

EEBC/11/00232/LAPRE
Epsom Grill license

I would like to strongly object to the application to vary the licence for Epsom Grill on the following grounds.

I would also like to speak at the sub committee hearing if I am available.

Prevention of Crime and Disorder

Epsom is one of the worse places in Surrey for late night ASB. A large number of incidents are caused when licensed premises close and the revellers spill into and around the High Street.

The biggest challenge is to get the revellers out of town and on their way home. While they 'hang around' there is a greater chance that trouble will start.

By providing an opportunity to purchase take away food the revellers are likely to stay in town, causing noise, mess (vomiting), urination in public, litter (including broken glass bottles), starting arguments and shouting comments all leading to ASB.

Public safety

For the same reasons above, public safety is an issue.

Prevention of Public Nuisance

Town Centre residents generally accept that there will be some noise and disturbance but there are limits.

Being kept awake after 2pm due to revellers walking home (or just walking around) is unacceptable. Even those people who live under flight paths are allowed a night sleep.

By providing take away food until 4am just exacerbates the problem, extending unacceptable noise and disturbance until 4.30am.

Protection of Children from harm

There are now many children living in and around the town centre. To deprive them of sleep until after 4am is not acceptable and detrimental to their health.

Summary

To extend the known ASB, noise and disturbance in and around the town centre is unacceptable.

We already have issues with litter, urine, vomit and other mess following late night trading, especially after Friday and Saturday nights.

Police have not got the resources to patrol the town centre at the moment with the last licensed premises closing at 3am on Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights.

There will be no additional police resources to control or react to the ASB, they cannot currently respond to all calls due to shortage of staff.

Conditions

If you are minded to approve the later opening of Epsom Grill can conditions below be considered.

1. At least 4 Qualified and fully trained SIA staff to be present from 23.00hrs until 5am. every day
Reason - to ensure any ASB in the locality is properly dealt with.
2. At least 2 cleaners as paid to clean up the litter, urine, vomit and other mess from the surrounding area between the hours of 04.00hrs – 06.00hrs.
Reason – to ensure that the town centre is a fit and healthy place for early morning commuters, children and residents.
3. The provision of, or payment for, 2 additional trained staff to enable the town CCTV to be manned between the hours of 03.00hrs – 06.00hrs.
Reason – to ensure there can be an appropriate response to any incidents endangering the safety of visitors, residents and employees. These range from ASB to Medical emergencies.

Councillor Neil Dallen MBE
Town Ward, Epsom

2nd November 2022



Representations re application to vary the Premises Licence to extend Late Night Refreshment hours from Monday to Sunday 23:00 - 04:00 & opening times Monday - Sunday 07:00 - 04:30 re Epsom Grill 3 Waterloo Road, KT19 8AY (the premises)

