

Dear Sirs

Thankyou for allowing me to speak at todays enquiry. By way of introduction my name is Dr Rajeshwar Parmar of the International Siddhashram Shakti Centre UK is a registered Charity organisation with the principal activity of propagating Hindu philosophy, through celebrating religious and cultural events for the community and for mankind, at their premises in 22 Palmerston Road, Harrow-weald, Middlesex HA3 7RR.

We closely work with New Scotland Yard Met-Police as Hindu faith leadership and carry out volunteered chaplain work, Home Office departure services and London Fire Brigade. We touch the lives of thousands of people in the London Borough of Harrow, which has the largest Indian community in the United Kingdom.

It is these fundamental roles and playing a community part for thousands of individuals in Harrow, I have an intricate understanding of the multicultural communities which are based here. My role is to support religious faith and community infrastructure and the use of Premier Banqueting facility in Harrow was essential to this need. Having a thorough understanding of the south Asian community | attended many events in this venue in my spiritual capacity. The loss of this venue has created a vacuum in the community which we are desperate to fill.

The scale of the Asian community in Harrow is vast and continues to grow, with families moving far and wide to be closer to their loved ones. Harrow has diversified to meet the needs for these communities, with large parts of Harrow dedicated to the culture that these communities brings; be it retailers, restaurants, events and places of worship which everyone has benefited from.

The hole that Premier Banqueting has left after being in operation for so many years has been catastrophic as thousands of individuals no longer have a place for gathering for their uniquely placed events. These events require a thorough understanding of religious practices and due to certain factors over the past few years such as the loss of Premier Banqueting and VIP Lounge there are no venues in Harrow to assist with these communities.

It is inappropriate and not fair for the South Asian community to have to resort to going to venues which are not appropriate such as school and sports halls. Venues such the Hive having football matches whilst we are performing religious ceremonies and alcohol and meat being consumed whilst these important rituals are being conducted undermines our religion and discredits the important vows being taken.

We have worked closely with Premier Banqueting since 2015 as part of their relocation plans and we were delighted that finally they had a potential site to serve the community for gatherings. It is now essential we have a purpose venue for our culture. We are fundamentally in support for the proposed banqueting facility at Brockley Hill, Harrow.

We are very happy with the plans that we have seen and the applicant has our full support. We can't wait to have a venue our community in Harrow to hold their holy events.