Local Policing Service Improvement & Engagement Department

Your Ref: AWDM/1093/24 Our Ref: LM/WOR/24/02B Date 29th August 2024

Contact Name: Lee Melbourne

Dear Ms Haslett,

RE: 13 Station Parade Tarring Road Worthing West Sussex

Thank you for your correspondence of the 27th of August 2024, advising me of a planning application for approval of details reserved by conditions 3 (Sound Insulation Scheme) and 4 (Noise Management Plan) of Application No AWDM/0328/24 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.

The level of crime and anti-social behaviour in Worthing district is above average when compared with the rest of Sussex, so 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 refer the applicant to previous correspondence from this office pertaining to this site – Your Ref: AWDM/0328/24 dated the 15th of March 2024 and Our Ref: LM/WOR/24/02A dated the 15th of March 2024 to which all comments contained therein remain extant.

Ms Haslett
Planning Officer
Planning Services
Adur & Worthing Councils

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

This latest application seeks approval of details reserved by conditions 3 (Sound Insulation Scheme) and 4 (Noise Management Plan) of Application No AWDM/0328/24.

I made the following consultee comments in response to this application on the 15th of March 2024:

I also note the following point as detailed within the supporting statement:

4. The very nature and ethos of a micropub limits any negative impact to the local community and residents by limiting opening hours, during the week the micropub would operate between 14:00 and 21:30. In addition the culture of a micropub encourages people to sit and converse with one another and as such there will be no music or televised sports during our opening hours. We will install sound insulation in the ceiling and sound absorption on the walls. We will discourage people from congregating outside and provide cigarette disposal away from the premises.

I do have some concerns about the amenity of the surrounding local residential community – so a degree of sensitivity will need to be shown to ensure that they are not unduly disturbed by patrons smoking outside and leaving the premises at closing time.

Having read the supporting statement as provided with this latest planning application in relation to the noise assessment I have no further comments to add from a crime prevention perspective.

I would however, like to take this opportunity to reiterate the following comment as indicated in my previous correspondence:

I do have some concerns about the amenity of the surrounding local residential community – so a degree of sensitivity will need to be shown to ensure that they are not unduly disturbed by patrons smoking outside and leaving the premises at closing time.

Thank you for giving me an opportunity to comment.

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
Sussex Police Headquarters