

From: [Priest, Henrika](#)
To: [M&CP - Licensing](#)
Subject: Swizzlestick Application - Patch
Date: 12 February 2024 18:25:13
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

Dear Licensing

I wish to object to the recent application by Swizzlestick Limited to extend their licensable activities on a Saturday only from 00:00 to 01:00 on the Sunday.

The review of Patch's licence 12 years ago, following a number of issues that caused a great deal of disturbance to the local residents, resulted in the licence being reduced to 12.00 midnight. Life for nearby residents improved significantly and was also helped somewhat by Patch having no off licence after 8.30 pm.

It must be noted that the Government guidance on temporary off-sales permission allowing Patch customers on the street with drinks after 8.30 pm has increased the noise pollution in this quiet residential area. The narrow canyon-like side street in this part of the City where the medieval street plan still exists makes this into an echo chamber.

By granting this extension, I strongly believe that the licencing objective of the Prevention of Public Nuisance will not be promoted and there will be an increase in noise, and anti-social behaviour. The dispersal of patrons takes time and there's little a licenced premises can do to control patrons once they're outside the premises, ie how noisy they are. This extension would prolong the noise that already exists caused by Patch patrons drinking in the street which they are allowed to and at time of their dispersal which is never brief – the surrounding area won't be clear until 01.30 possibly later.

I further believe that this extension will not promote the Prevention of Crime & Disorder, given its history over the past 12 months – confirmed by the City of London Police – where there have been six occurrences linked to Patch Bar, four thefts within the premises and two minor assaults. My conclusion is that this extension may well increase the risk of further incidents.

Patch has successfully survived since the reduction to midnight over a decade ago and post-Covid and we absolutely want businesses to continue to do well. However, it is the policy of the City Corporation to strike a fair balance between the benefits to a community of a licensed venue, and the risk of disturbance to residents in Carter Lane. Were this extension to be granted it most certainly will not allow the residents a reasonable expectation of sleep between the hours of 11.00 pm and 7.00 am as stated in the City of London's Statement of Licencing and to be able to live in a place where anti-social behaviour can be avoided.

The residents in Carter Lane have had to put up with a great many issues over the years, and for the reasons stated above, this application should be absolutely rejected.

Yours sincerely

Henrika Priest

Common Councilman and local resident– Castle Baynard Ward



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