

Interested Party Representation (Form IPR1)

Section 1 – Licence application details

Please indicate as appropriate :

I wish to object to the following application:

I wish to support the following application:

Applicant name (if known): Unknown

Applicant premises name and address: **Lietuvaite Shop Ltd, 15 Branch Road, Armley, Leeds, LS12 3AQ**

Section 2 – Your personal details

NB : If you are acting as a representative, please go to Section 3.

Title	Mr Mrs Miss Other _____
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Surname	Hindley
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First name(s)	Jonathan
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Address (incl postcode):

Leeds City Council Public Health Locality & Primary Care team, 4th Floor-West, 110 Merrion House, Leeds, LS2 8BB

Please note that a full copy of your representation (including your name and address) will be sent to the applicant and will be a public document at any hearing of this matter.

Please refer to our Guidance Note – GN-M Guidance on making representations for further information and alternative options.

Section 3 – Representative details

If you are representing someone else please complete details below

Name of Representative/ Organisation	N/A
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Full postal address (incl postcode)	N/A
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Please indicate capacity :

Representative of Residents Association

Ward Councillor

Parish Council

MP

Trade Association

Other (please specify)

Section 4 – Representation grounds		
<p>The representation is relevant to one or more of the following licensing objectives:</p> <p>Please tick relevant box(es)</p>	<p>Prevention of crime and disorder</p> <p>Prevention of public nuisance</p> <p>Protection of children from harm</p> <p>Public safety</p>	<p>X</p> <p>X</p> <p>X</p> <p>X</p>
<p>Please select:</p> <p>I object to the application being granted at all</p> <p>I object to the application being granted in its current form*</p> <p>*If you choose this option, remember to tell us in the next section what changes you would prefer to see.</p>		
<p>The grounds of the representation is based on the following:</p>		
<p>I would like to strongly object to this license on the following grounds.</p> <p>After over two years of the coronavirus pandemic levels of alcohol consumption have increased in this area of multiple deprivations exasperating the problems in this designated Cumulative Impact Area. Much work has successfully undertaken by the Police and the Leeds City Council Town Centre Team to make Armley a much more attractive, prosperous, and safe retail hub. There success in reducing street drinking and crime levels will be significantly undermined by yet another retail outlet selling alcohol.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Prevention of Crime and Disorder. I feel yet another license granted in a completely alcohol saturated area which currently falls under the licensing authority cumulative impact policy will provide yet another easily accessible portal for cheap strong alcohol which can lead to drunken and disorderly behavior. If you consult the Armley alcohol matrix you will see the neighborhood and relevant geographical super output area is in the extremely high-risk category especially in relation to admissions to accident and emergency wards due to alcohol and some subsequent disorderly behavior. ➤ Prevention of public nuisance. On Friday 21st May 2021 and LCC Public Health Officers were talking to residents in the area with third sector colleagues and we received quite a few comments about how unsafe they felt on Branch Road and Armley Town street occasionally during the day and after 7.00pm at night. These were older residents [REDACTED] who shopped in the Branch Road area. The comments when asked what their experience of the pandemic had been and how they felt the area was to live in. They complained of aggressive street begging and inebriated men standing on Branch Road swearing making them feel intimidated. Following on from these conversations Public Health, Third Sector and Partner subsequent outreach in the months of August to December 2021, and January and early February 2022 whilst door knocking and leafleting to promote the pop-up Covid-19 vaccination clinic offer in the local area many of the same comments were mirrored when officers did wellbeing checks. Their comments were. <p>2021</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>"It's worse now as we come out of lockdown, always drunk men I don't go down there now (referring to Armley Town Street)"</i> ○ <i>"if they are drunk and get refused from one off license there are plenty of others, they can try their luck in"</i> ○ <i>"it's just cheap strong booze innit, people come from town because it's (alcohol) cheap, gets the job done"</i> ○ <i>"Why have they allowed so many shops to sell alcohol it's dangerous to residents with drunken people around"</i> <p>2022</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>"Got my jab thanks, (when asked about general health and wellbeing) booze everywhere, its mad, feel sorry for the Police, more of them around but you can buy it everywhere" 58 Male Armley Resident</i> ○ <i>"Yeah, got it ta, don't take the kids down, go to Bramley Shopping Centre instead, bit more family</i> 		

