

2004 - 2005

**HARROW COUNCIL
COUNCIL SUMMONS**

**EXTRAORDINARY MEETING
Thursday 16 December 2004**



COUNCIL SUMMONS

Law and Administration Division

Civic Centre

Harrow

8 December 2004

Dear Member

I hereby request and summon you to attend an **EXTRAORDINARY MEETING OF THE COUNCIL OF THE LONDON BOROUGH OF HARROW** to be held in the **COUNCIL CHAMBER** at the **CIVIC CENTRE, STATION ROAD, HARROW**, on **Thursday, 16th** day of **December 2004 at 7.00 pm** to take into consideration the following numbered matters and to pass such resolutions and to make such orders thereon as may then be determined.

[Note: This Extraordinary Council Meeting has been convened in accordance with the provisions of Council Procedure Rule 3.1, further to a request from the Monitoring Officer to the Chief Executive.

The information at Item 2 below relates].

1. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:

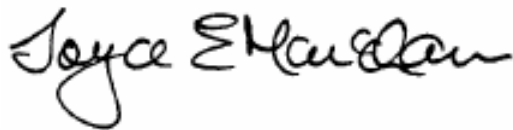
To receive declarations of personal or prejudicial interests, arising from business to be transacted at this meeting, from all Members present.

2. LICENSING POLICY: (Pages 1 - 42)

To receive a Recommendation from the Licensing and General Purposes Committee meeting of 29 November 2004.

[Note: It is a statutory requirement that the Authority's Licensing Policy (formulated under the provisions of the Licensing act 2003), as now recommended, should receive consideration by and be formally adopted by the full Council, prior to 7 January 2005].

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Joyce E. Hudson". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looped initial 'J'.

Chief Executive

To: The Worship the Mayor and all Members of the Council of the London Borough of Harrow

REPORT OF LICENSING AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE

MEETING HELD ON 29 NOVEMBER 2004

Chair: * Councillor Idaikkadar

Councillors * Mrs Bath * Knowles
: * Blann * Vina Mithani
* Branch * John Nickolay
* Janet Cowan * O'Dell
* Ann Groves * Omar (1)

* Denotes Member present
(1) Denote category of Reserve Members

PART I - RECOMMENDATIONS

RECOMMENDATION I - Licensing Policy - Licensing Act 2003

The Licensing Act 2003 created a new statutory duty for local authorities to license premises and persons for the sale of alcohol. A report was presented to the Licensing and General Purposes Committee that covered the provisions of the legislation in detail. The licensing regulations that accompanied the Act had been issued for consultation in October with the draft fees regulations following in early November.

The four Licensing Objectives in the Licensing Act 2003 were the prevention of crime and disorder, public safety, the prevention of public nuisance and the protection of children from harm.

Additionally the DCMS expected that the changes to opening hours and the availability of a wide range of customer-oriented premises with a greater flexibility in the sale of alcohol, would assist tourism and the local economy. All these issues were central to Corporate Priorities and had a particular relevance to a Safer Harrow.

The report presented the Draft Licensing Policy to the Licensing and General Purposes Committee and asked Members to make any final comments prior to referring the Policy to Council for final approval. Members noted the revised Policy circulated and following consideration

Resolved to RECOMMEND:

That the Draft Licensing Policy detailed in Appendix 1, be approved.

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APPENDIX 1**London Borough of Harrow****Licensing Policy – Licensing Act 2003****1. Introduction**

1.1 Harrow Council is the Licensing Authority under the Licensing Act 2003. It is responsible for premises licences, club premises certificates, temporary events notices and personal licences in the Borough in respect of licensable activities:

- The sale and/or supply of alcohol.
- The provision of regulated entertainment.
- Late night refreshment.

1.2 The guiding principles in the Licensing Act 2003 are the Licensing Objectives:

- The prevention of crime and disorder.
- Public safety.
- The prevention of public nuisance.
- The protection of children from harm.

1.3 These Objectives and the Statutory Guidance are the basis for this policy. In the context of licensing, our society has to strike a balance between those activities that profit one portion of that society and those that may have a detrimental effect on another. It is in this middle ground that the Council has the responsibility to determine licensing policy.

