



Communities Team & Public Health Team  
Merrion House  
Leeds City Council  
LS1 8DD

Entertainment Licencing

Leeds City Council

Dear Sir/Madam

**RE: Application for new grocery store/off license to sell alcohol from 08:00-22:00. Situated at LS11 9NS**

With regard to the above application, I would like to bring to your attention the negative impact granting the alcohol off-licence application would have on the local community. This would be with particular regard to the potential harm to children; crime and disorder, public safety and public nuisance.

Leeds City Council produces a potential alcohol harm matrix for each Lower Super Output Area (LSOA) in Leeds. Each LSOA is given an overall score which places the LSOA in to an overall risk rating. There are 482 LSOA's in Leeds. LS11 9NS was awarded an overall harm from alcohol related risk as **11 out of 482 LSOA**, putting it within the very high risk of alcohol-related harm category.

Analysis of the individual scores on the matrix contribute to creating a fuller picture of the local community and will be highlighted forthwith with reference to the four criteria.

E01011356 the LSOA known as Holbeck (West) Springwell Road, Domestic Street is within an geographical area known as Holbeck. This LSOA contains the main thoroughfare of Holbeck. Within this area a fifth of children have been diagnosed with learning disabilities, making them particularly vulnerable to harm. In addition the neighbouring LSOA of Crosby Street, Recreations and Bartons, which shares the same boundary line is characterised by a high population of children and young people aged below 16. As an area of Leeds, Holbeck MSOA contains a particularly high number of looked after children. This indicator produces a risk rank of **9 out of 482 LSOAs** highlighting the large number of vulnerable children living in this area.

Alcohol specific related admissions to hospital are very high in the area – risk ranked as **14 out of 482 LSOA's**. This indicator relates to public safety and suggests there is a risk of harm to children and young people as well as the wider community from alcohol, with particular reference to harm necessitating an Accident and Emergency visit and admission to hospital. Increasing sales of alcoholic beverages will potentially add to the burden on the Accident and Emergency services and the NHS.

Alcohol related crime (excluding violent crime) is high in the area and was scored as 'high' category and risk ranked as **11 out of 482 LSOA's**. Statistics relating to drunk and disorderly or over the prescribed limit are also risk ranked as being 'high' and is ranked as being **6 out of 482 LSOA's**. These indicators both suggest a risk to public safety as well as high levels of crime and disorder in existence in the community.

Furthermore, crime statistics for the LSOA from February 2019-January 2020 show higher than Leeds crimes overall. Of particular concern is the number of anti-social behaviour crimes – a rate of 31.7 per 1000, in comparison to Leeds overall, which saw a rate of 20 per 1000 population. Public order crimes were also reported distinctly more frequently in this LSOA compared to Leeds overall, with a rate of 45.1 per 1000 population and 12.9 per 1000 population, respectively.

In addition to these indicators highlighting current issues in the community, the density of off-licensed premises is ranked at a 'high risk' **22 out of 482 LSOA's**. This ranking indicates a high level of saturation of off-licensed premises currently operating within the neighbourhood.

As a whole, these indicators demonstrate a community already at high risk of harm, with particular concerns focusing on the vulnerable children and young people living in Holbeck and a community already burdened with high levels of public disorder and public nuisance. Crime statistics are also high in the area.

Moreover, this particular area of Leeds sees the overspill of the Managed Approach. Being in such close proximity to the Managed Approach brings the average Holbeck resident into regular contact with sex workers and punters – this is frequently exacerbated with the consumption of alcohol the resulting impact is a low level of threat and intimidation by sex workers and some punters to the local community. This has been reported in a Public Health, Health Needs Assessment for the Holbeck residents and I refer you to extracts below which are community extracts gained during the community engagement element.

“People drinking alcohol and taking drugs outside, near St. Matthews and at the park. Its intimidating and the men leer at you in front of the kids and proposition you”

“There are a lot of people here with alcohol and /or drug problems. Some people then get into their cars and drive drunk and crazy”.

In summary increasing the number of premises selling alcohol in the area is highly likely to add to the burden of ensuring public safety in the local area and increase the rates of public disorder. However of greatest concern is the vulnerability of children living in the area whom maybe at risk of alcohol related harm should another premises be granted an off license to sell alcohol.

Yours Faithfully

Advanced Health Improvement Specialist

Public Health