



24th June 2019.

Dear Sir/Madam,

**Re: Application for a Premises Licence S17, Shakeal Mini Market, 75a Swan Lane, Lockwood, HUDDERSFIELD, HD1 3UB. Made by [REDACTED] (for the sale of alcohol for consumption off the premises from 07:00 to 22:30 seven days per week).**

My parents have owned Joshi Newsagents at 61, Swan Lane since 1<sup>st</sup> September 1985, I was brought up in the area and still visit on a very regular basis and I wish to make a representation against the above application on the following grounds:

**a) Prevention of Public Nuisance**

Since this shop has been opened in some format, I have noticed that there has been rubbish piling up outside and cars being parked in a manner that makes it both dangerous for pedestrians and drivers alike.

**b) Prevention of Crime and Disorder**

Lockwood is an area of high levels of deprivation, and over the years I have been witness to the crime and disorder that my parents have been subjected to. In fact, I have been party to reporting some of these incidents to the Police. Granting another licence will only hinder the efforts that ALL the local Business Owners have put in place to reduce this. I can only see this going up should this licence be granted. The above-named applicant has already committed an offence by advertising the sale of liquor BEFORE the licence has been granted and the consultation period is still open. (I attach photos that I have taken to illustrate this point). Nothing has altered since the previous application was made and granted by the Council. I find it quite laughable that a business van change hands so quickly when bona-fide businesses can take years to sell (I have personal knowledge of this). Furthermore, crimes have already been committed here, the reason why you are now dealing with a seemingly "new" application.

**c) Protection of Children from Harm**

Under-age sales of all age-restricted products have always been an issue of concern in Lockwood. I have witnessed my family regularly turn away both children and adults if they suspected that there was an element of this visible in the impending sale. I have also worked for a Proof of Age Card Company and feel this is a very important matter that Society needs to adhere to. This was openly violated in the past, including the sale of illicit non-duty paid tobacco.

**d) Public Safety**

Another Off-Licence will encourage drinkers to congregate outside my parents' shop which has a Wall and will both be off-putting and intimidating to our Customers and myself included. I have been subject to abuse in the past by such people. I have already highlighted Road Safety issues and Environmental Health hazards above which have already increased. I must also question the use of exactly the same agents representing this applicant as they had done previously, they lied previously and have no regard for Public Safety whatsoever!


Furthermore, it must be noted that another Fast-food licence was not granted for the above premises fairly recently on the grounds of Public Health. *(A 2018 Report from the Royal Society of Public Health – ‘Health on the High Street’, has already stated that Huddersfield is in the Top 10 unhealthiest areas in the Country. It has high levels of deprivation and worse health outcomes. On these grounds, it is obvious to anybody that Lockwood is an area that contributes quite significantly to this problem and another off-licence could adversely affect the health of individuals when hours of selling alcohol are again extended and tobacco is made available as well).* This application does not support Health Promotion objectives and I wish to see my town of birth prosper through improved education on these matters.

In conclusion, it is clear that the applicant has already pre-empted the outcome of his Licence Application in that a sign signalling an Off-Licence has been up since the last Licence was revoked and the new Public Notice going up to advertise a 7-day Off-Licence. This implies that alcohol is already available in the shop before the licence has been granted. This shows total contempt for the Laws and Regulations of this Country and I would question whether this individual even has the required level of knowledge and understanding to operate licenced premises? Ignorance is not a defence in the Courts.

I hope that that you will give due consideration to the seriousness of the objections I raise. I was brought up in Lockwood and despite living away I am a regular visitor to the area and still care about my family’s safety as well as that of other vulnerable residents and business owners. I believe that the granting of this licence will adversely affect everyone’s safety and right to reasonable peace in both their work and living conditions. On the grounds stated above the Licence should not be granted. Everyone is aware about the what is really going on here and I sincerely hope that Kirklees Council will now act upon the intelligence it has. For the record, previously I was Chair of my own local Parish Council and, I have served on the Planning & Licensing Committee in the London Borough of Wandsworth, so am fully aware of the issues being raised as of relevance in this case. I also hold qualifications in Public Health.

Yours faithfully,



Miss. , B.Sc. (Hons.), M.Sc., Pg.Dip.P.H., A.K.C., FRSPH, MIHM, MRI.