

To: Licensing
Subject: Licence application 139-145 Deptford High Street

Dear sir or madam

I write to object to the licence application for Badger Badger at 139-145 Deptford High Street for the sale of alcohol, late night refreshment, live and recorded music. I live [REDACTED]

My objection is in relation to the licensing objective of prevention of public nuisance. The applicant seeks a licence for recorded and live music until midnight on weekdays and 1am Thursday to Saturday. I believe this is unreasonable due to the proximity of residential properties adjacent to the premises, on the opposite side of the road, and to the rear.

Licensing live music until such late hours would cause disturbance to the numerous residential properties that are within metres of the premises. Deptford High Street and the surrounding streets are densely residential and the rights of residents to quiet enjoyment of their homes must be respected.

The building in question is of poor quality construction and it is unlikely that any soundproofing is present, as it has been used for retail until now. It is not known whether the applicant intends to install any soundproofing measures before occupying it. This should be a condition of the licence in order to reduce nuisance to neighbours whatever hours for live music are agreed. It is also not known what internal arrangement the applicant seeks for the premises - it seems from the application that the licence extends across the whole of the site, which up to now has been subdivided into smaller retail units. There is no indication where in the premises the live music would take place, as this could affect the impact of the noise and whether it transferred through party walls to neighbours.

There are currently doors to the front and the rear of the property, and a condition should be applied that these are to be kept closed at all times, ideally with internal lobbies installed to reduce the noise nuisance when patrons enter and leave the premises.

Given the extended opening hours that the applicant seeks, I would also expect that conditions be applied relating to good management during closing and clearing up, to reduce the risk of disturbance to neighbours. anti-social behaviour and public order.

Yours sincerely

To: Licensing
Subject: Objection

Dear Sir or Madam,

I am writing with an objection to the license application by Badger Badger at 139-145 Deptford High Street for the sale of alcohol, late night refreshment, live and recorded music. I have lived on [REDACTED] for over 20 years and I believe this application is part of a bigger story in which the reasonable needs of the many residents that occupy Deptford High Street have been neglected by Lewisham Licence Authority during the recent rise in applications for late night premises licences.

My objection to this application relates to the licensing objective of prevention of public nuisance. The applicant has requested a licence for recorded and live music until midnight Sunday to Wednesday, and until 1am Thursday to Saturday with sale of alcohol only deviating from these same hours from Sunday to Wednesday by 30 minutes. If one imagines it taking 30 minutes to consume a drink then the effect will be drinking and music until midnight Sunday to Wednesday and until 1am Thursday to Saturday.

If one considers the high number of residential dwellings in close proximity to the venue (both on Deptford High Street and to the rear of the venue) it is surely obvious that these hours are not suitable as they will conflict with residents' basic need for sleep and therefore, if given, this application will result in Statutory Nuisance taking place, both from the recorded/live music and from punters congregating outside the venue.

As set out in government guidelines, Statutory Nuisance is judged against the ordinary level of noise for the area, and Deptford High Street at night time is a quiet road with ambient noise levels similar to a residential street (It is because of this that so many (2000+ on Deptford High Street alone) have chosen to make their home on Deptford High Street - lively during the day, peaceful at night). From bitter experience I can tell you that the relative quietness of Deptford High Street means that a simple conversation between two people can be very disruptive to sleep, especially if their dialogue is lubricated by alcohol! This relative peace is in contrast to places with large through-roads such as New Cross or Brockley. With the recent issuing of alcohol licenses to 3am, I worry that Lewisham is ignorant of this distinction. If not then it is negligent of this distinction.

Disruption caused by recorded and live music can be seriously debilitating in relation to loss of sleep, especially when you consider the low quality of the building in this case. During the warmer summer months, external doors are likely to be opened, resulting in protracted periods of considerable noise nuisance for residents. And in the cooler months with smokers exiting and re-entering premises, blasts of high level noise will regularly occur.

Please see quote from BBC article on Government review of extended hours after Licensing Act of 2003 which explains that whilst crime may have not increased, it is occurring later in the early hours of the morning.

*Extended drinking hours does **seem to have shifted** violent crime to the early hours of the morning. "Things just went backwards," says Jon Foster, senior research and policy officer*

for the Institute of Alcohol Studies. "The amount of crime has been spread out over a longer period of time and that causes problems for the police," he adds.