1.4 This licensing policy covers the period from 7th January 2005 until 6th January 2008 and will be kept under review and, following consultation, revised or amended.

2. Main Principles

2.1 Licensing in this policy is about personal licences, the control of licensed premises, qualifying clubs and temporary events within the terms of the 2003 Act. Nothing in this policy will undermine the rights of any person to apply under the Act and have the application considered on its individual merits, and/or override the right of any person to make representations or to seek a review of a licence or certificate where they are permitted to do so under the Act.

2.2 The Act provides flexibility for operators to provide licensable activities that suit the individual nature of a venue. The application form and accompanying Operating Schedule for a premises enable a business to reflect its individual needs, setting down when and how the activities will take place. While this Licensing Policy assists with the interpretation of the Objectives, applicants must carefully consider the potential impact of their licensable activities and seek advice where necessary. They should conduct a thorough risk assessment with regard to the Licensing Objectives when preparing their application. The matters put forward on an Operating Schedule normally become conditions on any licence or certificate granted, hence applicants should carefully consider what is in the application and must be willing and able to comply with the Operating Schedule. ,

2.3 Where there are no representations to an application the Licensing Authority must grant the licence or certificate with only those conditions that are consistent with the Operating Schedule and any mandatory conditions in the Act. In the case of an event organised

under a Temporary Event Notice, a counter notice can only be served following appropriate representations made by the Police.

2.4 Conditions on licences and certificates might only arise from the following sources:

- The Operating Schedule.
- The mandatory conditions within the Act.
- At a hearing by the Licensing Authority to determine unresolved representations.

Additionally, in the case of existing licences or certificates being converted during the transitional period:

- Conditions on the existing licence or certificate prior to conversion.
- Conditions 'embedded' within the legislation under which the existing licence or certificate was issued.

In the case of the conversions during the transitional period and later variations, applicants may apply to change existing (non mandatory) or embedded conditions at the same time as, for example, a change to the hours of operation. In the case of variations made at the same time as a transitional conversion, responsible authorities and interested parties would only be able to address the variations applied for and not the terms, conditions, etc, of the converted or certificate.

2.5 When determining unresolved representations the Licensing Authority will primarily focus on the impact of the activities taking place at licensed premises on persons living, working or engaged in normal activity in the area concerned. The Licensing Authority acknowledges that the licensing function is not for the routine control of nuisance or the anti-social behaviour of individuals, once they are beyond the direct control of the licensee, certificate or authorisation holder of any premises concerned. Nevertheless, it is a key aspect of such control. Licensing law will always be part of a holistic approach to the management of the evening and night-time economy in town and city centres. Circumstances may also arise where the impact of premises requires special consideration. An example is crime and disorder arising from the patrons of premises where it can be positively tied or linked by a causal connection to the premises. A further example is the cumulative impact of premises and this is considered later in the policy.

2.6 Conditions attached to premises licences and certificates will, as far as possible, reflect local crime prevention strategies. For example, the provision of CCTV cameras in appropriate circumstances. A key concept of the Act is for the tailoring of conditions to the individual style and characteristics of the premises and events concerned. Hence standardised conditions should be avoided and may be unlawful where they cannot be shown to be necessary for the promotion of the licensing objectives in any particular case.

2.7 There are a number of available mechanisms for addressing issues of unruly behaviour that can occur away from licensed premises, including:

- Planning controls.
- Positive measures to create a safe and clean environment in these areas in partnership with local businesses, transport operators and other Council departments.
- Designation of parts of the Borough as places where alcohol may not be consumed publicly.
- Regular liaison with Police on law enforcement issues regarding disorder and anti-social behaviour, including the issue of fixed penalty notices, prosecution of those selling alcohol to people who are drunk; confiscation of alcohol from adults and children in designated areas and the instant temporary closure of licensed premises or

temporary events on the grounds of disorder, or likelihood of disorder or excessive noise from the premises.

- The power of the Police, other responsible authority or a local resident or business to seek a review of the licence or certificate.

2.8 The Council is currently addressing many of these issues in partnership with the Police and other stakeholders in the Borough's crime and disorder reduction strategy.

