

CUMBRIA CONSTABULARY

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Area Commander
Chief Superintendent R. Smith

Please ask for: Sgt 807 Farnworth

The Police Station
Scotch Street
WHITEHAVEN
Cumbria CA28 7NN



My Reference:
Your Reference:

13th September 2005

Mr T. Pomfret,
Development Services Manager,
Copeland Borough Council,
The Copeland Centre,
Catherine St,
Whitehaven,
Cumbria,
CA28 7SJ

Dear Mr Pomfret,

Hot Food Takeaways, Whitehaven Town Centre

I am writing following our meeting this morning and also refer to previous communication with Michael Sandelands, planning officer regarding the late opening of several Hot Food Takeaway premises in Duke Street and Tangier St., Whitehaven.

On 15th April 2005, having received a list of the permitted hours for each takeaway from Mr Sandelands, I visited all of them and gave them a copy of the list of opening hours for each premises. Despite this the following premises were still open for business at 0215hrs the following morning: Chattanooga, Milano, Mr Pizza and Indian Spice, Duke Street and Napoli Pizza, Strand Street, Whitehaven.

I therefore recontacted Mr Sandelands and on 19th May 2005 he wrote to all the Hot Food Takeaway premises outlining their respective permitted opening times and warning them of the consequences of failure to close on time.

This had absolutely no effect on several of the premises, which have continued to stay open every weekend until 2.30am and beyond.

The main persistent offenders are Chattanooga, Milanos, Mr Pizza and more recently Marmaris on Tangier Street, which has subsequently opened.

Duke Street, Whitehaven is the worst street in West Cumbria for violent crime!
Tangier Street, Whitehaven is the third worst street in West Cumbria for violent crime!
(No 2 is Washington Street, Workington)

Whitehaven's nightclubs empty at 2am and we have several hundred people in the relatively small area of Duke Street and Tangier Street junction. Many of these people are drunk and this causes nuisance, disorder and violent crime. This is where the offending hot food takeaway

premises are located and because they are still open when the nightclubs have closed the crowds of drunken people remain out in the open air in the area of Duke Street and Tangier Street and nuisance, disorder and violent crime occurs.

On occasions we have managed to close all the Takeaway Premises before the clubs have emptied and the disorder has been dramatically reduced as the crowds dispersed quickly.

Historically we have had the burger van 'Big Bri's Fries' situated on Tangier Street but Brian has ceased trading and there are now no hot food takeaways legally opening past 1.30am.

Our aim is to ensure that all the takeaways in Whitehaven are shut at 1.30am (as per current planning permission) so that all the customers have left all the premises by the time the public houses and nightclub customers come out onto the streets, many of whom are under the influence of alcohol. This will prevent violent crime, nuisance and disorder in this area.

As discussed, we can provide evidence of late opening on a number of occasions and I ask that you take action against the Hot Food Takeaway Premises, which have continued to stay open late despite the warnings given.

Yours sincerely

Sgt 807 Richard Farnworth

Whitehaven Community Team
