APPENDIX 1

Civic Licensing

From: Michael Hodgson

 Sent:
 07 August 2021 09:40

 To:
 Civic Licensing

Subject: Orange Order procession due to take place in Dunkeld

Follow Up Flag: Follow up Flag Status: Completed

Dear Sir or Madam,

As a local resident here in Highland Perthshire I am very concerned about this planned procession or march due to take place in Dunkeld on the 22nd of August 2021.

Firstly, my understanding is that traditionally a commemoration has been held, but this has now become a march, which has a far more divisive sense to it.

Rather than being a commemoration organised by the local community and for those of all faiths and none, it now involves increasing numbers of people bussed in from elsewhere.

Secondly, the disruption to traffic, this year in particular when we have an increase in visitors from around the UK, along with significant traffic disruption both to the north and south of the area is a major inconvenience to the majority of the local community, who are already struggling.

Dunkeld is a small town, and even on ordinary days it is already difficult to ensure that social distancing is adhered to, something that matters in an area with a significant older population, and with very little access to local healthcare - again exacerbated by roadworks and traffic elsewhere.

A far better option for all of the local community, whose opinions and rights appear to have been entirely disregarded, would be to allow a commemoration at the site of the cathedral, but to refuse permissions to close the roads.

I urge the council to consider the disproportionate effects of this event on the local community, for something which is increasingly led by those from out with the area, with little or no regard for their overwhelming of a small close knit rural community.

Kind regards

Michael Hodgson Balnaguard Highland Perthshire