

Application N	Consultees Name	Recipient Address	Received	Comment	Response
2025/1812/P	Zsofia Varga	343 Royal College St	20/05/2025 08:50:59	SUPPRT	Map Studio Cafe is an incredibly important venue for the local community as well as for Camden and also for wider London. The events and the cultural hub they've created is a unique and valuable treasure and to this the mixed use licence is essential. With not granting this licence, Camden Council not only would curtail (and eventually, probably lose!) an important cornerstone of culture but we would also get closer to a world in which no independent, sophisticated, passion-run project survives as mega-developments, market logic and investors dictate our future. Emerging jazz musicians have got countless career-defining moments and opportunities at MAP, please please please allow them and the community to thrive.
2025/1812/P	Che	8 Mackeson Road 8 Mackeson Road 8 Mackeson Road	19/05/2025 21:00:04	COMMNT	Map Cafe is a deep cultural asset much beloved by real Camden People ! I have grown up in the borough (I'm 58) and that cafe is very important to the community
2025/1812/P	Hannah King	Flat 3 27 Lambert Road London SW2 5BB SW32DY	19/05/2025 13:57:33	COMMNT	My friend lives very near MAP on Willes Road. We tried to go for a drink there the other night but they had a private party so we couldn't go in. We've been there for drinks a few times over the years though. The music was VERY loud and so were all the people outside on the terrace, both were audible from his living room and went on late. Apparently it's often like this! Many of the comments on this application talk about MAP being shut down – it doesn't seem like anyone wants it to be shut down, as I said we've been there for drinks over the years, but it seems quite normal / basic if they are applying to be a music venue for people who live nearby to ask for better sound-proofing? I understand they don't want to spend the money but surely this would be better than having to close?! That doesn't seem like a crazy request to me, and it was REALLY loud in his house – I definitely wouldn't be ok with it!
2025/1812/P	Barry McGinlay	45 Flat E Belsize Park Gardens Hampstead Camden London Nw3 4JL	19/05/2025 13:49:48	COMMNT	This a great community space not just a cafe . Place where the neighbourhood come together I have cups of tea and coffee listen to live music in a healthy manner. This is something which should be an intricate part of our community the Map Cafe & Sounds .
2025/1812/P	Bez Adeosun	21 Inkerman Road	19/05/2025 21:28:56	PETITNSU PP	Map Studio has my full support! It's the best space in North London for music and culture. The community needs the space.
2025/1812/P	Evie	281 Kentish Town Road NW5 2JS	19/05/2025 12:43:02	COMMNT	MAP is an excellent venue that adds to the cultural character of Kentish Town. The planning permission would allow them to continue to serve the community.

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2025/1812/P	Luke Steele	62 Clovelly Road London W4 5DS	19/05/2025 23:34:08	PETITNSU PP	I support this application. I've attended this venue many times and it's always a culturally enriching experience. Great food, great music, totally civilised.

