Wolverhampton City Council Licensing Services Civic Centre St Peters Square Wolverhampton WV1 1RG



4th February 2016

I am writing this letter to object to the application for the licence to sell alcohol at the premise of:

Polish Taste (8am – 9pm) 30 Church Street in Bilston Wojciech Misiewicz (Licensee)

My main objections include:

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Crime and Disorder

With more cuts scheduled within the police department and Bilston police station closed at certain hours. How will the already limited local police and PCSO's be able to handle drink and crime related issues within the town. There are no conclusive reports that drink related issues and crime are down within Bilston town by permitting another alcohol licensee will no doubt increase more drink related crimes.

Trading of illicit goods

I am under the opinion that the premises will also be used to sell illicit goods such as non duty paid cigarettes and alcohol. Previously another polish shop which was trading under the same guise was closed down as the licensee was caught several times selling illicit goods. Also the local polish and Latvian community have spoken freely about purchasing these goods from this type of business. The lax opening and closing times would give the licensee a large window to heavily profit off illicit gains. The early opening times will encourage public to start drinking earlier than usual which may result in anti social behaviour i.e. may put public in contact with these nuisances/begging for change/also policing is restricted so early in the morning.

Encouraging price wars

I would like to point out that it was a long struggle to get an alcohol drinking ban placed in Bilston town after many alcohol related complaints by the public. I feel that by adding more license premises it is going to create a price war. Alcohol is going to be sold competitively cheap and thus increase consumption. How will this ban be effective and who would resolve any drink related issues as there may be no police/pcsos available? Bilston is a small town and on the high street alone there are a dozen off-licences. May I also point out there are already three off-licences within 100 yards from 30 Church Street, including Bilston Wines which specializing in all European beers and spirits.