

PIZZA EXPRESS SURVEY RESULTS

As a result of the debate among residents and businesses about Pizza Express coming to the Twinings building in Summertown, we conducted a survey through this site to find out your views.

In answer to the first question:

“Are you in favour of this shop being used for a Pizza Express restaurant”

68.7% said “No” and 31.3% responded “Yes”

Those not in favour were asked:

“If you are NOT in favour, what sort of business would you like to see on this site?”

Of these respondents, **38.6%** wanted a hardware shop, 18.6% an organic deli or supermarket, and 14.3% a technology store. Other respondents wanted clothes shops, greengrocers, other speciality shops, or another sort of restaurant.

All respondents were then asked:

“What do you think about the current balance of shops in Summertown”

35% of respondents said there were “not enough speciality shops”, 21.2% said there were “too many cafés”, 20% said there were “too many chains”, 12.5% said there were “too many supermarkets”, and 11.25% said there were “too many restaurants”.

A large number of the people who left additional comments said that there were too many estate agents, and others bemoaned the lack of a Post Office and “a decent pub”.

This was not conducted as a scientific survey and is not statistically valid but it does give an indication of what the people of Summertown think.

For Summertown to remain a strong local shopping area, one-off or small chain speciality shops need to be encouraged to set up here. High rents are one of the main bars to this kind of development. The City Council can adopt powers to restrict rents in an area in order to retain the business/shopping character of that area. We would like to see residents and businesses putting pressure on the Council to adopt these powers.

Thank you to all those who took part in the survey.