



Billy,

With regards to the application for a new premises licence for the Cocoa Café, West Orchards Food Hall and follows discussions with the applicant the agent Mr Munro, Mr Pylyp the manager who provides security staff for West Orchards shopping centre and the councils licensing team.

The Cocoa Café is situated in a food hall which presently offers a range of fast food style restaurants each with their own designated seating areas marked by low level moveable screens. Each restaurant is solely responsible for their own premises. These restaurants attract a cross section of ages, which includes many young families and school age children, particularly in holiday periods. As a result the sale of alcohol from a premises within the food hall will attract a different clientele. Because of its open style and the ability of shoppers to move from one restaurant to another it has the potential to impact on the other unlicensed restaurants who may find persons drinking alcohol within their premises. The need for measures to prevent this movement is therefore important but cannot be delivered by the applicant alone and the West Orchards security staff would have an important part to play. The applicant has to satisfy that they can uphold any conditions placed on the licence and that they will uphold the licensing objectives.

As a result I must object to the granting of the new premises licence for the following reasons;

- Without the appropriate number and suitably trained staff on the premises, the sale of alcohol in such an open plan area will allow drinks to be passed on, allow persons to move to other unlicensed premises to consume alcohol and therefore increase the risk of proxy sales and under-age consumption. **Protection of Children from Harm.**
- The sale of alcohol without being ancillary to food has the potential to change this café into a bar. It will have an increased impact throughout this floor of the shopping centre including the other food outlets and their management. **Prevention of Crime and Disorder, Prevention of Nuisance.**
- The food floor is located on the third floor of the West Orchards shopping centre with balcony's, stairs, lifts and escalators. The consumption of alcohol will introduce a greater risk to the free and safe passage of persons throughout. **Public Risk.**
- The applicant has attempted to mitigated these risks by identifying the use of the West Orchards security staff. However, as I understand it a little less than half of their security staff are SIA qualified to deal with alcohol related incidents. They will therefore not always be able to offer suitably trained staff to enforce the conditions placed on the applicants premises, to deal with alcohol related issues within the Café itself, prevent alcohol leaving the Café, deal with alcohol consumption in other unlicensed premises or outside those premises which is covered by a Public Place Protection Order. **All four licensing objectives.**

Thanks,



Licensing Officer
Coventry Central Police Station,

