

Location and application details:

Narrow Quay Plot B

Type of vehicle permitted: Van or trailer

Outside of trading hours vehicle kept: Offsite (TBC)

To sell: Hot and cold food and drinks, ice cream, fruit and vegetables, flowers. To exclude any such items deemed to cause offence and or harm, such as alcohol, weapons, fireworks, vaping, tobacco, knives or legal highs.

Maximum hours: Monday to Sunday 0700 - 2000

Location Map:

Bristol City Council (concession) Narrow Quay Plot A

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Representations:

1 RP BID

The City Centre BID objects to this permission being granted.

The stated purpose of the City Council Street Trading policy is to:

..... to provide a decision making framework for the consideration of applications for street trading consents and to create a street trading environment which is sensitive to the needs of the public, provides diversity and consumer choice, and enhances the character, ambience and safety of local environments. Street trading can be a valuable tool to aid the regeneration of Bristol's retail centres.

The city centre retail area is under significant pressure and the vacancy rates of property in the key areas is already significant. This is both a national and local issue with significant closures with the immediate area of retail and food and drink sites.

The addition of more retail opportunities will undermine further the operation of these businesses that contribute significantly to the economy of the city centre.

To address the specific policy headings:

There is no identified Commercial Need for this application. There are already sufficient traders in the vicinity (within 5 minutes walk) of the application site that provide what is outlined in the application namely, hot and cold food and drinks, ice cream, fruit and vegetables, flowers.

The operations of concessions within the city centre area provide evidence that they contribute do nothing to support the Prevention of Public Nuisance. Other sites within the City Centre BID and the city centre show that pavements are damaged by staining caused by the operation of such units (examples include the bottom of Corn Street and the central promenade). There is also a significant contribution to an increase in refuse being left in the area that increases the costs of maintaining a safer attractive and welcoming city. The application of conditions to deal with these outcomes can only be successful where there is an available enforcement resource that can be applied to the challenges at appropriate times.

There is no reference in the papers sent to how the concession would address the Council's other central policy objectives including Sustainability and Product type – this is a key concern and without detail on the application it is impossible to consider whether the application is appropriate under this heading – in particular the use of recyclable products, such as food and drink containers.

There is no economic gain to the wider city in allowing this concession to come into operation and there is a high likelihood that a grant will undermine the operation of other businesses and operations with higher costs in, for example, business rates and waste disposal. The City Centre BID has recently completed a deep clean of specific areas across the city centre to improve the 'look and feel' of the area. These high added cost are borne by 'bricks and mortar' businesses and organisations alone.

Please support existing local businesses in their struggle to survive on our deeply challenged high streets.