3. Licensing Objective 1: Prevention of Crime and Disorder

3.1 Licensed premises that serve alcohol and refreshments, especially those offering late night/early morning entertainment, can be a source of crime and disorder problems through the actions of their patrons and staff. Good management at premises makes an important contribution to reducing the impact on the local community. An example of good practice by management is active participation in local Pub and Drug Watch schemes.

3.2 The Council will work with the Police to encourage licensees to work in partnership with local Pub and Drug Watch schemes as a way of supporting licensees to actively prevent crime and disorder issues and to inform crime reduction strategies. Schemes will encourage the sharing of information, effective communication and will seek to address matters such as under-age sales, problems associated with drunkenness, prevention of illegal drug use, and violent and anti-social behaviour. Where there is no scheme in place applicants are strongly encouraged to visit www.uniquepubs.com/pubwatch to obtain further information and advice on setting up a scheme.

3.3 When addressing the crime and disorder objective, applicants should initially identify any issues likely to adversely affect the objective and then the steps to deal with them. Such measures on the Operating Schedule might include the following:

- (a) What measures will be taken by the licensee to promote drugs awareness and what provision has been made for facilities to store seized drugs. In the interests of public safety, nightclub owners and dance event promoters are encouraged to follow guidance in the Safer Clubbing Guide to ensure the health and safety of anyone attending dance events.
- (b) What measures will be taken by the licensee to prevent alcohol abuse such as drinking games and continuous drink promotions, such as the adoption of advice by the British Beer and Pub Association and the Portman Group. This is to avoid potential crime and disorder incidents linked to binge drinking.
- (c) What features are currently in place or planned for physical security at the premises, for example, CCTV. Advice is available from the local Crime Prevention Officer on the layout and specification of CCTV systems.
- (d) How licensees propose to work in partnership with the Licensing Authority, Police and other traders in establishing a possible agreement on co-ordinating operating hours to prevent large numbers of people moving between premises. For example, disco nights, promotion nights and special events that could attract large numbers of people. Such co-ordination could be achieved through a local Pub Watch Scheme.
- (e) What arrangements will be put in place in respect of the adoption and use of a recognised or appropriate age-monitoring scheme.

- (f) What active management measures will be taken for the prevention of violence or public disorder. For example, where appropriate, employment of registered door staff to effectively control potential flashpoints such as the management of persons awaiting entry to premises and flashpoints within the premises itself.
- (g) What arrangements have been made for the safety of staff and other persons (including performers, contractors, agency staff and other persons in the premises for work purposes) in premises open between 11pm and 5am, or in premises where there is history of violence from customers or the public. One example of such a premises would be a shop selling alcohol for consumption off the premises (an “off-licence”).
- (h) What arrangements have been made for seating in pubs, bars, nightclubs and late night refreshment premises. Research has shown that the amount of seating can be relevant to the prevention of crime and disorder.
- 3.4 When considering controls at premises applicants are recommended to seek early advice from the Council’s licensing staff and the Police.
- 3.5 Where conditions have not been adhered to in the past, the Licensing Authority will expect applicants to have considered and taken action to rectify those issues.,
- 3.6 In the interests of the Licensing Objectives relating to Public Safety and Crime and Disorder, the Licensing Authority advise that where alcohol is consumed in designated outside areas, provision is made for the serving of drinks only in plastic glasses or plastic bottles. Applicants will be expected to assess and keep under review the safety of any glassware in use both inside and outside the premises. In premises with a history of disorder or violence, the Licensing Authority will expect the sole use of plastic glasses or plastic bottles within premises.
- 3.7 Wherever possible, applicants are expected to be aware of local groups known to incite violence or hatred, or partake in extremist activities, in order to prevent the likelihood of meetings resulting in crime or disorder. Licensees will be expected to take into consideration the potential impact on privacy or religious freedom and the ethnic and cultural composition of the local area when accommodating these meetings. The Council recognises the need to promote the elimination of unlawful discrimination and to promote equality of opportunity. Therefore, the Council recommends licensees seek guidance from the Home Office website www.raceimpact.homeoffice.gov.uk
- 3.8 When determining unresolved representations to an application and where necessary in individual circumstances to comply with the Licensing Objectives, the Licensing Authority may consider attaching specific conditions related to the licensed activities and conditions as outlined in Annex C – Conditions relating to the prevention of crime and disorder.
- 4. Licensing Objective 2: Public Safety**
- 4.1 Members of the public visiting licensed premises expect that their physical safety and health will be protected. Licensees must be able to demonstrate that they have considered and put into effect measures to protect the safety of the members of the public. Applicants are advised to seek early advice from the Council’s Licensing Officers, Environmental Health Officers and the London Fire and Emergency Planning Authority (Fire Authority) before preparing their plans, Operating Schedules, establishing new premises, commencing refurbishment work, etc.
- 4.2 A wide range of premises fall within the scope of the Act, including cinemas, halls, theatres, nightclubs, public houses, cafés, restaurants and fast food outlets/takeaways. In addition open-air events such as concerts, or other events in parks, marquees and stadia, may also fall under licensing requirements. Each type of premises presents a mixture of risks, some

