

**From:** John Skoulding

**Sent:** 24 July 2022 20:42

**To:** Dimitriou Maria

**Cc:**

**Subject:** RE: Agreed hours and conditions with the Police - Premises: Selekt Chicken 349 North End Road London SW6 1NN

Dear Maria,

Many thanks for your email below.

I note the conditions agreed between the Police and the Applicant. Regarding these:

- 1 they do not satisfy our concerns and I do not wish to withdraw my objection; and
- 2 they do not address the concerns of residents.

For context, most of the roads adjoining the North End Road (NER) such as the one I live on are residential roads. My road has 50+ houses on it either occupied by one family or split into flats. Many like myself have young children in our families. We already suffer from issues with vast numbers of delivery and dispatch motorbikes parking at the end of the road (groups of dispatch riders meeting, talking late into the night, littering, urinating, (a constant issue which is sadly arguing etc), the incessant sleep-breaking noise of the bikes whizzing along our roads during the sensitive hours of 8pm to 7 am, instances of riders mounting the pavements and even riding along the pavements, the added danger that virtually all of them are L-plate drivers who drive well in excess of the 20 mph speed limit and have had instances where they have hit or scratched the cars parked on the road. In the case of my Tournay Road the problem is exacerbated by the fact that dispatch riders constantly use it as a cut through road to access Dawes Road and beyond thereby vastly increasing the number of users well into the night when we are trying to sleep.

The conditions below principally relate to hours. In my experience no residents are happy with activity after 23:00 let alone after midnight.

Please note that my earlier objection was confused as I appreciate that the application regards food and not alcohol.

### **Licensing Objective Prevention of Crime and Disorder**

This Applicant has traded outside permitted hours thereby increasing the demand for delivery drivers and also evidencing a blatant disregard for the rules. How can they be trusted? I understand that the Licensing Authority became aware of this only recently but have not told the shop to stop trading after 23:00; neither have the Police. I understand that representations have been made to Adrian Overton, Licensing Authority as well as Met Police Licensing Officer, Kris Cardwell, and I believe that you should take all of these factors into account.

Selekt Chicken 349 North End Road has been trading illegally, without any license at all to serve 'Late Night refreshment' after 23:00. Their hours have been until midnight, as shown on Google maps and from personal experience, and Deliveroo is still offering orders from this shop until 23:45. So, 23:00 to midnight is illegal.

Why reward a Premises that has not been upholding the law by granting them a licence for 1am? Wouldn't it make more sense for the Premises to show that they can work within the law for

at least a year or more and then apply for a licence for hours after 23:00? Please would you ask the applicant how many years they have been operating illegally i.e. after 23:00, trading after 23:00 without a late night refreshment licence and why he thought he could flaunt the law for so long? Why was this not enforced by the police and the licence authority?

Post COVID, crime in North End Road is rising, unfortunately, not only during the day but also at night; more delivery drivers cause altercations with vehicles and bicycles, cycle altercations, problems at McDonalds (open till midnight) including robberies witnessed by families with children are becoming too common, again. Residents on the Next-Door app report these unfortunate incidences, specifically in North End Road Premises, all too regularly. Dispatch drivers often argue amongst themselves and have been seen stealing food from the very outlets that you are seeking to licence. All of this is anti-social behaviour and is precisely what residents expect the local authorities to crack down on. Why else invest in the area and pay the council tax?

### **Licensing Objective The Prevention of Public Nuisance**

A licence until 1am could add to the ongoing problems in North End Road at late night hours. 349 North End Road is very near residential properties, with several directly above as well as across the road and so would harm the amenities of these properties as a result of noise and disturbance, particularly late at night, generated by customers and delivery drivers entering and leaving both the Premises itself and neighbouring residential side streets where customers are likely to park their vehicles and delivery drivers congregate. We are all, and children in particular, are entitled to a good night's sleep. Increased late night activity (including deliveries, refuse collections, dispatch riders none of whom have electric bikes) directly put this at risk. Please ask the applicant what assessment have they carried out on the impact of extended hours on local residents and, in particular, the right to sleep?

What assessment has Selekt Chicken made of the impact on residents? Residents are genuinely concerned about "commercial creep" i.e. if one is allowed to do it they all will. In no time at all there could be multiple late night outlets driving higher and higher volumes of business dependant on dispatch riders speeding around Fulham with greater levels of noise and disruption. Where does the Committee intend to draw the line and recognise residents' rights and concerns?

The Council is making great strides in improving North End Road during daytime hours through traffic calming measures such as 'parklets', wider pedestrian pavements, and improved facilities for market traders; the emphasis of these North End Road improvements is solely on daytime activity. The night-time economy is not at all addressed in the Council's plans for North End Road, most likely because no one at the Council envisions North End Road, from Fulham Road up to Lillie Road, becoming a 'late night' or even all-night destination.

If the Licencing Sub-Committee is minded granting a License at this time, we ask for it to be for food only no later than 12 midnight. Otherwise, I would ask you to reject this application.

As to the conditions let's be realistic:

- 1 dispatch drivers and other customers rarely read signs or notices;
- 2 will the CCTV camera cover indoor and outdoor activity?
- 3 How many drivers can the premises accommodate? I have checked this and taken photographs. There is virtually no standing room for drivers. The owners will not want dispatch riders sitting at the tables as this puts customers off coming in. The small

amount of room inside will be needed to allow staff to serve at and clean the tables. The proposal is just not feasible given the space.

- 4 How will "positive encouragement of quieter vehicles" work? No incentive to do that, they neither care nor can enforce this – but can we have specific actions that the Applicant must demonstrate are effective? I find this laughable but am open to hear about the reality of what is being proposed.

As originally indicated, I would like Charlotte Dexter to represent me at the Hearing. I fully authorise you to allow Charlotte Dexter to use my allotted time to speak at the hearing and delegate my right to make submissions to her.

Best regards and thank you.

**John Skoulding**