Remove Watermark Now

Dear Sirs

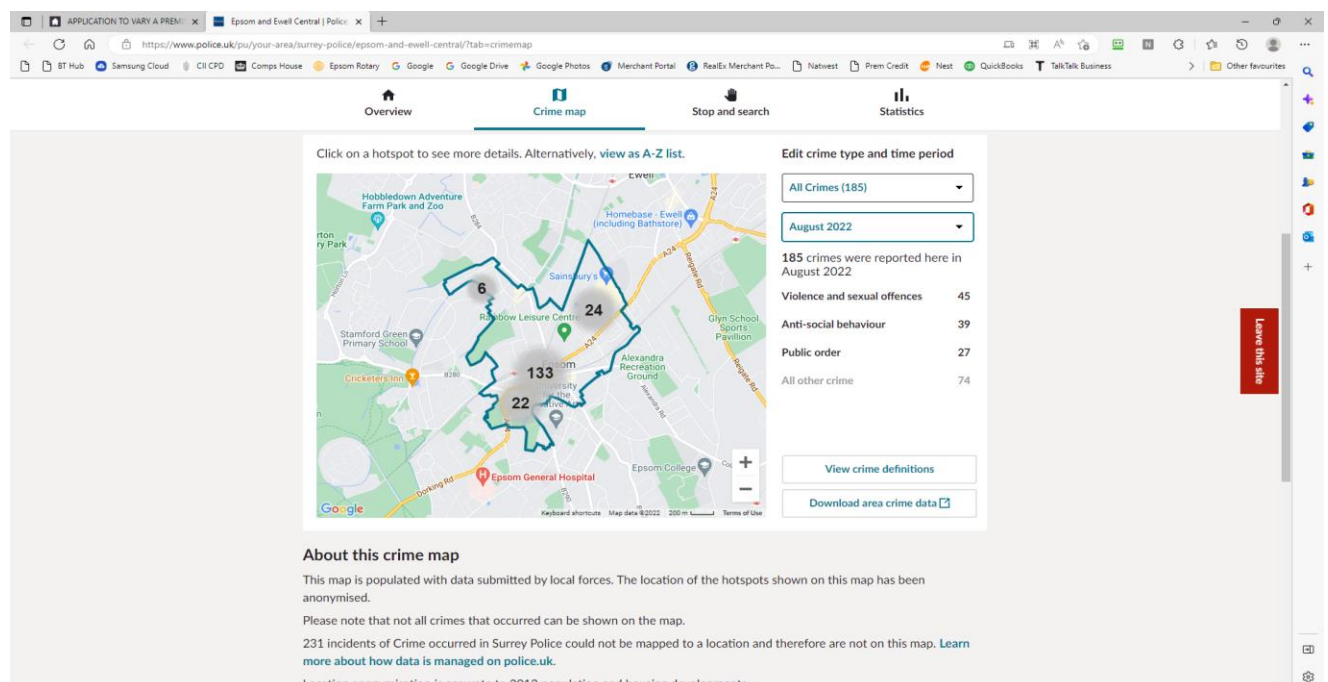
I wish to make representations in this application.

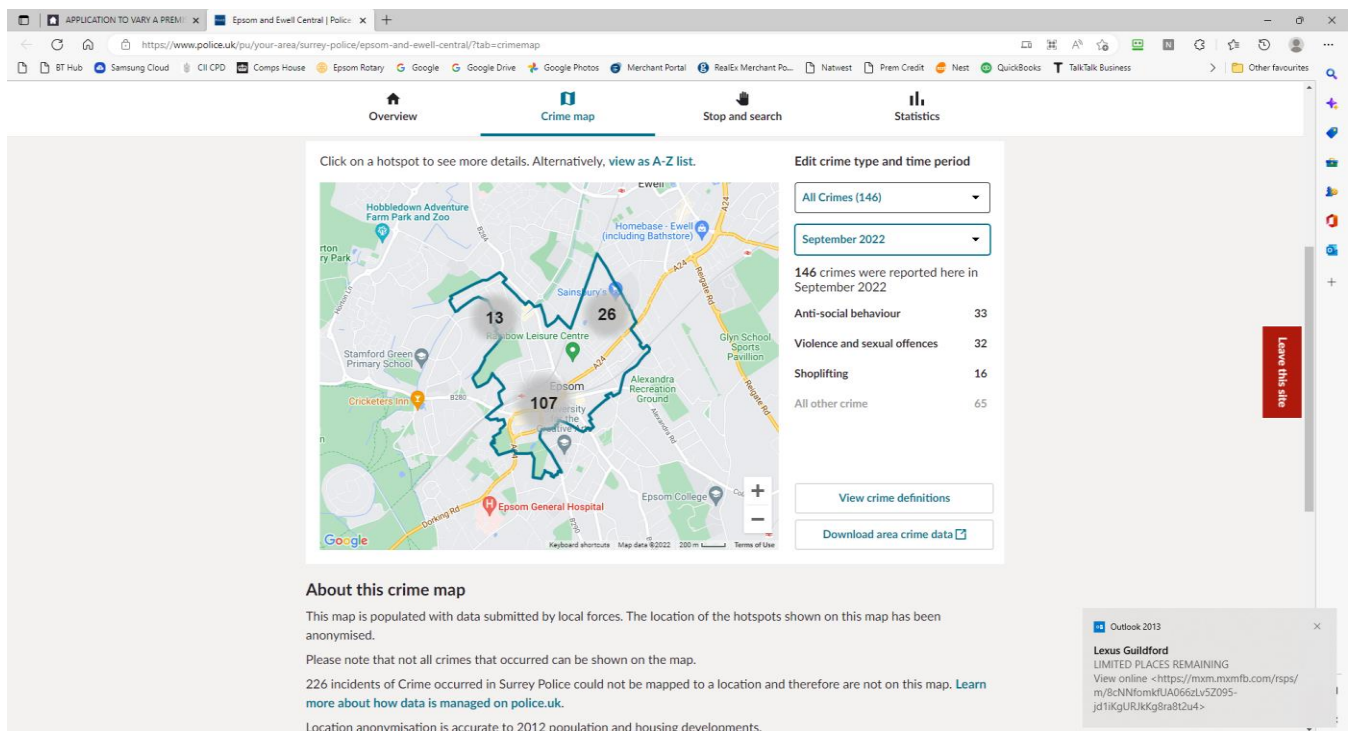
████████ Hudson House ██████████ comprises 111 residential flats over 6 floors fronting both Waterloo Road and Station Approach Epsom, providing homes for professionals, key workers, young families and the elderly. I am ██████████ chairman of the management company responsible for Hudson House. The premises is in close proximity to Hudson House and is also directly opposite the block of residential flats the Oaks Square. Waterloo Road is used by people travelling to and dispersing from nearby late night licensed premises and clubs and public houses within the town and for the purposes of being collected by taxis/cabs.

