

Dear Sir/Madam,

Spitalfields Community Group OBJECTS to the application for a late-night refreshment licence at Jasmine, Brick Lane E1 6RU. The application is completely excessive, for late night refreshment until 1am and 3am.

Spitalfields Community Group was formed in September 2011 with the aim of promoting and protecting the quality of life of people living and working in the ward of Spitalfields and Banglatown. We have over 200 members and are growing. Our latest survey, conducted earlier this year to identify priorities for action, highlighted the continuing problems faced by locals as a result of the existing dense concentration of licensed premises in the area, exacerbating the negative impact of the night time economy. Indeed, the three factors found to be most adversely affecting quality of life in Spitalfields were directly attributable to the night time economy. In accordance with this focus, SCG supported the adoption of a cumulative impact zone for the Brick Lane area, within which the premises at 126 is situated.

ASB caused by the night time economy in the Brick Lane area is well documented, with many recent reports by residents of problems caused by patrons at night and throughout the weekend. These problems include noise nuisance (screaming, shouting, swearing, singing, playing music etc) litter and vandalism to cars and homes, street urination and defecation, vomiting, and aggressive and intimidating behaviour. Patrons leaving Brick Lane for transport hubs on Bishopsgate and Commercial Street inevitably pass along residential streets causing unwanted mayhem and misery.

Residents already put up with these problems to the early hours. The excessive hours applied for in this application would only extend these problems throughout the night, further inhibiting the amenity of local residents. There can be no justification for making refreshments available for consumption until 1am and 3am. Jasmine will inevitably become a magnet for drunken behaviour and general anti-social behaviour. The high crime incident rate in the Brick Lane is fuelled, at least in part, by premises with late licences. The strain on police and public health resources is unacceptable.

The applicant has clearly not overcome the rebuttal assumption of the Cumulative Impact Zone. We therefore ask you to reject this application.