

Appendix I - Hot Food Takeaways Policy

Under national planning policy, hot food takeaways are a town centre use that should be located within our centres. There are, however, a number of problems that are associated with these uses. Their operation can result in external impacts, such as noise and odours, traffic and parking, and litter. They also tend to be open only during the evenings, meaning closed and shuttered shop fronts during the day time.

It is important that there is an appropriate balance of uses within centres to ensure they can fulfil their primary retail function. High proportions and concentrations of hot food takeaway establishments within centres can have a negative impact on their vitality and viability.

There is also a recognised link between take away food and obesity. Childhood obesity, and excess weight, are significant health issues in Middlesbrough, with national evidence¹ identifying Middlesbrough's obesity rates in school children to be higher than the national average. The Council, in order to improve health and wellbeing in the Town and encourage healthier eating choices, will carefully manage applications for hot food takeaways in specific locations (for example, within walking distance of schools) as well as consider their proliferation.

Policy EG7 – Hot Food Takeaways

Proposals for hot food takeaways (A5 Class Use) will only be permitted where the proposed use would not:

- a. result in the proportion of the total units in the centre in A5 uses exceeding 10%. Applications for A5 uses will only be permitted where the grant of planning permission would not result in this level being exceeded; or
- b. result in more than two adjacent hot food takeaway A5 uses; or
- c. be located within designated Shopping Frontage; and

to promote healthier communities:

- d. planning permission will not be granted for A5 uses in a defined centre within 400m walking distance of an entry point to a secondary school; and
- e. applications for A5 uses will be required to include a Health Impact Assessment, and where an unacceptable adverse impact on health is established, permission should not be granted.

Hot food takeaway (A5 class use) will not be permitted outside of a defined centre.

Further detail will be contained in a supplementary planning document.

¹ <https://digital.nhs.uk/data-and-information/publications/statistical/national-child-measurement-programme/2016-17-school-year#resources>