I receive many complaints from residents as to noise nuisance and the perceived high levels of crime and disorder in the town in the early mornings, particularly over weekends, when the late night clubs in the town centre are operating. Boogie Lounge operate until 2am on Saturday and Sunday mornings and Fever operates until 3am on these nights and on Thursday nights. They do not usually operate on other nights of the week and I believe that there are no other licensed premises that operate beyond 12 midnight within the town during weekdays.

Grounds of Prevention of crime and disorder

For its size and residential makeup Epsom Town Centre has a high incidence of crime and disorder, much of which it is submitted is alcohol related. There are serious issues on the streets, much of which being in Waterloo Road and Station Approach which includes, fighting, anti-social behaviour and urinating in public areas. Many incidents take place in the early hours of the morning on Saturdays and Sundays. I set out below the crime statistics relating to crime for Epsom town centre for both August and September this year taken from the Police UK web site.





The high levels of crime in the centre of the town and in the and around the area where the premises is located is clearly evident. The concern that residents and the police have is to disperse those leaving late night premises swiftly and in an orderly fashion, so as to limit the number of flashpoints, disturbances and anti-social behaviour. The problem has become of such a concern that Surrey Police have recently resorted to obtaining Section 35 Dispersal Orders in an effort to try and disperse and break up revellers. At present the town centre is subject to such an order from 6th September to 20th November.

Grounds of prevention of public nuisance

The granting of this application would lead to those frequenting late night clubs staying in the town in the very area where there is a high incidence of crime and disorder until potentially 4.30am/5am. In addition people would be encouraged to travel into town from other areas until 4am during weekdays which will lead to a further increase in crime disorder and public nuisance at additional times. The town centre has become residential in nature, with many flats constructed above shops, in addition to the large blocks of flats located there.

