



## Fears raised new Leicester snack truck could increase crime and rodents

Police and residents have raised objections

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By


[Hannah Richardson](#) Local Democracy Reporter

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 The truck would serve the Indian street snack chaat (stock image) (Image: Indranil Bhounik/Mint via Getty Images)

Crime and rodent fears have been raised over a new food truck licensing bid. Residents and [Leicestershire Police](#) have opposed the new [Indian chaat](#) stall proposed for Canon Street with a host of potential issues raised after a request for a new licence was submitted to [Leicester City](#)

Among them are concerns that current drunken behaviour and fights would only increase if the new [business](#) is set up. Existing litter issues could also worsen, objectors said, resulting in the potential for more pests in the area.



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COMMENTS

Residents living near the planned location for the stall also fear it will impact on their peace and their privacy. Applicant Dhaval Tank said she and staff working in the food truck would “operate responsibly” to ensure “minimal negative impact” and maximise “positive contributions to the community”.

This, she said, would include ensuring the generators on the vehicle were “quiet”, providing “ample” bins for rubbish” and keeping the service area “clean” and “well-lit”. She also said staff would “manage queues to avoid blocking” paths and would be trained to “handle customer interactions professionally and respectfully”.

However, Police Community Support Officer (PCSO) for Leicester East, Gemma Birt, said the proposed location for the food truck is “known” by officers as “a hotspot” for people “congregating and drinking alcohol on the street”. She added there have been a number of incidents relating to an off-licence in the area including multiple arguments and a [10-person fight](#).

The force are concerned, she said, that the trailer could result in even more people congregating in the area which other members of the community "could find intimidating". The PCSO added the truck could also increase anti-social behaviour in the area and could "raise crime figures". She raised further concerns over [road safety](#) and [litter](#), saying there were already issues with both in the area.



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Residents have echoed these concerns, saying there is already congestion and “substantial” parking “challenges” in the area. They added they believe increased traffic in the area “raises serious road safety concerns” and would make “daily life more difficult” for residents.



They added the neighbourhood has “ongoing issues with [rats and mice](#)”. They fear the new truck could “worsen this problem, adding to the burden of pest control for both residents and the council”.

Mrs Tank said: “In India, chaat is traditionally enjoyed from street food stalls and carts, creating a lively and social atmosphere. Our food truck will bring this authentic cultural experience to Leicester by serving our chaat from a similar setting. This will not only provide delicious food but also offer a taste of India's vibrant street food culture, which we believe will resonate strongly with the community.”

[Leicester City Council's](#) licensing committee will meet next week to discuss the application. They will then decide whether to grant it, grant it subject to modifications, or reject it.



# Conversation

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If the problem is alcohol than it should be addressed to the shops or pubs selling them, if the problem is with mice than the owner of the property should deal with it, if the problem is with trash than increase bin collections and if the problem is traffic than the warden and traffic police should deal with it. But to stop small business owners to start new businesses is not fair. Business will only generate more revenue for government which can be used for the growth of the country and better lifestyles. It is just another innocent food truck why make such a big deal. At least they not sitting home depending on government to feed them. They want to work hard and earn their living let them be. Just allow them to park and leave it alone.





While I can appreciate the concerns about crime and litter of the proposed Indian chaat food truck on Canon Street, in fairness I note that the article confirms that these issues already exist, and the food truck would not create the problems. It is unreasonable to expect a family that is merely trying to make a living to be responsible for the long-standing problems experienced by the community. The applicant Dhaval Tank, has assured that he or she will operate responsibly with quiet generators and cleaning up. The community incidents serves as an unfortunate example for the council of their clear duty. If there was already crime, litter and traffic issues on Canon Street, the council needs to do something about these systemic issues. Prohibiting a family from starting a business based on prior existing conditions feels like the applicant is being let down as the council is neglecting their duty to improve the community and develop the economy. The time spent debating a food truck would surely be better used in extra policing, improved waste management, or controlling traffic. Real community improvement means tackling issues that already exist instead of shutting down new ones.

[REDACTED]

See the Leicester mercury disable your views on the truth they dont like it when people are upfront and tell it how it is.

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**hughwatt** • 1 DAY AGO

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No such thing as free speech, then?

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You are free to say whatever you like. It doesn't mean freedom from consequences.

A PLC publisher has nothing to do with freedom of speech.

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Ironical that all the issues raised are only issues because the council and police aren't dealing with them. Do your effing jobs like the rest of us, you will get more respect from the public and this will in turn improve the situation. If I don't do my job properly, I'm not paid. Standards have been slipping for far too long.

[REPLY](#) 1 [REPLY](#) 6

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Standards have been slipping since those organisations were defunded. Funny that eh?

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[REDACTED]

Street drinking is a crime. Fine the offenders enough times and they'll soon stop. Don't send PCOs to them, send some beefy officers.

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4 REPLIES

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[REDACTED]

Walk from Jubilee Square down the High Street to the Clock Tower, they are there every day boozing, guaranteed a whiff of weed as well.

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[REDACTED]

True 100%

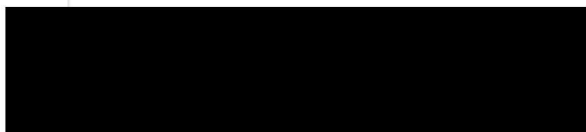
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I'd go one step further and make all publicly consumed alcohol illegal. It won't happen because nothing ever changes.

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How do you get promoted to beefy officer?

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There are bins all over the city but some residents are too lazy or selfish to use them. There was a man walking down a road in evington who looked around to see if anyone was watching before dropping a drinks can on the verge. The really annoying thing was he lives less than 30 yards away

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Some parks have bins overflowing and need to be collected more frequently.

[REDACTED]

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[REPLY](#)

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[REDACTED]

Some parks have bins overflowing and need to be collected more frequently.

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[REDACTED]

And that type of indifference to an act of anti social behaviour is commonplace.

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 1

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