



HOUSE OF COMMONS

LONDON SW1A 0AA

Rob Barlow
Joint Chief Executive
South Holland District Council
Priory Road
Spalding
Lincs PE11 2XE

 October 2026

Dear Rob,

H16-0863-26

I am writing in my capacity as Member of Parliament for South Holland and the Deepings to formally object to this application for a vape shop and 2 flats at 15 Sheep Market in Spalding.

There are several material planning grounds for why this application should be refused. Firstly, due to an over-concentration of other vape shops in the local area. Indeed, there are already two such vape shops located within 200 metres of this proposed one, in addition to multiple other shops on the nearby Winsover Road which sell and vape products prominently.

This clustering of vape shops in Spalding would be highly detrimental to the town. Spalding has always thrived by offering a diversity of small and independent retail units, offering different products to meet differing needs of the community. By contrast this application would harm the viability and vitality of the centre by failing to serve broader community needs through a hollowing out of the shops on offer.

Secondly, I am concerned that the shop would be located in close proximity to a sensitive location, in the form of a soft play area which is due to be opened imminently and will be used by children of all ages. Plainly, choosing this location would be inappropriate given the risks posed to children playing nearby.

Thirdly, the impact of yet another vape store risks a serious impact on anti-social behaviour, given the risks of congregation of people



and loitering on the street, as has been seen at the other vape shops and off licences in the town, not to mention problems of discarded waste in the street impeding pavements.

Finally, I am also concerned about the shopfront design of this proposal, given vape shops' propensity for bright neon lights and flashing signs. This would be wholly out of character with the nearby conservation area in Spalding, resulting in a negative impact of visual amenity in the surrounding area.

For these reasons, this proposal should be rejected on key planning grounds. Please treat this as a formal objection for the proposal.

Yours sincerely,

The Rt Hon Sir John Hayes CBE MP
South Holland and The Deepings

*P.S. This another unacceptable application, which will have a detrimental effect on the town.
regards,
J.H.*