Epsom and Ewell Borough Council's Licensing Policy and actions

The Council's own licensing policy recognises the issues and designates zoning. The premises is in the **red zone**, where there is a concentration of licensed premises and where their impact may be detrimental to public safety, confidence and the wellbeing of residents, business and/or other users. Within such policy an application for a takeaway open beyond 1am and other food led establishments open beyond midnight should be refused, unless the applicant can clearly demonstrate that the premises will not add to the cumulative impact for the area.

At the meeting of Epsom and Ewell Borough Council's Environment and Safe Communities Committee on the 18th October 2022 the item on the SAFER STREETS GRANT AND CCTV refers to the Council's bid for the grant at appendix 3. This bid prepared by the Council confirms the high incidence of crime, particularly at times of dispersal and how unsafe and intimidating the streets on the town centre

are, particularly in the area where the premises are located. The bid cites the late night food offering at dispersal as one of the causes of anti-social behaviour, crime and disturbance ("We believe the primary causes of the issues seen in Epsom include: Pinch points, especially after venues close, which are a catalyst to violence and ASB. This includes a lack of late-night transport provision and availability of food/refreshments.") and that "the peak in violence and disorder is between midnight and 5am, particularly between 3am and 4am".

Conclusion

It is submitted that this application if granted would lead to people congregating in the Waterloo Road in the early hours of the morning on a daily basis. It would substantially increase the cumulative impact of licensed premises and would lead to additional incidence of crime violence and anti-social behaviour, which is already at exceptionally high levels for a small town of the size of Epsom and where the Council and Police clearly see that there is a major problem that needs addressing. On any reasonable view this application should be refused.

Anthony J Axelrod

[REDACTED]

Station Approach

Epsom KT19 8[REDACTED]



Representations re licensing application made by Epsom Grill, 3 Waterloo Road Epsom , Surrey, KT19 8AY to extend hours of operation to 04.30 daily.

Remove Watermark Now

I am submitting these representations both as a resident of Town Ward and a committee member of Epsom Town Residents Association, on behalf of ETRA.

Prevention of crime and disorder

Extending the licence to opening hours till 04.30 (serving till 04.00) daily provides the opportunity to attract customers to remain in the town centre once other venues have closed, rather than to disperse, extending the hours and opportunities for the associated ASB issues and disturbance to residents living nearby. There is already a dispersal problem causing late night disturbance which this will exacerbate.

It also would set a precedent for other premises to follow.

Grounds of prevention of public nuisance and public safety and Town Planning

The premises is adjacent to 2 residential areas (Station Approach and Oaks Square). Residents already suffer from considerable noise and disturbance from the late night economy in Waterloo road and Epsom Square, and an extension of operational hours would unnecessarily exacerbate this.

We need the town centre to be sustainable for the large numbers of residents and families are already trying to live there but for the future residents and families who will make the town centre their home as it is further developed to meet our housing needs.

Granting this application would contravene Licensing Policy by reducing the sense of safety and security for all town centre users at all times of the day and night, and is likely to lead to an increase in anti-social behaviour at hours which are very hard to monitor or control. If the town centre is not safe for all users, particularly women and girls, this damages the quality of life for residents but also the overall late night economy.

Conclusion

The Environment Committee (18/10/22) item on the SAFER STREETS GRANT AND CCTV, the bid for the grant cites the late night food offering at dispersal as one of the causes of asb, crime and disturbance ("We believe the primary causes of the issues seen in Epsom include: Pinch points, especially after venues close, which are a catalyst to violence and ASB. This includes a lack of late-night transport provision and availability of food/refreshments.") and that "the peak in violence and disorder is between midnight and 5am, particularly between 3am and 4am".

Extending the license will in make it more likely that the peak in violence and disorder extends later and would be disregarding elements of the case made for the Safer streets funding.

The application for Safer Streets funding was intended to help the Community Safety Partnership to deliver its commitment to making the town centre safer for women and girls, and to reduce violence and ASB and the fear of such generated by the late night economy. The hours of operation applied for will undermine achievement of that aim and should be refused.

Tella Wormington

Epsom Town Residents' Association (ETRA)

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