Annex 2

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HAMPSHIRE CONSTABULARY

Station :	**Romsey**	BCU :	**Western**
Department :	**Licensing**	Date :	**02 November 2005**

Subject : **Objection - Romsey Kebab Shop - 5 Church Street**

Michael White, Licensing Test Valley

Sir, please can you be advised that we the Hampshire Constabulary are objecting to the granting of a variation to the licence for the Kebab shop, 5 Church Street Romsey.
The Kebab shop is located in the town centre which is one of the busiest locations in our police sector. It is a hot spot for crime and disorder and alcohol related antisocial behaviour. The police have worked with numerous other agencies and residents to reduce the effects of this behaviour and together we have made a significant impact.
The Kebab shop is located almost directly beside The Abbey Hotel and virtually opposite to Romsey Abbey approach. This area is not covered by CCTV and so is not afforded the benefits it could provide as a deterrent and evidence gathering facility. Presently customers tend to leave other public houses within Romsey Town area and 'migrate' towards the Kebab shop. No other take away within the town opens until midnight hence the gravitation back to the town centre to the Kebab shop.
The premises is small and so customers have to queue outside and then congregate out side to eat their food. As a result customers often stand in the road which is of course a danger to road users. They also sit around the Former Magistrates Court building where they leave food wrappers and half eaten kebabs. There are no toilets facilities for use by the public nearby, accordingly doorways become latrines.
I am aware that there have been numerous concerns expressed by local residents in relation to the anti-social behaviour and nuisance which they believe originate from persons using these premises. These problems were the subject of a recent neighbourhood meeting which was attended by police where local residents outlined their concerns about Anti Social behaviour, litter and criminal damage to their property which they consider relates directly to persons in drink leaving the kebab shop.
Since the 24th November 2005 the Kebab was required to close at 23:00 as opposed to midnight
Sgt Hardcastle has personally policed this area both before and after this period and can say that the dispersal of customers from the town centre has been greatly improved by the reduction in the trading hours.
I believe that bringing the trading hours of these premises in line with other takeaways within the town will greatly assist both the police and residents. I believe that this will positively impact on crime and disorder and public nuisance. It is worthy of note that considerable restrictions were placed on the owners of a fish and chip shop opposite the Kebab Shop when it initially opened due to concerns that the Fish and Chip shop might generate the very problems now associated with the Shop. I believe the kebab shop did not face the same requirements when it first opened as the premises had formally traded as an Indian Restaurant with a take away facility.
Submitted for your consideration.
Sgt Barbara Hardcastle /Insp Funnell