

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: 27 February 2025 06:38

To: Licensing <Licensing.Licensing@haringey.gov.uk>

Subject: Objection to Licensing Application: Black Lion Food Express 42 Topsfield Parade, Tottenham Lane, Hornsey, London N8 8PT, Ward – Crouch End

Objection to Licensing Application

Black Lion Food Express

42 Topsfield Parade, Tottenham Lane, Hornsey, London N8 8PT

Ward – Crouch End Supply of alcohol

1. Monday to Thursday, 8am to 2am
2. Friday to Saturday, 8am to 3am
3. Sunday, 8am to 1am Supply of alcohol OFF the premises Hours open to

public:

1. Monday to Thursday, 8am to 2am
2. Friday to Saturday, 8am to 3am
3. Sunday, 8am to 1am

Grounds: Prevention of Crime and Disorder, Protection of Children, Prevention of Public Nuisance

The very ability of Black Lion Food Express to take over the shop so efficiently from [REDACTED] – the company operated by the admitted criminal [REDACTED] and his wife [REDACTED] (who appears to have escaped trial via a plea deal) – indicates Black Lion Food Express's relationship with criminals.

Further, if solicitor [REDACTED] is assisting Black Lion Food Express – as they did Maxxi Food and Wine and its operators [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] – it is such a coincidence as to amount to further evidence of a relationship between Black Lion and [REDACTED].

Further, I have reason to suspect that Black Lion's occupancy is via an unlawful sublet of the premises, an agreement with [REDACTED] or [REDACTED] or [REDACTED] or one of their numerous corporate identities, family members or friends, such as [REDACTED], [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]. This would mean that the criminal [REDACTED] aka [REDACTED] is still profiting from operations at the premises. Hence granting this license, and in fact permitting Black Lion Food Express to be open at all is the continual reward of [REDACTED] numerous and crimes protracted crimes. Why is Haringey Council still failing the residents and young people of this area by allowing this shop to be open at all under such circumstances? (NB: I

drew these very reasonable suspicions to the attention of Haringey Council Environmental Health & Trading Standards Team members [REDACTED] on 27/01/2025 and they refused to investigate further or take any action. A simple enquiry of the Business Rates department would help to resolve matters.)

[REDACTED], [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] operation of the store until very recently under the brand Maxxi Food & Wine has encouraged widespread drug consumption in cars and on the streets of Topsfield Parade and Elder Avenue – including by children – intimidation and abuse of residents, trespass on properties, nuisance including a mass of drug paraphernalia litter, and sexual offences (including a man committing indecent exposure in front of a female resident who lives directly above the shop who had to watch him expose his genitals and rub them all over the gate to the flats at 42a Topsfield Parade directly above the shop, and then suffer the indignity of having to clean the gate after his crime) and numerous public order offences including a frequent public urination.

Even if Black Lion Food Express is entirely innocent and blameless, has had no relationship whatsoever with the operators of Maxxi Food and Wine or the recent criminal enterprise operating at the premises, the past two years of criminality mixed with the numerous and persistent failures of the local Neighbourhood Policing team, numerous Haringey Council staff and departments and elected councillors to take any sufficient and efficient action - in the face of clear criminal, indictable illegality and a mass of evidence provided primarily by residents but including admissions by [REDACTED] - has had a lasting very negative effect on this corner of Crouch End whereby anti social behaviour and instances of the criminality stated above are still frequent occurrences. As such the prospect of the return of off sales of alcohol and supporting late night customers will encourage and exacerbate the anti social behaviour which this area has had to endure over the past two years and there will be a return to criminality.

To be clear, the numerous and persistent failures by police, council officers and councillors were by amongst others: the Metropolitan Police ([REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]); the Trading Standards department including [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]; Haringey Council Licensing Department team members including [REDACTED]; numerous members of Haringey Council's legal department including [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]; and Councillors Emina Ibrahim and [REDACTED].

Moreover, there is no sufficient sound proofing between the ceiling of the shop and the first floor flat, [REDACTED] Topsfield Parade. Late opening hours will exacerbate the noise suffered by this resident – as they did when the operators of Maxxi Food & Wine did.

Also, the committee must ask themselves: who truly needs what Black Lion Food Express is selling at 2am or 3am?

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