

The Planning Inspectorate

COMMENTS ON CASE (Online Version)

Please note that comments about this case need to be made within the timetable. This can be found in the notification letter sent by the local planning authority or the start date letter. Comments submitted after the deadline may be considered invalid and returned to sender.

Appeal Reference: APP/X5210/W/15/3140916

DETAILS OF THE CASE

Appeal Reference APP/X5210/W/15/3140916

Appeal By POWER LEISURE BOOKMAKERS LTD

Site Address
64 Kilburn High Road
LONDON
NW6 4HJ
Grid Ref Easting: 05254110
Grid Ref Northing: 01836820

SENDER DETAILS

Name MR WILL MOWAT

ABOUT YOUR COMMENTS

In what capacity do you wish to make representations on this case?

- Appellant
- Agent
- Interested Party / Person
- Land Owner
- Rule 6 (6)

What kind of representation are you making?

- Final Comments
- Proof of Evidence
- Statement
- Statement of Common Ground
- Interested Party/Person Correspondence
- Other

YOUR COMMENTS ON THE CASE

Residents around here are desperate for Kilburn High Road (KHR) to attract decent shops and become an attractive area. Instead, we are being fed a deeply depressing diet of betting shops stuffed with

FOTBs, adult "amusement" outlets and payday lenders. I have lost count of the number of such business on KHR that are high-jacking the high street and driving away shoppers by converting potentially useful premises into barren wastelands.

The particular premises in question are between Boots on one side and Marks and Spencer on the other - potentially an excellent location for a bona fide retail outlet. It must not be allowed to be turned into yet another useless gap that does nothing for the community.

An application by Paddy Power has already been rejected by Brent Council, which said there was a greater need to preserve retail units in an area saturated with "non-retail units". Paddy Power has been exposed for targeting vulnerable people by locating its FOBT-driven betting shops in areas of high deprivation and immigration. It is a high-street betting chain targeting ethnic minority communities with FOBTs. Research from the Campaign for Fairer Gambling shows that 61 per cent of Paddy Power's betting shops are located in areas with above-average levels of non-UK born population, such as Newham and Brent in London and parts of Birmingham, Slough and Leicester.

Paddy Power stores operating FOBTs are more common in areas with large non-UK born communities, and are located where they can make the highest profits from lucrative FOBTs.

It is clear that Paddy Power has a development strategy that is based on targeting those areas producing the highest profits on FOBTs and invariably those areas had a demographic mix with a high number of ethnic minorities. In more recent years that mix has been added to by eastern European immigrants, with the Poles figuring prominently.

Please help save our Kilburn High Road - thank you.

Will Mowat