

RE: Castlehaven Community Association - deputation to 28 February 2024 Cabinet RE ENET Strategy agenda item 10

Good evening. My name is Tricia Richards, CEO of Castlehaven Community Association for the past 5yrs.

Castlehaven is surrounded by several council-owned housing estates and properties whose interests we aim to serve. We also manage two community parks to the north and south of our buildings.

Residents in the area - which some Councillors have referred to as 'The Wild West' - are already badly affected by the evening and night-time economy especially late at night - and by the vomit, defecation, urination, and litter left behind in our parks and the surrounding streets by night-time visitors.

The Citizens Assembly output provides several ideas that we would support. However, we are shocked that resident needs are being ignored in the ENTE strategy being put to you this evening and, that the focus is primarily on business and expansion.

We were appalled to learned of the draft licencing policy (currently withdrawn) which aligns itself to this strategy, suggesting that a change in framework hours and the loss of what limited protections we have with the removal of the cumulative impact areas. How can this be balanced with the strategies desire for diversity and more use of our community spaces in the evening and night-time?

The proposal before you can only make a dire situation worse and the fact that we are threatened with having these changes thrust upon us with no proper consultation, and no thought for the consequences, makes us worry for the future of local democracy in Camden. If such an unpopular move can happen without consulting those most badly affected, what is next?

On behalf of the residents who live all around us, and especially those who live and work in the Camden Town, Chalk Farm, Kentish Town areas, we ask that the ENTE Strategy be withdrawn until it can be reviewed with key local stakeholders and a revised document can be agreed on.

For the sake of the wellbeing of your constituents and those who made it possible for you to sit as Camden Councillors please listen to our views.

Thank you.

Tricia Richards, CEO