

From: [Grekos, Martha](#)
To: [Breese, Robert](#); [M&CP - Licensing](#)
Subject: Licensing application 23/03201/AAPNEW
Date: 02 December 2023 11:48:50

Dear Robert,

As Alderwoman of Castle Baynard ward, I am writing to object on behalf of some of the residents and businesses in the ward for the new premises license application at retail unit 148 Fleet Street (Licensing application 23/03201/AAPNEW).

The objection is based on three out of the four “licensing objectives”: namely for the prevention of crime and disorder; public safety; and the prevention of public nuisance.

Fleet Street is a construction site at the moment. It is undergoing a huge amount of unprecedented redevelopment. So as much as the area will be flourishing in four years’ time, at the moment it is on its knees. This means that the community is suffering too as the area is attracting more anti-social behaviour given the state that it is in (e.g. over the summer we had teenagers harassing staff in shops and the Police had to be called and we also had several break-ins on Fleet Street and just off Fleet Street too); people are flouting the rules as rubbish are left out during the day; and we have a large increase of homeless people sleeping in the alley-ways just off Fleet Street. We are trying to control the situation the best we can to make sure the community is kept safe (and clean); that anti-social behaviour and crime is minimised and there is minimal public nuisance; and that the homeless people are also kept safe and are helped.

By providing a newsagent/shop with a licence to sell alcohol (off site) will just exacerbate the situation and put the community at risk of increased crime/disorder and public nuisance. The safety of the homeless people will also be at risk. This area does not need a shop selling alcohol from 7am up till 11pm Monday to Thursday and up to 1am on Friday to Sunday. The ward has roughly 200-300 residents (some are not around the full week as their flats are a pied de terre and those who are here full time are more than likely to have bought any alcohol they wish to consume with their weekly food shopping) and business workers are not around at the weekends nor late into the evenings after work during the week unless they are socialising in our local restaurants, pubs and venues. This will also be the only shop open so late at night on Fleet Street that is selling alcohol - when all other pubs and shops and venues/restaurants have closed. As such, the target client market for the sell of alcohol is more likely to be those who are going to cause some anti-social behaviour by drinking on the streets or even the homeless people who want to keep warm. We need to be helping the homeless people (as Street Link is doing) and also not encouraging anti-social behaviour. The new premises license will just fuel the issues we already are trying to control in the area.

This will really be a huge detriment to the area, especially when the Corporation’s vision is to create a ‘Destination City’ and there is huge investment being pumped into Fleet Street.

For the reasons above, I object to the new premises application and urge you to decline it.

With best wishes,
Martha

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