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2025/1812/P	Matthew Vincent	Alma Street NW5 3DH	19/05/2025 09:52:32	OBJ	<p>I write this note to strongly oppose Map's application for planning permission. Myself, my wife and our child have lived in the Inkerman area for a number of years and intend to remain here in the future. As I will set out below, during our time in the area we have become familiar with Map and their regular disturbances of what is otherwise a peaceful and friendly neighbourhood. I believe any application for Map to operate as a live music venue until 11pm each night should be rejected and I will set out my reasons below:</p> <p>1. Current Practices: Currently, Map has permission to operate as a café until 6pm each night. However, they have consistently and blatantly violated that permission. Routinely, Map is open beyond its stated hours, serving alcohol to its patrons late into the night. Music is played at an extremely high volume, with high levels of bass. The music causes a disruption to the community, turning a peaceful area into a party venue often late at night. This causes residents to be unable to sleep and carry out ordinary family life. Additionally, Map attracts mainly individuals from outside Camden who are often intimidating to local residents. I have made a habit of avoiding Map when walking with my daughter to ensure I do not run into the patrons who spill onto the streets, often in a drunken state. Almost no steps appear to be taken to limit the levels of noise or to prevent patrons from interacting negatively with the local community. As I understand it, often private events are held, not open to the public. These closed nights seem to cause the most disturbance to the community. Map never hires security to manage entry into its venue, which may increase the number of intimidating individuals attending, but also a lack of security means no active steps are taken to limit disturbance on the street outside the venue.</p> <p>2. Community: Map holds itself out as an asset to the community - a grassroots venue for musicians. This could not be further from the truth. Map has permission to operate until 6pm as a café but actually operates far later, in breach of all permissions it currently holds. Whilst that negatively impacts the community, Map continues to operate in breach of its conditions. In my view, any venue that so frequently breaches its permissions is a liability to the community, as it has proven itself to have little regard for local residents and neighbours. Planning permission, if approved, would give Map further scope to abuse its position in the community and further harm the lives of local residents. Map suggests it can operate in a similar way to the Grafton in future. Firstly, the Grafton is a properly designed pub with appropriate soundproofing and safeguarding in place to protect the community. Secondly, the Grafton actually engages with the local community in a genuine way, liaising with local residents to ensure we coexist for everyone's benefit. Map has consistently shown it has no regard for the wider community beyond its patrons and I have very little confidence it could be run in a community focused way under current management.</p> <p>3. Management: Map's management have shown a complete disregard for the community and local residents. Management has a cavalier attitude towards rules and regulations, operating beyond all permissions currently in place. In my view, if Map has proven they cannot operate within their current restrictions, extreme caution should be taken before granting them further license and scope to operate later at night. If management was open to listening to the wider community, taking onboard suggestions for sound mitigation and ways of reducing disturbance, I may feel differently. However, the current management ignore all positive engagement with the wider community and have taken no useful steps to address residents concerns.</p>

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					Taken as a whole, Map has proven itself to breach current conditions and to engage negatively with the local community. It causes frequent sound disturbances and attracts intimidating individuals. The planning permission sought should be refused as Map has failed to put forward a compelling case and because Map has proven itself to be a negative venue for the community.
2025/1812/P	Savannah Gardner	284 Kings Road KT2 5JL KT2 5JL	19/05/2025 15:12:03	COMMNT	The Map Studio cafe was my first home away from home when I moved to London. I met artists, poets, comics, musicians, and most importantly community. We need community more than ever these days. The reason I have a professional and full time career as a musician is because of the Map. I practiced my craft and my songs in front of welcoming and encouraging audiences. It gives young and old artists alike experience, connection and mental wellbeing.
2025/1812/P	Alice Hoffmann-Fuller	51, edington Allcroft road	19/05/2025 18:07:16	SUPNOT	<p>As a local resident for 30 years and 20 of those being in close proximity to Map, I'd like to express my support of their application to extend the premises usage.</p> <p>I'd also like to state that as an appointed member of the London Nightlife Taskforce, whose role is specific to supporting the survival of spaces like this, and a consultant whose work with Music Venues Trust and Help Musicians and other nightlife and creative organisations, has been to help protect and advocate for grassroots venues and the cultural benefit they provide - in my professional capacity, I can only demonstrate absolute belief in community venues like this being given every opportunity to thrive.</p> <p>The UK is suffering from a seriously negative impact on the night-time economy and investment in the creative industries, is at an all-time low. London is losing venues at an alarming rate, and therefore, communities and emerging creatives are not being allowed to hone their skills in grassroots venues to become the professional artists we go to see on the big stages.</p> <p>I've seen Map support many emerging artists to become known and respected performers. They share their knowledge with those interested in learning skills in everything from cooking to recording music. It's the most diverse and rich environment, welcoming all, from children to the elderly, from all cultures, to interact socially, giving meaning, community and belonging to many people's lives, for whom it is their support network, their place to express and share, to eat, watch music, perform, play chess! or just get together and chat. This is a vital part of our community and it needs to be given the means to continue the amazing work it does.</p> <p>Looking at the comments here, it's clear to see the overwhelming support local people have for this space. It shows how important and loved it is and the need for it to remain and be allowed to extend it's use further.</p>
2025/1812/P	Tony Treg	Langbourne mansions Langbourne avenue N66PT	19/05/2025 15:32:01	NOBJ	The map cafe is a valuable local community hub and an important cultural institution in Kentish Town. A centre for arts, music, spoken word, board games, food, coffee and more.

