

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT STATEMENT

Proposed Change of Use from Office (Class E) to Hot Food Takeaway (Sui Generis) Unit 3, 57–59 Crockhamwell Road, Woodley, RG5 3SZ

Submitted By:

Mr. K. Bhatti

Date:

27/09/2025

Cover Sheet**Site Address:**

Unit 3, 57–59 Crockhamwell Road, Woodley, RG5 3SZ

Proposal:

Change of Use from Office (Class E) to Hot Food Takeaway (Sui Generis)

Document Title:

Community Involvement Statement

1. Introduction

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This Community Involvement Statement has been prepared in support of the planning application for the proposed change of use of Unit 3, 57–59 Crockhamwell Road, Woodley, from Office (Class E) to Hot Food Takeaway (Sui Generis).

The purpose of this statement is to set out the engagement undertaken with the local community, to summarise the feedback received, and to demonstrate how the proposal responds positively to local needs and aspirations.

2. Community Engagement Approach

The applicant has engaged informally with local residents, business operators, and visitors to the Crockhamwell Road shopping precinct. Conversations were held with individuals across a range of age groups, with particular attention given to those who regularly use the precinct for shopping and leisure.

The aim of this engagement was to:

- Understand local opinion about the introduction of a hot food takeaway.
- Identify potential concerns.
- Establish whether the proposal meets a demand within the local area.

3. Feedback Received

Feedback from the community has been strongly supportive. The following points summarise the key themes:

- **Positive Reception:** The majority of individuals consulted responded favourably to the proposal. Many expressed that the precinct currently lacks variety in food offerings, particularly a hot food takeaway, and therefore welcomed the proposal.
 - **Younger Generation Support:** The younger demographic, including students and young adults, voiced particular excitement about the takeaway, noting that it would provide an accessible and affordable food option within the heart of the precinct.
 - **Convenient Location:** Respondents highlighted that the pedestrianised nature of Crockhamwell Road makes it a safe and convenient location for such a business, easily accessible without adding to through-traffic concerns.
 - **Community Benefit:** Several community members noted that the takeaway could contribute positively to the vibrancy and evening economy of the shopping precinct, encouraging greater footfall and supporting nearby businesses.
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4. Addressing Concerns

No significant objections were raised during community discussions. General queries regarding noise, waste management, and opening hours were addressed by outlining proposed measures for responsible operation, such as:

- Adherence to local authority waste disposal requirements.
- Installation of appropriate extraction and ventilation systems.

5. Conclusion

The applicant has actively engaged with the local community prior to submitting this application. The feedback demonstrates strong support for the proposal, particularly from younger residents who are enthusiastic about having a hot food takeaway option in the precinct.

The proposal represents a positive addition to the area, filling a gap in local amenities while contributing to the vitality of Crockhamwell Road. The applicant is committed to working with the community and local authority to ensure the takeaway operates responsibly and enhances the local environment.

End of statement.