

Dear Sir/Madam,

I would like to object to the licensing application by Farmdrop (Ref 104156). I believe that their application will, in effect, change the purpose of the site from "light industrial" to "commercial kitchen", given the nature of the service that they seek to provide.

My child attends Holy Trinity & St Silas Primary School, Hartland Road, London NW1 8DE, very close to the site in question. Importantly, the application expresses the applicants' intention to rely on third-party outgoing delivery services. From the application itself, "The premises will be used as a small warehouse to store products and prepare orders for customers which are delivered by a 3rd party (Deliveroo) to separate locations". This is a change of purpose for the site: at present it offers delivery to businesses; it is being set up as a hub to supply consumers.

I believe that the setting up of a delivery hub in such close proximity to the school will significantly worsen the safety and quality of life of the children, as well as local residents.

Protection of children from harm

There are constantly young children in motion around the site in question, including crossing Hartland Road several times throughout the school day. The area is also very busy with pedestrians when we parents and carers gather outside the school's several entrances at drop-off and pick-up times. As well as my child's school, there is another primary school (Hawley Primary) and a number of nurseries in the immediate area. An influx of motorised vehicles (due to the site acting as a delivery hub for Deliveroo) presents a clear and present danger to our children, especially if many scooter riders are learners and rely on provisional licences, indicating that they may well lack experience on these vehicles.

Within the last year, bollards were installed to reduce the flow of motorised traffic through the area (according to signage, no motorised vehicles are permitted to drive between these bollards, although in practice the gaps between bollards are wide enough for mopeds illegally to do so). Allowing a delivery depot to be set up on Hartland Road would inevitably increase the amount of traffic on the road. It is unacceptable to risk jeopardising the progress that has been made recently in improving the safety of our children. Furthermore, Castlehaven Park (adjacent to the site) is well-used by local children.

Public safety and prevention of nuisance

Inevitably, introducing a delivery depot, staffed by third-party drivers who are on tight deadlines, would increase public peril on and around Hartland Road. In addition, by the nature of their work third-party delivery drivers are required to loiter in between deliveries. This loitering creates noise, pollution and waste, in close proximity to my child's school. In addition, unless hours of operation were to be explicitly limited, this nuisance could be expected to be present at weekends and during evenings/nights as well as during the school day.

The applicants have made no reference to how they would confront these risks of nuisance.

NO ADEQUATE NOTICE

I do not believe that adequate notice was given regarding this licensing application. Signs were not evident either at the site itself, nor on the streets around the site, therefore the licensing process should not be able to proceed.

Yours faithfully,