

APPENDIX C

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Telephone [REDACTED]
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9 August 2020.

Dear Sir/Madam

You invited comments on the proposal to allow two further facilities and one in particular to sell alcohol on/near the pier, particularly at this time during the Coronavirus epidemic.

I live on the seafront, close to the pier and would like to register my very serious concerns about this proposal.

It has been very clear to the people living on the seafront, that large groups of young people and families groups, visiting the beach area, have totally ignored the Coronavirus threat and have not followed the advice to respect social distancing and other requirements and suggestions, such as the wearing of masks.

Many of these groups, have exhibited unsociable behaviour, thus causing disturbances to the residents, and have discarded large quantities of rubbish, which has attracted animals and large birds. Social behaviour has been particularly very poor on the pier area and on the common., which has placed an enormous strain on the Police Service.

The main challenge is providing an adequate level of supervision on the common and on the beach area, which is exasperated, by a lack of resources available to the Police service and Portsmouth City Council. The lack of adequate parking in both areas, is also another major problem for the residents many of whom hold parking permits, which are proving to be a waste of money.

It is considered that making alcohol available on the pier and hence adjacent to the beach, will result in people being even less socially responsible, as is clearly demonstrated in other cities and seaside resorts. It encourages people to stay

longer, drinking into the late evening, increased levels of rubbish, and will cause additional noise and disturbance to the residents.

There are several retirement homes close to the pier, including McCarthy and Stone and Alexander Court, where the elderly residents are particularly sensitive to noise and disturbances.

Although, everyone accepts the need to encourage businesses to restart, given the risk of a second peak to the Coronavirus and the possible need to reintroduce greater isolation rules, it would be irresponsible and far too early to permit further sales of alcohol on or near the pier.

I would strongly recommend that the decision to grant a further alcohol permit, be denied, or at the very least, postponed, until such times as the Coronavirus, is fully under control, and there is a minimum risk and adequate supervision by both the Police and the Council can be provided in these areas.

Yours sincerely.