

Representation received from the Police Licensing Officer

PREVENTION OF CRIME AND DISORDER

Your premises are located within Central Harbour Ward and this area experiences one of the largest concentrations of anti-social behaviour across the Thanet district alongside Eastcliff ward which neighbours the area. The ASB stems from a mixture of youth related offending and nuisance caused by a cohort of rough sleepers. Alcohol is a key factor in their offending behaviour. I feel that if you were given the 24-hour licence this will only encourage that alcohol consumption, making it more readily available and potentially increase the risk of underage alcohol purchases. This places more pressure on Police resources during these times when call demand is already high.

PUBLIC SAFETY AND PREVENTION OF PUBLIC NUISANCE

I note from your application that your stated methods of tackling problems on the forecourt would be to use a tannoy and then call Police if that was not effective. Again, I highlight the demand on Police resources and the fact that use of a tannoy in the early hours of the morning is in itself, a nuisance to local residents. By implementing a time restriction on your alcohol sales the aim is to prevent issues from occurring in the first instance, rather than a reactive approach.

PROTECTION OF CHILDREN FROM HARM

Knowing the call volume for the area, if your premises were open for 24 hours this will only increase the risk of more underage drinking and higher consumption of alcohol among young people. This can also result in the NHS experiencing hospital admissions from children on a regular basis that have consumed too much alcohol and have put themselves at risk. If we can prevent this then we will.