

Development Management,  
Southampton City Council,  
Lower Ground Floor,  
Civic Centre,  
Southampton, SO14 7LY.

Your Reference: 21/01534/FUL Site Code 10911

Application Number: 21/01534/FUL

## Statement in Objection

Dr Mohammed Al-Gholmy

222 Burgess Road, Southampton, SO16 3AY.

My name is Mohammed Al-Gholmy and I am the business owner of the University Dental Practice based at 222 Burgess Road, immediately next door to the proposed Pergola outside sitting area to the front of 220 Burgess Road.

I am responsible for over 4000 NHS Dental Patients registered at the University Dental Practice. I am held responsible for their care with the NHS Commissioners and the Care Quality Commission with whom I am the registered Clinician and Manager.

My objection to the structure erected to the front of 220 Burgess Road is purely with the welfare of our patients in mind. I have no wish to impact the livelihood of the neighbours next door, but I am duty-bound to officially raise my concerns as follows;

### **1. Patient welfare concerns. (Noise and Odours)**

\* The outside seating area will allow a concentration of users in the pergola. This will generate an unacceptable level of noise which will disrupt the intricate dental work that is taking place in the upstairs surgery overlooking Burgess Road. NHS England have released guidance instructing all health care settings to have the windows OPEN while working to aid ventilation in the surgeries due to the Pandemic. The noise will be extremely disruptive to our patients and staff.

\* There will also be a degree of smokers seated in the outside pergola and this will also rise into the surgery and upstairs seating area with the detrimental side effects of smoking on our patients and staff.

\* The smell of the food served outside will also be detrimental to our patients and staff. Our opening hours extend beyond 8pm on some evenings.

\* So from 12 midday to 8pm the smell of the food being served outside will enter the dental practice and this will negatively impact the standard of care we are able to provide our patients.

## **2. Reduced visibility to Emergency Services (Structural Concerns)**

The pergola obstructs our shop front to the emergency services and to passers by.

We are obliged to provide a safe environment for our patients and staff, and an ambulance approaching from the University side of Burgess Road will not see our Dental Practice until they are immediately opposite our establishment. This may necessitate the loss of valuable minutes that may be detrimental to patient care.

\* The height and width of the pergola is unprecedented, and this structure also reduces natural light from entering the reception and waiting area downstairs creating a gloomy environment for our patients and staff.

\* The pergola forms a right angle to our front entrance and this creates a vortex of wind where rubbish collects. This problem creates a concentration of polystyrene kebab plates and napkins outside our front door. This is unhygienic and not tolerable and negatively impacts our business and our service users.

## **3. Unprecedented change of character in Burgess Road.**

The pergola will significantly change the character of Burgess Road. The height and width of the pergola is significantly out of character for Burgess Road and is unprecedented. There are 16 restaurants and take aways on Burgess Road and this construction will set a precedent for every shop owner to construct an outside area to the front of their shops which will create a significant degree of change of character to the area. We have a petition signed by a small sample of our local registered patients objecting to this outside seating area.

Please accept my gratitude for taking the time to consider the points I have raised in this statement and to consider them in conjunction with other objectors to this application.

Kind regards,



Dr M Al-Gholmy

Principal Clinician University Dental Practice

Director & CQC Registered Manager University Dental Practice