# Derby corner shop challenges alcohol sales ban amid community concerns



A corner shop in Derby, known as the Go Local Extra convenience store, is facing challenges due to a ban on selling high-alcohol-by-volume (ABV) beer and cider imposed by Derby City Council. Located at the junction of Midland Road and London Road, this establishment, formerly known as Midland Road Convenience Store, re-opened earlier this year after an extensive renovation and has been operational seven days a week, from 6am to 11pm, with alcohol sales permitted from 8am to 11pm.

The current restrictions prohibit the sale of "super strength beer, lager, or cider 6.5 per cent ABV or above." In response to these limitations, the store has submitted an application to the council to lift the ban, proposing instead a restriction that would bar the sale of alcohol to "any known problem people."

A spokesperson for the Go Local Extra expressed concerns that the high-ABV sales ban is negatively impacting the store’s foot traffic and overall sales. The spokesperson stated, “We have a very decent clientele and we are constantly turning some of our customers away because of this condition. As a consequence, we are losing footfall on a weekly basis and it significantly affects the sales of other grocery items.” The application highlights that the shop adheres to a “matrix of conditions” aimed at promoting responsible licensing objectives.

Despite these assertions, the application has faced opposition from several local entities. Derbyshire Constabulary has formally objected, along with local councillor Gulfraz Nawaz, who cited his concerns as a resident of the Arboretum Ward. Cllr Nawaz voiced apprehensions about the impact of reintroducing high-ABV sales, noting rising levels of antisocial behaviour linked to street drinking in the area. He remarked, “The introduction of super strength beer, like lager, through this application, would only exacerbate the existing issues and create more challenges for the local businesses and residents.”

Additionally, Simon Vaughan, a local business owner from W.W. Winter photography studio, has also raised issues of public order linked to alcohol misuse in the vicinity. Vaughan stated, “Midland Road has been subjected to numerous incidents of drunken behaviour and drug misuse for many years – with the problem increasing over time,” and noted that such incidents deter customers and tarnish the area’s reputation.

Natasha Mitchell, a constable with Derbyshire police, echoed these sentiments in her formal objection, explaining that allowing alterations to the licensing conditions could undermine established licensing objectives and would be difficult to enforce.

While the management of Go Local Extra refrained from offering further comments when approached by Derbyshire Live, they reiterated their position about the inconsistency of the ban, noting “There are loads of other shops in this area that are allowed to sell high ABV beers and lagers. We just think it is unfair that this restriction has been put on our shop.”

This ongoing situation reflects the complex balance between local business interests and community concerns regarding public safety and wellbeing, as the council prepares to consider the shop's application further.

Source: [Noah Wire Services](https://www.noahwire.com)

## References

* <https://www.derby.gov.uk/media/derbycitycouncil/contentassets/documents/licences/alcoholandentertainment/dcc-licensing-policy.pdf> - This document outlines Derby City Council's licensing policy, which includes provisions for alcohol sales and licensing conditions. It supports the information regarding the council's role in imposing restrictions on alcohol sales.
* <https://www.derby.gov.uk/licensing/alcohol-licenties/alcohol-entertainment/> - This webpage provides details about alcohol and entertainment licensing under the Licensing Act 2003. It supports the article's mention of Derby City Council as the licensing authority and the process for obtaining licenses.
* <https://www.derby.gov.uk/media/derbycitycouncil/contentassets/documents/licences/alcoholandentertainment/dcc-licensing-policy.pdf#page=7> - This document discusses the council's approach to managing public spaces and enforcing licensing objectives. It supports claims about the council's powers to restrict alcohol sales based on public safety and nuisance concerns.
* <https://www.derby.gov.uk/media/derbycitycouncil/contentassets/documents/licences/alcoholandentertainment/dcc-licensing-policy.pdf#page=9> - The document explains the council's policy on cumulative impact and public space protection orders. It supports information regarding the council's strategies for managing alcohol-related issues in public spaces.
* <https://www.derbyshire.gov.uk/your-council/councillors/councillor-gulfraz-nawaz> - This webpage would typically provide information about local councillor Gulfraz Nawaz. However, specific details about his involvement in the issue aren't available in the search results. Generally, it might support the mention of his opposition to the proposal.