

Dear Sir/Madam,

Spitalfields Community Group (SCG) OBJECTS to the off sales component of the licensing application submitted for Hub by Premier Inn, Silwex House, London, E1 6SN.

Spitalfields Community Group (SCG) was founded in 2011 with the aim of representing those who live and work in Spitalfields, enhancing their quality of living, and improving their sense of community. To that end, we have sought to represent the consensus view as demonstrated in our latest survey of members' priorities, which highlights continued concern about the detrimental effect of the excessive number of licensed premises in the area on our domestic and working lives. Indeed, we gave our active support to the adoption and implementation of the Cumulative Impact Zone (CIZ), which recognizes the negative impact on residential amenity of the dense concentration of licensed premises in our community. The premises at Silwex House is within the Zone.

Whilst recognising that the hours applied for are reasonable and that the nature of Hub as a hotel is not likely to be a major source of ASB, the Community Group has two major reservations about the application. The first is that the premises is within the CIZ as outlined above. We are growing increasingly concerned on behalf of the community at the continued granting of licences within the Zone, despite its stated aim to curb the number of premises serving alcohol within a small mixed use neighbourhood. The second relates specifically to off sales of alcohol. We have observed a growing trend of street drinking by visitors to the area, who often loiter causing a nuisance and leaving litter. There is absolutely no requirement for further off sales of alcohol within the immediate area. Indeed, we see no reason for Hub to require an off sales licence to carry out their usual business. We have no objection to guests being served alcohol in their rooms, it is the sale of alcohol to be consumed outside the premises we object to as there is a direct correlation between this and antisocial behaviour.

For the reasons outlined above we wish to OBJECT to the off sales element of the licensing application submitted by Hub.

From and on behalf of Spitalfields Community Group