

Comments for Planning Application 143194/JO/2025

Application Summary

Application Number: 143194/JO/2025

Address: Suez Ts & Hwrc Longley Lane Sharston M22 4RQ

Proposal: Variation of condition 9 (hours) attached to planning permission 083920/FO/2007/S2 to allow operational hours of the site to change to 06:00 to 22:00 Monday to Sunday (including bank holidays) for material reception and 24 hours Monday to Sunday for materials processing

Case Officer: David Lawless

Customer Details

Name: Not Available

Address: Not Available

Comment Details

Commenter Type: Councillor

Stance: Customer objects to the Planning Application

Comment Reasons:

Comment: As the elected councillor for Cheadle West and Gatley, I am writing to formally object to the application for the extension of working hours at the Longley Lane Recycling Centre. This objection is based on sustained and wide-ranging concerns raised by local residents over many years, recently reinforced through a surge of community feedback via petitions, social media, and direct representations to me.

It is extremely disappointing that local councillors were not informed in advance of this application being submitted. This lack of transparency has undermined residents' confidence in the consultation process, particularly given the long-standing issues associated with this facility.

Key Concerns:

1. Odour, Noise, and Air Quality

The site is already a source of severe disruption to the local community. Residents from Longley Lane, Altrincham Road, Lorna Grove, Halstead Grove, Orchard Gardens, Rosewood Gardens, and Mitchel Close have reported:

Unbearable odours, particularly in warmer months, which force them to keep windows closed.

Banging and machinery noise, especially in the early morning and late evening hours.

Dirt and particulate matter settling on cars and properties within a day of cleaning, pointing to poor air quality and potential particulate pollution.

Suffering from increased numbers of flies and rodents, which are attributed to the waste operations.

Despite repeated complaints to the Environment Agency and visits from officials including MP Mary Robinson, the issues remain unresolved.

2. Operational Transparency and Trust

It is unclear whether the site handles commercial or domestic waste at night - residents have

consistently noted the loudest disturbances happen around 10 pm.

Residents suspect that extending hours will lead to a significant increase in HGV movements at anti-social hours (4-5 am), with no current commitment to road cleaning or mitigation.

There is anecdotal evidence that waste is being brought in from outside the city - even from Scotland - which raises further questions about capacity and local benefit.

3. Health and Safety

There is no credible assessment included on the health impact of particulates or air emissions (NOx, SOx, etc.).

Residents in Lorna Grove report visible deposits on surfaces within 24 hours, suggesting airborne pollution.

There is concern that the extension would allow 24-hour processing, increasing the risk to public health through continuous emissions and noise pollution.

4. Engagement and Accountability

The site has been under scrutiny for five years with over 70 recorded complaints in 2023 alone.

Residents are rightly sceptical of promises of improvements that have not materialised.

The suggested "sniffing teams" and logging processes do little to resolve the fundamental issue - that this site is not fit to operate extended hours so close to residential properties.

Conclusion

This application represents a step backwards in our efforts to protect residential quality of life.

Granting extended hours would double the burden of noise, smell, and pollution on a community already struggling to be heard. Residents deserve action, not more disruption.

I urge the Planning Committee to refuse this application and instead focus efforts on mitigating the current impact and exploring long-term solutions that respect both operational needs and community wellbeing.

Yours sincerely

Ian Hunter