- friendly. So many of 'em drinking cans on the way to school" 26 Female Armley resident.*
- *"Thanks love got me booster, spoke to you last year I think, things are better, street drinking still around. I'm 71 retired I only shop there because I have to sometimes" 71 Male Armley Resident*

- **Protection of Children from Harm.** As a council public health officer and parent, I feel this proliferation of establishments selling cheap and strong alcohol and the subsequent proliferation of street drinkers and residents suffering from alcohol addiction it normalizes the situation for children and as they grow older it almost sets the benchmark of what is normal in their area. We know from much peer reviewed evidence such an environment can have a strong influence on impressionable children in a deprived neighborhood and can create low aspiration amongst this peer group.
- **Public safety**-there is a strong perception from residents that it is not safe to go out after a certain time which is very sad as it deprives them of access to vital local amenities and vital social interaction if they live alone.
 - I stand in unison with colleagues in the council, the Police, elected members with local businesses and with residents in saying **Armley does not need any further alcohol outlets.**
 - The simple fact is Armley is already saturated with businesses selling alcohol.
 - To put this in context, within the surrounding area many of shops sell alcohol. Alcohol that is both cheap and strong. A potent mix.
 - This in a neighborhood that has residents facing some of the most serve social and economic challenges in the UK; complex challenges that have been exacerbated by the Covid-19 pandemic.
 - The Telegraph reported that the pandemic has seen problem drinking double in the UK since lockdown was introduced: <https://www.telegraph.co.uk/family/life/boozy-britain-nation-drunk-lockdown/>
 - We are seeing the consequences of this locally, as a hardcore group of street drinkers are a regular presence in Armley, and whilst we recognize this is a vulnerable group of individuals, the consequences to the wider community are manifesting itself in daily anti-social behavior, littering and on occasions violence. There are also limited funds available to local services who are responsible for treating and reducing harm in this cohort and this puts a strain on services and more service users could go untreated and be left to return to anti-social behavior and street drinking.
 - All this is happening in a densely populated area that has a huge volume of families with young children.
 - Can it be right that residents must put up with this constant "hangover" on their doorstep's day after day?
 - Imagine the empty cans, the smell of urine and sight of human excrement and broken glass greeting you as you walk to school? This can be the reality for residents in Armley.
 - To try address this in the last few years authorities have introduced a Cumulative Impact Policy (CIP), the legislation which seeks to offset the devastating impacts of problem drinking in the area.
 - To approve this application would be irresponsible and cause harm to our most vulnerable residents.
 - It would also contradict all the hard work by the Police, Town Street Team Council, Cllrs, partners, and most importantly residents who are exhausting themselves to make their area safer and a more pleasant place to live.
 - The forensic testimonies from residents who also represent local business and residents' associations illustrate just how deep this opposition goes.
 - The application falls within the CIP area, in the heart of a residential area, and we would urge the licensing committee to refuse this application considering representations submitted.

The pandemic has undoubtedly impacted on this extremely poor population in a priority neighborhood in terms of economic decline adding increased cheap and strong alcohol to an already beleaguered community with high clinical rankings of low mood, anxiety and depression is irresponsible and will be detrimental to child development, family life and public order.

Lastly much work has been undertaken by the Police of a very difficult and challenging nature to make this shopping area a safe and pleasant one to visit for local people. I feel in a Cumulative Impact Policy Area, yet another retail outlet selling alcohol would undermine this. In addition, the Town Street Team have worked similarly hard to improve the image of the area, include new local business in decisions affecting the area to not only make it an appealing and safe area to visit for shoppers but significantly aid its increase in footfall and subsequent economic regeneration. I feel yet another license for alcohol sale would undermine this.

You need to complete this box as fully as possible. If you do not the Licensing Authority may not be able to assess the relevance of your representation.

Please attach supporting documents/further pages as necessary – please number all additional pages.

Try to be as specific as possible and give examples, e.g., on 1 February I could hear loud music from the premises between 10pm and 1am. I am concerned that if the premises open until 2am this will cause a nuisance to me and other residents of the street.

Signed: 

Date: 21st February 2022