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2025/1812/P	Toby Nuttall	99 Chetwynd Road Chetwynd Road NW5 1DA NW5 1DA	19/05/2025 15:32:49	COMMNT	This is an established unique cultural oasis in Kentish Town with a community of performers musicians and listeners numbering hundreds. It would be a crime to shut it down... not to mention the vegan cafe, recording studio and the chess players.
2025/1812/P	Branko	3, Moorhen Dri NW9 7DL	19/05/2025 15:26:37	COMMNT	Dear authorities, please keep The Map Studio Cafe active, it is an important venue for young artists and a social club for many of us. It's really quite unique place, unlike anything in the area.
2025/1812/P	Joshua	31 Grafton Road	19/05/2025 23:03:47	SUPPRT	MAP is a hugely valuable community space. I live right next to MAP and it's a fantastic space for events, music, or just for food and drink. When it's open it isn't noisy, the customers are respectful and I think it brings a lot to the area. I'd be very supportive of this proposal.
2025/1812/P	Aviva	68 Fortess Road	19/05/2025 23:27:45	NOBJ	How very exciting to have another wonderful venue, showcasing local artists. Can't wait!
2025/1812/P	Mike Hawthorne	Flat 4 20 Woodborough Road London SW15 6PZ	19/05/2025 23:56:56	COMMNT	Please allow MAP café to continue to attract customers to Camden from across London. It is the main reason I go to Camden occasionally and often visit other places to eat and shop while I am there. It is a rare venue and has a uniquely welcoming atmosphere. It would be tragic if it was not permitted to continue.
2025/1812/P	Robert Behan	5 Bassett St London NW5 4PG	20/05/2025 08:05:12	SUPPRT	<p>MAP cafe provides an invaluable service to the local and surrounding community. I have been a patron of the cafe for over 2 years and can attest to the social good it provides.</p> <p>Firstly MAP is a hub to the musicians, artists, and creatives that frequent its premises. Its live events such as the open-mic and folk nights give amateur, professional and up and coming musicians opportunities to enhance and develop their music in a supportive and encouraging way that is unique to live music venues. Few live music venues provide the support and community that I have witnessed at MAP. Many of the musicians are young people and have gone on to launch themselves independently into the wider music scene thanks to the support and encouragement they have received at MAP. This is also at a time when cuts to the arts have been keenly felt, creative spaces are under threat and access to music and the arts is increasingly difficult for the marginalised groups that MAP caters to and provides a safe space for (young, working class, women, LGBT+).</p> <p>Secondly, and perhaps more importantly, I can also attest to the good it provides the community in terms of improving mental health and well being. I discovered MAP cafe at a very low point in my life where I was in crisis coping with grief, debilitating anxiety and very poor mental health. MAP played an incalculable role in my own healing processes by providing both music and community that helped regenerate my mental health. My experience is not unique here and MAP provides a safe space and caring community to those who use it. It is a vital artery in the community and I know a number of its patrons have had similar experience to mine.</p>

