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To: [Licensing](#)
Subject: Red Cow, Caversham
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Warning!
For the attention of
RBC, BFC Staff and Councillors

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Dear licensing

I am writing to strongly support the continuation of the licence of Sangita Gurung at The Red Cow pub in Star Road, Caversham.

To revoke it would be a disaster for our community in Lower Caversham.

I strongly contest that the pub has breached the four licensing objectives.

The Red Cow is a place where people of all ages, backgrounds, ethnicities and sexual orientations feel safe and welcome – and that is all thanks to Sangita Gurung and her family.

Since she took over the pub seven years ago, Sangita has transformed it into a friendly place where everybody feels welcome and secure.

I have lived in Lower Caversham for 25 years and have lived and worked in Reading for nearly 30 years. In that time I have visited many pubs and in my view The Red Cow is now one of the best and friendliest in town.

Sangita, her brother Rocky and sister-in-law Anjali have successfully transformed The Red Cow into a true community asset. They deal with any troublemakers swiftly and robustly and anybody causing a problem is barred. That is why so many people use the pub – it is a safe space full of good people that actively promotes public safety.

Indeed, in an area that is sometimes challenged, The Red Cow is an oasis of safety and friendliness. To suggest that Sangita does not act to prevent crime and disorder is simply wrong. On several occasions she and her family have actually put themselves at personal physical risk to prevent disorder.

I know for a fact that Sangita has helped support her older customers and those who are going through hard times with free meals and open-armed hospitality.

I have introduced many family and friends to The Red Cow – again, of all ages, backgrounds, ethnicities and sexual orientations – and they have all returned independently due to the warm welcome given by Sangita and her family. They simply would not do so if there was any hint of crime and disorder or public nuisance in the pub.

The pub is used regularly for a range of family occasions, from birthdays to wakes. It is certainly a safe space for children and many young families from the local community use it during the daytime. Sangita adores children. To suggest that she does not protect children from harm is, frankly, ridiculous.

The Red Cow is a destination for many of Reading's significant Nepalese community, particularly for football matches and special occasions.

It is also now a destination pub due to the excellent quality of the food cooked by Anjali and Sangita.

This is the first time Sangita has had to deal with the licensing committee in all her time at The Red Cow. If the pub was not preventing public nuisance, you would surely have been aware of that before now. I can say from experience that Sangita goes to great lengths to ensure that there is no public nuisance from her pub.

She has made a mistake, which she has admitted and been cautioned for. I know she very much regrets it and it is a mistake she will not make again.

But to take her licence away would punish a vast many people who rely on The Red Cow as their community hub.

I believe that would be a very harsh punishment for our whole community due to one mistake. And it would deprive us of an independent, locally-run business that works to promote strong community values.

Kind regards

Andy Murrill

