Local Policing Service Improvement & Engagement Department

Your Ref: AWDM/1320/26 Our Ref: LM/WOR/26/08A Date 17th November 2026

Contact Name: Lee Melbourne

Dear Ms Prew,

RE: Unit 14 Guildbourne Centre Worthing West Sussex

Thank you for your correspondence of the 17th of November 2026, advising me of a planning application to vary condition 2 (opening hours) of Application 03/01173/FULL extending the hours to 09:00 to 00:00 (Midnight) Monday to Sunday at the above location, for which you seek advice from a crime prevention viewpoint.

The National Planning Policy Framework demonstrates the government's aim to achieve healthy, inclusive, and safe places which are safe and accessible, so that crime and disorder, and the fear of crime, do not undermine the quality of life or community cohesion – for example through the use of attractive, well-designed, clear, and legible pedestrian and cycle routes, and high-quality public space, which encourage the active and continual use of public areas.

Although the level of crime and anti-social behaviour in Adur & Worthing District is average as indicated within Police.uk additional measures to mitigate against any identified local crime trends and site-specific requirements should always be considered.

I have had the opportunity to examine the detail within the application and in an attempt to reduce the opportunity for crime and the fear of crime I offer the following comments.

I note the following points as indicated within document reference CRG/HL/LOR002-1-0/7763:

1.3 This application seeks to vary the hours to midnight daily and proposes to amend condition 2 to read as follows: 'The use hereby permitted shall be open to the public 09:00 to 00:00 hours (midnight) - Monday to Sunday'.

Ms Prew
Planning Officer
Adur & Worthing Councils,
Development Management,
Economy Directorate, Portland House,
44 Richmond Road, Worthing,
West Sussex, BN11 1HS

Sussex Police Headquarters
Malling House, Malling, Lewes, East Sussex, BN7 2DZ

1.4 The proposal will allow trading 09:00 until midnight, 7 days a week.

My main concern with additional hours of trade is the amenity of the surrounding local community as this will bring both increased footfall and vehicle use into the area which increases the potential for noise nuisance.

As there are residential properties nearby should this planning application be approved **-** a large degree of sensitivity will be required to make sure that the amenity of the surrounding local community is not unduly disturbed, and it will therefore be a matter for the applicant to ensure that this is managed in the most appropriate manner in order to accord with Policy DM5 and DM22 of the Worthing Local Plan.

Thank you for giving me an opportunity to offer comments in response.

The Crime & Disorder Act 1998 heightens the importance of taking crime prevention into account when planning decisions are made. Section 17 of the Act places a clear duty on both police and local authorities to exercise their various functions with due regard to the likely effect on the prevention of crime and disorder. You are asked to accord due weight to the advice offered in this letter which would demonstrate your authority's commitment to work in partnership and comply with the spirit of The Crime & Disorder Act.

Yours sincerely

Miss Lee A Melbourne
Designing Out Crime Officer
Local Policing Service Improvement & Engagement Department
Sussex Police Headquarters