



## Licensing Act 2003 - Representation in respect of an application for the variation of a premises licence

### Details of person or body making representation

Your Name:	Andrew Sansome
Your Address:	Noise and Pollution Team Leicester City Council City Hall Charles Street Leicester LE1 1FZ

### Details of premises representation is about

Name of Premises:	Friends Food Retail - Londis
Address of premises:	Merlin Heights 105 Bath Lane Leicester LE3 5AU
Application No. (if known)	133055

### Please tick one or more of the licensing objectives that your representation relates to:

Prevention of crime and disorder	
Public Safety	
Prevention of public nuisance	yes
Protection of children from harm	

### Please summarise your concerns about this application:

The premises, known as Friends Food Retail - Londis is a licensed retail store located in a ground floor unit within a large multi-floor student residential development on Bath Lane Leicester, close to the City Centre. The area is a large inner-city regeneration area and there are a number of other large residential developments within the close proximity of the premises.

The premises are currently licensed for the off-sales of alcohol 06.00 hours to 00.00 hours daily (Monday to Sunday)

The proposal is to seek approval to be able to open the premises to include the sale of alcohol (for consumption off the premises) 00.00 – 24.00 hours daily (Monday to Sunday), thus enabling a 24 hour operation 365 days a year.

Currently there are no other late-night premises in the area and therefore the effect of permitting the sale of alcohol over a period of 24 hours within this area has not been

tested. However, the Noise Team are concerned that allowing the premises to operate such long hours will increase the likelihood of noise complaint and disturbance to residents by customers coming to the premises from the locality and from further afield throughout the night and particularly into the early hours of the morning. There is an increased likelihood especially in the earlier part of the working week when background noise levels across the City are generally lower.

Due to the proposed long working hours there is also the likelihood of noise disturbance from the activities of staff and deliveries.

During the planning consultation and approval stages for the construction of the residential development (which forms the majority part of the site complex) the Noise Team were consulted regarding potential noise issues from commercial uses on the site. The developer was aware of these concerns which were published in their consultation statement and replicated in the requested hours of use for the commercial uses in their application for planning approval (06.30 hours to 23.00 hours) and the conditioned hours of opening of commercial uses 06.30 hours to 23.00 hours.

The area is predominantly high-rise residential living and there are many hundreds of flats and apartments close by (the application site houses 600 flats alone). There is little commercial or non-residential traffic or footfall late at night to the few commercial mainly office style premises on Bath Lane.

The premises is not seeking to provide entertainment or other licensable activities that would encourage customers to remain within the curtilage of the premises. However, there is an increased likelihood that customers would gather or meet outside the premises to drink and chat into the early hours when clubs, bars and other licenced premises outside the area are closed.

Noise on the street is very difficult to control and enforce. I am concerned that the premises staff will have little or no power to control people once they have left the premises but may remain in the locality.

The long hours requested are likely to encourage people from out of the locality to visit the area to obtain alcohol and / or purchase general goods. The premises is also within easy walking distance of the City Centre. Noise from customer activity, noise from vehicles (doors slamming, stereo systems etc.) when parked outside the premises throughout the night would be very difficult if not impossible for the applicant to control; but may significantly affect residents whose windows are directly above the premises

During the daytime, road traffic, commercial activity and on-street activity would probably be the dominant noise source in the locality. However, later in the evening, into the early hours of the morning traffic noise and street noise noticeably reduces.

**It is therefore recommended that the application for variation of the premises licence to allow 24 hour alcohol sales be refused.**

Attached - Photographs

Return your completed form to:

By Post:

Licensing Authority Office  
Leicester City Council  
City Hall  
115 Charles Street  
Leicester  
LE1 1FZ

By Email:

[licensing@leicester.gov.uk](mailto:licensing@leicester.gov.uk)