For these reasons I object to this application and suggest that the requested hours should be reduced to 11pm on weekdays and midnight at the weekend (not including Thursdays). Please remember, people only have one home - it is possible for people to choose where they go for a drink, but it is not possible for people to choose where they sleep.

Yours sincerely,

To: Licensing
Subject: Badger Badger - Deptford High Street

I would like to object to the above application for extended hours. Deptford High Street has a very dense residential population and people leaving an establishment at midnight Sunday - Thursday and at 1am on Fridays and Saturdays is sure to cause disruption not only for the residents in Deptford Market Yard, but in the High Street and the streets off the High Street.

Regards,

Dear sir or madam

Licensing application for Badger Badger, 139-145 Deptford High Street, London SE8 3NU

We are writing to submit an objection to the above licence application on behalf of the Deptford Society.

The Deptford Society is the local amenity group covering the Deptford High St and Creekside Conservation Areas.

Our members are long-term residents, business owners and representatives of other interested groups who live and work within the conservation areas and the adjoining streets.

The applicant seeks to operate from 9am until midnight on weekdays and 1am Thursday to Saturday, including the sale of alcohol, and live and recorded music. The applicant is also seeking a licence to stay open all night from New Year's Eve until the start of licensing the following morning (9am).

The Deptford Society objects to this application on the grounds of prevention of public nuisance as we believe the extended hours that are applied for will have an unreasonable impact on those who live on and around the high street. No matter how well managed a licensed premises is, staff cannot influence the behaviour of patrons once they leave the premises and disperse along the high street and adjacent streets. Additionally, by late evening the ambient noise levels in Deptford High Street are particularly low as there is very little traffic; the impact of any noise from boisterous groups making their way home or waiting for taxis will thus be heightened. We believe that having patrons exiting the premises after midnight on weeknights and 1am Thurs-Sat is likely to have a detrimental impact on sleep patterns and quiet enjoyment for the families and other residents who have made the high street their home.

We do not believe that licensing live and recorded music until the same hours is compatible with the environment of the high street, for similar reasons to those mentioned above. Noise levels are typically very high for this form of entertainment and are therefore likely to create prolonged periods of considerable noise nuisance during sleeping hours for the many residents who live adjacent and nearby the premises. Summer months have the potential to be even worse as it is likely that external doors will be opened, especially in this building, which appears to be of poor quality construction. This kind of licence should require the applicant to ensure that the premises has been specifically upgraded to confine and reduce noise levels - with higher levels of soundproofing and internal lobbies to prevent noise nuisance when patrons enter and leave the premises, which can be a frequent occurrence for smokers.

Finally we object to the application for all-night licensing on New Years' Eve, on the grounds of prevention of public nuisance. While extended hours might be appropriate to enable patrons to celebrate for additional time beyond midnight, we do not think all-night licensing is appropriate or necessary.

It is important to understand that Deptford is not just a commercial high street, it is also home to a large residential population ranging from households of singles and couples to larger shared and family households, many of whom are long-term residents. The immediate neighbourhood and side streets which high-street properties adjoin or back on to are also almost exclusively residential. This fact transforms Lewisham Council's responsibility to deliver the licensing objectives since these residents have a legal right, for their health and wellbeing, to protection from statutory noise nuisance, as set out in the Environmental Health Act 1990 - with night-time noise that is likely to disturb sleep being actionable due to its obvious detrimental effects on health and well-being.

These comments reflect our recent response to the council's consultation on its new licensing policy, in which we raised the Deptford Society's concerns about moves to set out 'preferred' hours and to identify Deptford as a 'district hub' for this purpose. We acknowledge that although Deptford may meet this criteria in terms of its concentration of retail, it does not have the same night-time economy, nor the same levels of ambient noise, as other district hubs such as New Cross and hence the suggested hours are inappropriate to the living environment of the high street. The density of residential accommodation on and around the high street means that it can essentially be characterised as a retail street at ground level, with a residential street above. The licensing authority's responsibility is to ensure the new night-time economy operates 'in such a way that reflects the nature of the area within which they are located...'. It also states that the new night-time economy should be provided 'while protecting the quality of life for residents'.

Yours sincerely