



Local Policing Service Improvement & Engagement Department

Your Ref: DM/26/0872

Our Ref: LM/MID/26/05A

Date: 19th June 2026

Contact Name: Lee Melbourne

Dear Mr Horrell,

RE: McDonald's 165 London Road East Grinstead West Sussex

Thank you for your correspondence of the 19th of June 2026, advising me of a planning application for the variation of condition no 11 relating to planning application GR/199/96 - to extend the restaurant's opening hours at the above location, for which you seek advice from a crime prevention viewpoint.

The National Planning Policy Framework demonstrates the government's aim to achieve healthy, inclusive, and safe places which are safe and accessible, so that crime and disorder, and the fear of crime, do not undermine the quality of life or community cohesion – for example through the use of attractive, well-designed, clear, and legible pedestrian and cycle routes, and high-quality public space, which encourage the active and continual use of public areas.

The level of crime and anti-social behaviour in the Mid Sussex district is below average when compared with the rest of Sussex, as indicated within Police.uk however, additional measures to mitigate against any identified local crime trends and site-specific requirements should always be considered.

I have had the opportunity to examine the detail within the application and in an attempt to reduce the opportunity for crime and the fear of crime I offer the following comments.

I note the applicant is seeking permission to trade 24 hours a day from the currently permitted 7am until 11pm.

My main concern with an increase in hours of trading is the additional footfall to the area both by person and vehicle and the amenity of the surrounding local community who may be adversely affected with longer opening times especially during the hours of darkness.

Mr Horrell
Planning Officer
Planning Services Division
Mid Sussex District Council

Should this planning application be approved – a large degree of sensitivity will be required to make sure the surrounding local community is not unduly disturbed, and it will therefore be a matter for the applicant to ensure that this is managed in the most appropriate manner

Thank you for giving me an opportunity to offer comments in response.

The Crime & Disorder Act 1998 heightens the importance of taking crime prevention into account when planning decisions are made. Section 17 of the Act places a clear duty on both police and local authorities to exercise their various functions with due regard to the likely effect on the prevention of crime and disorder. You are asked to accord due weight to the advice offered in this letter which would demonstrate your authority's commitment to work in partnership and comply with the spirit of The Crime & Disorder Act.

Yours sincerely

Miss Lee A Melbourne
Designing Out Crime Officer
Local Policing Service Improvement & Engagement Department
Sussex Police Headquarters