Representation from a member of public

Dear Licensing Officers

Thank you for displaying this application.

I am a regular visitor to the Intra and spend money in the local businesses. I support the arts'-based activities which take place in this creative quarter. I also take part in monthly held community litter-picks in partnership with local businesses who hold equipment for us, as well as temporarily store rubbish which is later collected by Medway Norse.

This is a close-knit community and I have met a number of the local residents, which includes those with drink related addictions. I have witnessed occasional shouting episodes between residents and anti-social behaviour. Many of these people are ex-military and have significant physical as well as mental health issues. They are supported by charities such as the military charity SSAFA. I should say, they are friendly and polite towards me and my colleague litter pickers.

This business falls within the Stress area designated in Medway Council's Licensing policies. I wish this new business well although I object to the application as presented.

These objections are made with the following Licensing Act 2003 objectives in mind:

- Prevention of Public Nuisance
- Prevention of Crime and Disorder
- Public Safety

I object to the sale of beers and ciders if their strength is greater than 5.5% ABY (6.5% is too high). I also think that there should be no differentiation as to their origin or manufacture. Craft beer is no less strong than non-craft beer. I agree no single cans or bottles should be sold and also comment that no less than 4-packs or multiple buy special offers should be sold.

I have observed some street drinkers in this area drinking Sainsbury's cider in 2 litre bottles ABV 5%. This strength of beer and cider are readily available nearby and it would be irresponsible if any action by the Licensing Authorities was seen to tolerate greater access to alcohol.

Consequently, I suggest that if this licence is granted: the hours of licensable sales are restricted and alcohol cannot be sold earlier than 11am and no later than 9pm. It would seem perverse, given licensing objectives, if hours of trading were extending to midnight on Bank Holidays including Christmas Eve and New Years' Eve.

Given the sensitivities in this area, I ask that my address be withheld from public viewing although my name may be revealed.