common to the bulk of premises while others are unique to specific activities. It is essential that premises are constructed or adapted and operated so as to acknowledge and safeguard occupants against these risks. When addressing the public safety objective, applicants should initially identify any issues likely to adversely affect the objective and then the steps to deal with them. Such measures on the Operating Schedule might include those in Annex D – Conditions relating to Public Safety (including fire safety) and Annex E – Theatres and Cinemas (Promotion of Public Safety).

- 4.3 When determining unresolved representations to an application and where necessary in individual circumstances to comply with the Licensing Objectives, the Licensing Authority will consider attaching conditions to licences and certificates to promote safety, and these may include conditions drawn from Annex D or Annex E.
- 4.4 The principal purpose of a safe capacity limit is to ensure the safety of all persons on the premises at the time and to ensure a safe means of escape in the event of fire. Capacity limits can also assist in preventing crime or disorder, as overcrowded premises can increase the risks of disorder as crowds become frustrated and hostile. Following relevant representations the Licensing Authority will consider the need for occupancy limits for an individual premises in consultation with the Fire Authority, Health and Safety Officers, and Building Control Officers, as appropriate, where there is a concern for public safety. Premises that have safe capacity limits imposed under fire safety legislation will not have a safe capacity limit imposed for the same activities under the premises licence, or club registration certificate, unless recommended by the Fire Authority.
- 4.5 Subject to the existence of controls under other legislation and the need to determine representations, the Council as Licensing Authority will wish to:
- Ensure that all licensed premises or temporary events have adequate and effective means of escape in case of fire and that all fire safety measures have been implemented.
 - Ensure, as appropriate, licensed premises or temporary events are provided with fire alarms, emergency lighting and fire fighting equipment suitable to the assessed risks and adequately maintained.
 - Ensure that the number of people present can safely be evacuated in the case of emergency.
 - Ensure adequate staff training to deal with emergencies and that the Operating Schedule expressly states what training is to be undertaken, its frequency and what records are kept to demonstrate this has taken place.
 - Ensure that safety measures are clearly stated in the Operating Schedule. Applicants might usefully make reference to relevant risk assessments.
- 4.6 Nightclub type premises can be a focus for the trade in and consumption of illegal drugs. The Council as licensing authority will continue to encourage measures such as “Safer Clubbing” (available at www.drugs.gov.uk) and existing work through the Drug Action Team and the Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership, as a strategic approach to addressing drug problems.
- 4.7 The Licensing Authority will issue general guidance on the maintenance of the licensing objectives, and on general public safety, to persons organising events under a temporary event notice. General guidance will also include reference to relevant offences.