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2025/1812/P	Clare Thompson	154 Etchingham Park Road Finchley London N3 2EN	19/05/2025 13:26:51	INT	I would very much like to support the planning application for MAP's noise licence on the basis that as a live music venue it provides performance opportunities for groups which are the life blood of creative music making. MAP brings the local community together through the live performances which leads to other social activities which keep people engaged together in a meaningful and positive way. To not grant the licence would be I believe a devastating loss to the local community-it's sad to see objections from newbie's to the area who clearly have little regard for the community into which they have moved.
2025/1812/P	Jenny	Grafton Road	19/05/2025 16:15:15	COMMNT	I am a regular visitor to MAP and the music community is very important to me. It is a rare place. I have been nervous to comment however because the patrons can sometimes be a little tricky to communicate with. I can see how it would be an issue for neighbours. There is not much effort made to contain noise in a way that other venues do. I am sure with some soundproofing and some better processes everyone could benefit - even MAP.
2025/1812/P	Brian Dykes	14a Highgate Avenue London N65SB	19/05/2025 16:15:24	APP	well I have been coming to the cafe/music venue since early 2018, and have found this to be an open and friendly place to visit & have seen a lot of folks pass through these doors, who have become friends, this venue has become a community for a lot of those folks, even hosting street entertainment on a yearly basis for all the neighbours and the surrounding area, and has become an iconic venue, for a lot of musicians far and a field, drawing strong community bonds, not just in the Kentish Town area, but all parts of London. On a personal note it has been a great place to go, as a sanctuary and know when I go there I will always get a warm welcome and to me is a much needed venue to be able to visit and keeping it open I know it will help more folks who pass through its doors
2025/1812/P	Captain John Cameron Nixon	13 Inkerman rd NW5 3BT	19/05/2025 22:05:03	COMMNT	I'm a war veteran who lives on Inkerman road. I had my 97th birthday party at Map Cafe and invited my daughter and personal friends and my Irish ceilidh band to provide the music. The banjo player of the group is a European banjo champion, Mick O'Connor. The manager Chris provided the food which was of an incredible but simple variety which made it an enjoyable evening for everyone who attended. It was just one of the many enjoyable events which take place here. I've lived here for 50 years. It has been my local venue all of these years. It is a very interesting location because of its social gathering of local people which in turn provide a variety of music and several selections of food and drink. The variety of people that arrive here are very cosmopolitan from all parts of the world who meet here and being a linguist I am able to converse with them and give them guidance on their personal problems and music and so on. And this makes for a very enjoyable location and in my mind a necessary location because there are not many places of this quality and type available in London. To think of its demise would be unforgivable because it is an irreplaceable situation and location which provides a very amenable meeting place for young people or indeed people of all ages. Everyone is welcome and the whole situation is very convivial. I'm a local hero and because of my military background being an ex-captain of the SAS, I was invited by King Charles to the veterans tea party at Buckingham Palace in respect of the VE day celebrations.

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2025/1812/P	Chris Thomas	1 Highfields Grove	20/05/2025 08:00:49	SUPPRT	I've been attending MAP's events for the past 8 years - it's where I sang live in front of an audience for the first time, first time I'd ever dj'd and first time I got to do a recording session (which has now led me to a full time career in music). I'm eternally grateful for MAP for creating such a loving and welcoming community, it's never a dull moment amongst the amazing people that fill the cafe everyday. Kentish town would not be the same without it.
2025/1812/P	Noah Ojumu	498A New Cross Road	19/05/2025 17:24:07	SUPPRT	Map Cafe is a vital venue for londons ever decreasing independent music scene and limiting Map's ability to have live music in anyway will have a massively negative effect of young and up-and-comping musicians.
2025/1812/P	Tara	31 willes road	19/05/2025 19:11:02	COMMNT	<p>Map Studio Cafe is the best Coffee shop , restaurant and soul music entertainment ever! I live just behind the Map and does not disturb any of us, it is a wonderful place for young artists to express themselves.</p> <p>The Map Studio Cafe isn't just a place for a caffeine fix; it's a little haven where the aroma of freshly brewed coffee mingles with the quiet hum of conversation and the gentle rustle of maps. Stepping inside feels like discovering a hidden gem, a space where the world unfolds on the walls, inviting you to dream of far-off adventures while you sip your latte. The warm lighting casts a cozy glow on the eclectic decor, making it the perfect spot to lose yourself in a book, catch up with a friend, or simply watch the world go by. There's a genuine charm to the Map Studio Cafe, a sense of community and a love for exploration that makes it feel like more than just a cafe – it's an experience.</p> <p>Thank you Map to make our lives more joyful</p> <p>Ah, the Map Studio Cafe! It's already such a delightful spot, and the addition of live music elevates it to a whole new level of charm. Imagine this: the same cozy atmosphere, the captivating maps whispering tales of distant lands, now infused with the soulful melodies of a live musician. Perhaps it's the gentle strumming of a guitar filling the air, or the smooth notes of a saxophone creating a mellow backdrop to conversations. The music isn't overpowering; instead, it weaves its way through the cafe, adding a layer of warmth and intimacy to the already inviting space. It transforms an ordinary evening into something a little bit magical, making your coffee or tea a soundtracked experience. The Map Studio Cafe, with its live music, becomes not just a place to visit, but a place to linger, to truly savor the moment and the artistry that surrounds you.</p>
2025/1812/P	Janet Sherbourne	1 St Anne's Road Caversham Reading Berkshire	20/05/2025 08:48:21	SUPPRT	This is a wonderful venue, where we have enjoyed many live music events. We don't live in London but it's worth the trip from Reading, where we're based. We fully support it's application.

