

Licensing millfield, OP-can-do

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To: Licensing Policy Consultation <lpc@peterborough.gov.uk>

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Dear sirs

Further to the forthcoming review of licensing in the Gladstone area, I wish to make representations which I hope will be taken into consideration at your meeting.

At present that are 6 gambling businesses in a stretch of Lincoln Road that is no more than half a mile long. Alongside these are the equally abundant off-licences.

As a lifelong resident of Peterborough I am dismayed at the state of the area and the rampant alcoholism that has emerged. Merkur, which is a 24 hours slots/bingo gaming hall, has now opened its doors on Lincoln Road. 24 HOURS! We have a casino in a residential area! The situation is in dire need of correction.

The gambling venues contribute to large gangs hanging around the vicinity of the shops. The venues are designed to prey on the vulnerable and encourage crimes such as theft and drug abuse. I strongly encourage you to read the work of charity Gamcare to see the causal link between gambling and crime. <https://www.gamcare.org.uk/news-and-blog/blog/gambling-and-the-criminal-justice-system/?cn-reloaded=1>

The numerous off-licences in the area contribute to street drinking, littering, fighting amongst many many more problems. The proprietors of these off-licences are exercising no civic responsibility and much of their patrons are drunkards and teenagers. Much of the alcohol is being consumed on-site or in the immediate vicinity of the shop. One only has to pass the Lincoln Road/Windmill Street junction to see evidence of this. The Blue Shop is a hub of the area's problems.

The licences have already been issued and legally you have no right to take them back without following due process, which makes me question the whole process being a facade to make it look like somethings being done. If nothing is done very soon the area is on the verge of a dangerous crescendo.

I trust you will read this letter and treat its contents with the respect the residents of Millfield deserve.

Regards

Adeel Younis

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