

From: [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]  
To: <licensing@leicester.gov.uk>  
Date: 07/03/2009 16:25  
Subject: Tesco Express

[REDACTED] [REDACTED]  
Dear Sir/Madam,

I am writing in connection to Tesco Express application to open on Granby St. I strongly oppose a decision to be made in the supermarket's favour. The points given below outline the reasons for my opposition.

Firstly, if Tesco Express open will ultimately mean a greater access to cheap alcohol – and this comes at a time when the government is trying to curb under-age and binge drinking, having seen what implications it has on the communities overall health. It is common knowledge that supermarkets offer cut-price alcohol deals, if Tesco Express is allowed to open then cheap alcohol will be readily available until late hours – surely, this cannot be beneficial for the people of Leicester.

Secondly, people will be gathering in the vicinity of the supermarket – this may lead to conflicts, especially if they are fuelled by the cheap alcohol, this is sure to increase the police workload as they may have to control disorderly behaviour. There will also be an increase in the amount of litter on the streets in the area. Another issue independent shopkeepers are concerned about is the security of their businesses – more people will be encouraged to stay in the area and under the influence of alcohol, they may damage shopfronts, break shop windows, cars and public property.

Thirdly, I categorically believe that allowing Tesco Express's to open will have a detrimental effect on the local community. It will lead to homogenising the high street as giving the supermarket more power is certain to push small independent shops into bankruptcy. The implications of this will be damaging to both consumers, who will have a smaller choice of products, and local businesses which support their employees and their families. It may be the first step to Leicester city centre losing its unique diverse character.

There is no justification for Tesco Express's to open trade and there is certainly no demand for this. The independent stores that operate in the city centre area satisfy the community's shopping needs.

I sincerely hope you will consider my objection and will not allow Tesco Express's to open

Yours faithfully,  
[REDACTED]