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2025/1812/P	Abhijit Bhattacharya	Flat D 16 Warwick Road N112TJ N112TJ	19/05/2025 22:53:34	PETITNSU PP	<p>I am writing to express my deep concern over the potential closure or restriction of Map Cafe , and to speak to the transformative role this space has played in my life and in the lives of many others. This venue is not simply a café or entertainment spot it is a safe, inclusive, and creative sanctuary that has helped me, and so many in our community, to heal, to grow, and to connect through music and culture.</p> <p>I first encountered this place at a time in my life when I was feeling isolated, creatively blocked, and uncertain of myself. Walking into one of the jam sessions felt like entering a different world one where there were no expectations, no judgement, just a shared love of sound, story, and presence. I began attending more regularly, slowly stepping forward to perform, and eventually bringing music from my own cultural background to share with others.</p> <p>One of the most beautiful and powerful aspects of this space is its embrace of musical diversity. I have had the honour of presenting Indian classical music here introducing audiences to the emotional depth of ragas, the meditative qualities of traditional instruments like the bansuri and tanpura. The space invited listeners to experience not just a performance, but a cultural dialogue — where someone's curiosity became a bridge to understanding.</p> <p>But this sharing of culture extends far beyond any single tradition. In this space, I've witnessed incredible evenings of Middle Eastern maqam, North and West African percussion, Afro-Caribbean rhythms, flamenco, and more each one bringing a unique spirit, texture, and energy into the room. I've played alongside musicians from Ghana, Syria, Iran, Colombia, and Eastern Europe, each person adding their voice to a shared moment of connection. These sessions are spontaneous yet deeply meaningful. They often turn into informal workshops, cultural exchanges, and friendships that would never have formed in a more rigid, institutional setting.</p> <p>This venue has become a microcosm of global culture in the heart of our neighbourhood a place where world music traditions are not exoticised or commercialised, but embraced as part of our collective soundscape. It has helped me to listen more deeply, to understand more kindly, and to collaborate more generously with people from entirely different walks of life. The charm of this place is precisely that its openness, its fluidity, and the way it brings strangers into harmony, literally and figuratively.</p> <p>Importantly, this is not just a musical space. It functions as a community hub where people can feel part of something meaningful. I've seen new artists perform for the first time here. I've seen audience members moved to tears. I've watched people bring in their instruments from home after years of silence, simply because they felt safe to do so. For many of us, this place fills a void left by the disappearance of public arts spaces, youth centres, and informal social venues. In a time when mental health challenges, loneliness, and cultural divides are so prevalent, this venue does something that institutions struggle to do: it gives people a sense of belonging. It's where I've laughed, cried, grown, and most of all, connected. It has given me confidence, helped me through personal struggles, and reminded me and many others that we are not alone.</p> <p>I fully understand that councils must consider noise complaints, licensing issues, and use classifications. But I firmly believe there are collaborative solutions available. Adjustments in soundproofing, clear timings, or licensing frameworks can be explored. What would be tragic, however, is the complete loss of this rare and nourishing space one that contributes so positively to cultural life, social cohesion, and individual well-being.</p> <p>To shut it down would be to silence more than instruments. It would be erasing a place of shared joy, cultural learning, and grassroots community care. We cannot afford to lose the few places</p>

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					left where people are allowed to be human with one another, without filters or barriers. Please, protect this venue. Work with its organisers and its community not against us. Let's find a way to preserve this space so it can continue serving the neighbourhood and the city as a beacon of inclusivity, creativity, and cultural understanding. Sincerely, Abhiroop Bhattacharya
2025/1812/P	Nina	84 warden road Nw54nr	19/05/2025 21:28:53	SUPPRT	Keep the venue alive! One of the best grass roots music venues in North London and such a pillar of the community