



Dear Ian,

I am pleased you replied to my last email and as you may have realised I am a frequent visitor to Kilburn High Road and like many residents in this area have become alarmed at the degrading of the High Road - increasingly by betting shops. I do understand the constraints you describe in terms of the appeal but I would still maintain that the moral and social harm must be considered (as it is in a licensing matter and would be in a court of law presumably) and there is evidence of targeting minority communities and causing real and measurable damage - cited in today's 7/3/16 Guardian. This is the link to the story. <http://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2016/mar/06/paddy-power-prefers-opening-shops-in-areas-of-greater-ethnic-mix>

I believe that 'the facts of the case at hand' as you say should also include this critical aspect of community detriment versus an operator's commercial benefit. I cannot reproduce my representation in triplicate as you request - it was done online nor amend it in the form you sent so include it here - omitting the section you indicated : If it still cannot be accepted, I have enjoyed this exchange of emails as it has clarified for me why I should campaign against FOBT's in future.

The number of problem gamblers in the UK has doubled to 500,000 since the crash in 2008. Fixed Odds Betting Terminal, now called the "crack cocaine of gambling" –last year, took £1.6 billion - mainly from the pockets of the poor. Evidence has been brought forward showing anti-social behaviour, drug dealing and taking, vulnerable people being threatened, stolen goods being bought and sold and alcohol being openly consumed on betting shop premises , significantly increasing social risk and disorder locally. Under the new rules, with planning permission now needed to open a new betting shop., planners have stronger grounds to refuse applications if it is felt they will result in a less diverse town centre or will adversely affect communities or local people's health or wellbeing. This application should be refused under these grounds.

Best wishes,
brigid