

# THE CITY OF DURHAM TRUST

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Durham, DH1 1TH  
24 July 2020

## DM/20/01718/FPA The Riverwalk Millburngate Durham DH1 4SL

Temporary change of use of part circulation/amenity space to allow outdoor seating areas (until 30th September 2021)

Dear Ms Eden.

The Trust has reviewed these proposals and wishes to raise comments and objection to part of the proposals.

The Trust understands the difficulties facing leisure industries and is generally sympathetic to the need for temporary adjustments to keep businesses viable. However, given the potential for change in Government advice on social distancing, it suggests a condition to ensure future compliance with any applicable distancing advice or regulations. It is also concerned that these changes amount to a loss of public space and would wish to see a more thorough review should the temporary period be proposed for extension

It has no issues to raise in relation to Delaney's Donkey, Flip Stack, and El Pincho. The grouping on the upper and mid terrace by the entrance into the Riverwalk complex cause more concern. The Thai River, BizR and Old Toms potentially place people passing through closer than the current 2.0m distancing advice. Their size should be adjusted to allow pedestrians through safely – if this is not done then the Trust objects to the proposals for these three areas.

In addition the BizR and Old Toms areas appear to have been in use previously and have attracted a number of substantial parasols. They have blocked views of the Grade 2 listed half-timbered building set down at the back of the terrace (Old Toms). It is appreciated that more fundamental design factors have led to the partial obscuring of the building but the parasols adversely affect the setting of a listed building. It is suggested that a view of the building is required to be maintained by condition should the size of the areas be reduced and subsequently approved.

Yours sincerely

John Lowe

Chair, The City of Durham Trust