Proposed external seating area adjoining Pizza Express, 95 Lapwing Lane, Manchester, M20 6UR

SMOKING ASSESSMENT

1.1 The applicant has not yet determined whether or not to provide a designated smoking area at these premises.

1.2 Without prejudice, if a designated smoking area were not to be provided at these premises, customers who wished to smoke would simply congregate on the pavement outside the premises and smoke standing up. The LPA would have no control over this.

1.3 Although it is undecided whether or not to provide a designated smoking area at this site, it is likely that smoking will be permitted in the external seating areas whether or not it is assigned as a smoking area. However, the primary need for the external seating areas is for the expansion of the dining area of the associated restaurant. Providing these external seating areas will result in the principal benefits of widening customer choice for those customers who wish to dine *al fresco* and also act as a visual advertisement of the premises being open for trade to attract customers into the restaurant.

1.4 The external seating area will be managed by staff and will be under regular observation and supervision. Staff will maintain a continuous check over the area to ensure that any used crockery and glass wear, as well as any litter, is removed. No glasses, crockery or used napkins etc will be left once customers have completed their meals and vacated the tables. Every few minutes staff will check the external seating area to ensure that it is kept clear and tidy. The thorough management of the proposed external area is likely to include the provision of suitable ash trays and the regular disposal of cigarette litter from these.

1.5 The external area will therefore be subject to vastly superior management and supervision than alternative *ad hoc* arrangements over which the LPA would have no control. It is therefore considered that there would be no net detriment caused to the local area over and above the existing situation as a consequence of allowing *al fresco* diners and drinkers to smoke within the external seating area.