adopting a Cumulative Impact Policy for this area : "The effect of adopting a special policy of this kind is to create a rebuttable presumption that applications for new premises licenses or club premises certificates or variations that are likely to add to the existing cumulative impact will normally be refused, following relevant representations, unless the applicant can demonstrate in their operating schedule that there will be no negative cumulative impact on one or more of the licensing objectives."

My concerns fall under the following licensing objectives:

Crime and Disorder Objective:

*I have received reports of anti-social behaviour from Broad Street, High Street, Queen Street, Princes Street, and other streets leading from the area of the night time economy on Broad Street/High Street up Trinity Street and the roads off it, by people acting in a manner that causes harassment, alarm and distress to local residents, after they have left the night time economy area.*

*This is an anti-social behaviour hot-spot because people leaving the night time economy area make lots of noise, get into fights, cause damage to property (cars and gardens) and drop litter.*

The prevention of public nuisance objective:

*The level of disturbance to the whole community varies from low-level to major and include noise, threats to community safety and litter.*

*For example, I have been informed that the Safer Vale Partnership has installed a security camera on a house in one of these streets because of the nuisance and threat to a vulnerable person from people leaving the late night economy area.*

*The protection of children from harm objective:*

*This objective relates to the protection of children from moral, psychological and physical harm. Children are exposed to strong language and sexual expletives from people leaving the late night economy area.*

The granting of the licence would mean that young people would be attracted to the take-away at 3.30am, would eat their food and then walk through the surrounding residential streets from about 4am onwards. This means that the nuisance experienced by local residents would continue on to 4.30 or 5 am which would be an extension to the hours that they are already subject to these problems.

I am also concerned that other take-aways would follow this precedent and apply for an extension to their opening hours.