

Thank you for your email dated 1 April 2020.

In response, following the receipt of your letter dated 17 February 2020 your client was contacted and offered an alternative to the unit that he originally included on the application. The trading days, times and nature of the goods to be sold remained the same. He was also more specific regarding the proposed location that it would be sited.

As agreed the application was put out for re-consultation with the additional proposal included.

An objection from the police relating to CCTV coverage of the area that was lodged following the initial consultation was rescinded taking into account that a much smaller trading unit was now being proposed.

However, both County Highways and The Principal Conservation Officer for Gloucester once again objected for reasons that were given initially and also include further reasons for their objections.

These objections have been considered in line with Council Policy.

As per the criteria outlined in 2.6.1.

One consideration is that "The use shall be compatible with the character of the area in which it is proposed to be situated. The design of the unit shall not have a significant adverse impact on the visual amenity of the area"

The Principal Conservation Officer is clear that, in her opinion, this is not the case.

A further consideration is that "The appearance and use of the Street Trading Unit including associated equipment or structures shall be of good quality and be complimentary to the ambience and vitality of the locality"

Once again, The Principal Conservation Officer is clear that, in her opinion this is not the case.

Another consideration is that "The siting and operation of any trader shall be such that it does not cause any problems of highway safety, obstruction to users of the highway.....or create unacceptable parking issues"

County Highways are obviously concerned that this may be an issue and objected accordingly.

The objections received are very specific and do not concern trading days, hours or the nature of goods being offered for sale.

An alternative trading unit was proposed following consultation with your client and was offered.

There was no indication of any change of days and times that trading was proposed nor the nature of goods to be sold and, nor was that expected.

The terms of both objections left no room for mediation as these are not conditional on changes being made. This was discussed with your client in a telephone conversation and he indicated that he understood and agreed.

Having due regard to these factors and having followed our policy and having consulted with the Licensing Lead Officer we consider that there are sufficient grounds to refuse the consent, in the first instance, and to refer the matter to The Licensing Sub-Committee for determination.

A hearing, which your client will be invited to attend and make representation in support of his application, will be convened as soon as is practicable, given the current situation.

CJB

2 April 2020