5. Licensing Objective 3: The Prevention of Public Nuisance

- 5.1 The Licensing Authority is committed to preventing public nuisance in the Borough by working in close partnership with Police and licensees, as well as coordinating action across the Council's services. The changes being made through the New Harrow Project will give an additional focus to resolving local problems at a local level. The term public nuisance is not limited to existing legal definitions of the term and the Licensing Authority intends to interpret the term in its widest sense, including issues affecting the amenity of the area such as noise, light, odour, litter and anti-social behaviour.
- 5.2 In the Operating Schedule, applicants should indicate how they intend to carry out the licensable activities in a way that will not cause public nuisance. Where premises are located near to noise-sensitive areas, for example, nursing homes, hospitals or places of worship, the Operating Schedule should specify the steps to be taken to ensure there is no loss of amenity to persons in these premises when licensable activities are taking place.
- 5.3 When addressing the public nuisance objective, applicants should initially identify any issues likely to adversely affect the objective and then the steps needed to deal with them. Such measures on the Operating Schedule might include the following:
- (a) Measures taken or proposed that will reduce noise and vibration escaping from the premises. This would include music and human voices whether or not amplified. Additionally measures to control noise from vehicles and plant, such as ventilation and refrigeration equipment.
 - (b) Measures taken or proposed that will minimise disturbance by persons arriving or departing from the premises, also the delivery of goods and services to the premises.
 - (c) Measures taken to control light to ensure that it does not stray outside the boundary of the premises such as to give rise to problems in the locality.
 - (d) For late night premises, provision for access to taxis and private vehicle hire services. For example, lists of taxi companies displayed by a public telephone.
 - (e) Measures taken to encourage patrons to arrive and disperse quickly and quietly from the immediate vicinity of the premises.
 - (f) Measures taken to ensure the removal of persons ejected from the premises and their dispersal from the immediate vicinity.
- 5.4 In appropriate circumstances to control access to and egress from the premises during events and prevent public nuisance, the Licensing Authority will consider attaching a condition to licences requiring the use of Door Supervisors, Stewards, Security or other staff. Such staff may need to be licensed by the Security Industry Authority.
- 5.5 At large events or events likely to create a particular noise or disturbance, following relevant representations, the Licensing Authority may request or require an organiser to conduct regular monitoring to determine the degree of disturbance to any nearby residential premises. Where such a condition is applied, the applicant will maintain a log of such monitoring indicating the time, any incidents and what remedial action was taken.
- 5.6 Applicants seeking licences for the sale or supply of alcohol should consider the measures to be taken to prevent individuals from consuming excess alcohol and to manage individuals who have consumed excess alcohol. The Licensing Authority wishes to promote the training of staff in alcohol abuse awareness as part of responsible trading within the Licensed trade..

- 5.7 When determining unresolved representations to an application and where necessary in individual circumstances to comply with the Licensing Objective, the Licensing Authority may consider attaching specific conditions related to the licensed activities and conditions as outlined in Annex F – Conditions relating to the prevention of public nuisance. The authority expects stricter conditions to be applied to control noise nuisance in areas that have denser residential accommodation.

6. Licensing Objective 4: The Protection of Children from Harm

- 6.1 A wide range of premises fall within the scope of the Act and children can be expected to visit many of these for food or entertainment. The Act introduces some limits on access by persons under the age of 16 years to premises licensed for the sale of alcohol, but this aside, children should have access to licensed premises. It is recognised in certain situations that limitations may have to be considered where it appears necessary to protect children from harm.
- 6.2 When addressing the protection of children, applicants should initially identify any issues likely to adversely affect the objective and then the steps needed to deal with them. Such steps as are required to deal with these identified concerns should be included on the Operating Schedule. Applicants should consider the arrangements in place to prevent the sale of any alcohol to children, such as an age-monitoring scheme. The Licensing Authority promote the following as part of a proof of age scheme:
- (a) Passport;
 - (b) Photo Card driving licence issued in the European Union;
 - (c) Proof of Age Standards Scheme Card (PASS);
 - (d) Citizen Card supported by the Home Office;
 - (e) Official ID card issued by HM Forces or by a European Union country bearing a photo and date of birth of holder
- 6.3 The Act details a number of offences intended to protect children in licensed premises and the Licensing Authority will work closely with the police and through Trading Standards Officers, to ensure the appropriate enforcement of the law, especially relating to the sale and supply of alcohol to children. The Licensing Authority will consult with the Local Safeguarding Children Board on any application where there are concerns over access for children. Licensees are encouraged to inform the appropriate agencies when it comes to their knowledge that children have tried to purchase alcohol illegally.
- 6.4 Licensees retain the right to permit or not to permit children into their premises at any time; Where appropriate, applicants should state in the Operating Schedule
- (a) Whether or not they will admit children to the licensed premises.
 - (b) Whether or not children will be admitted to all parts of the premises.
 - (c) Where children are to be admitted, the steps that will be taken to protect children from harm, e.g. designated areas for children and families, age (below 18) and hour limitations, or full exclusion of people under 18 in accordance with this objective.
- 6.5 The Licensing Authority considers that certain premises are likely to give rise to particular concern in respect of children. Where the discretion of the Authority is engaged through representations the circumstances of the case and the need for conditions limiting the access of children will be considered. The following are examples of premises that will raise concern:
- Where adult entertainment or services of a sexual nature is commonly provided at the premises.
 - Where there have been convictions of members of the current staff at the premises for serving alcohol to minors or the premises has a reputation for underage drinking.

