

Application No:	Consultees Name:	Received:	Comment:	Response:
2022/3805/PVL	Kathy Pimlott	12/09/2022 09:48:28	OBJ	<p>I am writing to oppose the application. Now that the restrictions to trading that were in force during the pandemic have been lifted, there is no longer the need to allow tables and chairs on the pavement as a blanket approval. The approval of T&C license for this outlet sets a precedent for all the other food and drink premises on Earham Street West which is a residential street with a large mix of social and private accommodation. In this particular case, the site encroaches onto the long established Earham Street market which is just beginning to regenerate after the pandemic, using space which would otherwise be available for market pitches. There is no reason why the sushi bar should be given priority in use of the public highway.</p> <p>The development of the public highway at the Earham Street West / Shaftesbury Avenue junction was predicated on the influx of large numbers of pedestrians following the opening of Crossrail. The argument was that a larger pedestrian space would be needed to accommodate the predicted crowds coming into Seven Dials, Covent Garden and through to the British Museum, for example. Tables and chairs within the space undermines that aim and would be a gross example of the left hand not knowing what the right hand is doing within the Council.</p>

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2022/3805/PVL	Covent Garden Community Association (Elizabeth Bax, Chair of Planning Subcommittee)	12/09/2022 23:20:05	OBJNOT	<p>Covent Garden Community Association objects to this application to place 3 tables and 6 benches on the street, together with barriers.</p> <p>-----</p> <p>Please note that no plan is shown online with the application, and that we therefore believe it to be invalid. We ask you to request a proper plan, with measurements to show the position of furniture relative to the building line etc., so that we can consider it and comment fully.</p> <p>Nevertheless, we make the following comments based upon experience with the furniture in its current position.</p> <p>-----</p> <p>The main issues caused by tables and chairs in this position are noise and obstruction.</p> <p>These premises are in the heart of a densely residential area. They are at the foot of a building whose upper floors are made up of family flats, with more flats opposite and nearby. Because the terminal hour is 20:00 the noise from up to 24 customers outside is bearable, as most adult residents are not yet trying to sleep. But tables need to be put away promptly at that time.</p> <p>However, the tables are usually positioned right across the centre of the street. They narrow the passageway for pedestrians, who are competing for space with 2-way cyclists at this point. In a situation with normal pedestrian flow, this requires 4 metres of clear width for safe passage. This situation is far busier, though, being the main gateway to Covent Garden from Tottenham Court Road station and from Soho. So more clear width is required, which is not achieved with the tables in their current position. We have witnessed situations that have been dangerous for pedestrians as a result.</p> <p>We ask that you refuse the application as currently applied for and ask the applicant to consider a revised plan which occupies less carriageway width, more like a conventional tables & chairs licence situation.</p> <p>-----</p>