
Fw: Andrew Gwynne MP objection to planning application: (Case Ref: AG2034)

From: Andrew Gwynne MP [REDACTED]

Sent: 14 May 2025 13:58

To: [REDACTED]

Subject: (Case Ref: AG2034)

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Dear Sirs

Re: Planning Application 142755/FO/2025 Change of use from a vacant Class E unit (former Bank) to an Adult Gaming Centre (Sui Generis)

I would like to submit my objection to the above planning application submitted by Merkur Slots on the site of the former Barclays Bank at 537 Stockport Road Longsight Manchester M12 4JH.

This is substantially the same application as the one submitted last year (reference number 140955/FO/2024), which was refused on appeal by the Planning Inspectorate. My objections to this objection are also materially the same and I will outline them once again.

It remains my view that this change of use, if agreed, would impact on mental and physical health and wellbeing of residents, and would affect amenity, vitality, viability and diversity in an important district centre

Gambling can have significant adverse effects on vulnerable people, particularly when it becomes addictive, and can lead to relationships difficulties, large scale financial loss and in some cases crime or suicide - the list is not exhaustive.

There are four primary schools, two high schools and a specialist support school within close proximity to this site, as well as it being located on a busy bus route and close to a supermarket and other well-used amenities, which has the potential to cause further harm to vulnerable adults and children in my constituency.

This application causes a clustering of betting shops and gambling premises at this location and is likely to cause harm through anti-social behaviour. There are several homes that provide supported housing to vulnerable people with alcohol and drug dependence within a short distance. Council services in the area are already under pressure as a consequence and this change of use could result in additional demand on these these services and for the police.

There are already betting shops and amusement centres along the A6 and close to this location. Granting this change of use could result in a significant over-provision of this type of establishment and result in a significant loss of retail space in a high demand district centre.

There are also a number of residents living in are who would be significantly impacted by 24-hour opening at this site. When the Planning Inspector reviewed the previous decision, he stated that *"the proposed development would cause unacceptable harm to the living conditions of near-by residential properties, particularly by reason of noise"* and as a result concluded that the appeal should be dismissed.

I believe that these concerns remain valid and for this reason, and those stated above, I object to this application.

Yours faithfully

ANDREW GWYNNE MP
Gorton and Denton

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