- Premises with a known association with drug taking or dealing.
 - Premises where there is a strong element of gambling.
 - Premises with a known association with or likely to give rise to heavy or binge drinking.
 - 'Off-sales' premises that allow children under the age of 12 entry, after 11pm, without an accompanying adult.
- 6.6 When determining representations the Licensing Authority will consider measures including any of the following options when dealing with a licence or certificate application where limiting the access of children is considered necessary to prevent harm to children:
- Limitations on the hours when children may be present.
 - Limitations on ages below 18 years.
 - Limitations or exclusion when certain activities are taking place.
 - Requirements for an accompanying adult.
 - Full exclusion of people under 18 from the premises when any licensable activities are taking place.
- 6.7 Protection of Children from Harm includes the protection of children from moral, psychological and physical harm. In relation to the exhibition of films, programmes or videos, this includes the protection of children from exposure to strong language, horror, violence and sexual content. In appropriate cases, the Licensing Authority will expect the licensee to provide evidence of how they intend to prevent these occurrences. It is expected that licensees of cinemas and places where films are shown will include in their operating schedules arrangements for restricting children from viewing age-restricted films, classified according to the recommendations of the British Board of Film Classification (BBFC) or the requirements of the Licensing Authority.
- 6.8 In relation to cinemas and places where films are shown applicants, when considering the need for control measures, should consider how entry to the premises will be controlled as part of an age-monitoring strategy.
- 6.9 With regard to film classifications and the Protection of Children from Harm Licensing Objective, the Licensing Authority reserves the right to classify, or reclassify any film. Any classification by the Authority will be notified to relevant premises in the Borough and a notice placed on the Council's website.
- 6.10 The Licensing Authority will impose a mandatory condition requiring licensees of cinemas and places where films are shown to restrict children from viewing age-restricted films classified according to the recommendations of the BBFC or the requirements of the Licensing Authority.
- 6.11 Many children go to see and/or take part in entertainment arranged especially for them, for example children's film shows and dance or drama productions. Additional arrangements are required to safeguard them while at licensed premises. In appropriate cases, the Licensing Authority will expect the licensee to provide evidence of how they intend to provide for the supervision and welfare of children as customers and as performers. In appropriate circumstances, where children are supervised, the Licensing Authority will expect the Operating Schedule to demonstrate that these supervisors have been appropriately cleared of relevant offences through the Criminal Records Bureau.
- 6.12 Where events are taking place that are solely provided for children, for example, an under 18's disco, no alcohol will be served near the event in question.

- 6.13 Subject to the existence of controls under other legislation and the need to determine relevant representations, where a regulated entertainment is specially presented for children the Council as Licensing Authority will consider the following in order to control access and egress and to ensure the safety of children:
- An adult member of staff to be stationed in the vicinity of each of the exits from any level, subject to a minimum of one member of staff per 50 children or part thereof.
 - No child unless accompanied by an adult to be permitted in the front row of any balcony.
 - No standing to be permitted in any raised seating (balcony, raked seating, etc) during the performance.
- 6.14 Where appropriate, and particularly with regard to large public events, an applicant should consider robust procedures for lost and found children.
- 6.15 The Licensing Authority would encourage licensees to demonstrate in their Operating Schedule that they implement guidance from the Portman Group Code of Practice on the naming, packaging and promotion of alcoholic drinks to prevent children from being enticed into purchasing inappropriate products.
- 6.16 When determining unresolved representations to an application and where necessary in individual circumstances to comply with the Licensing Objective, the Licensing Authority may consider attaching specific conditions related to the licensed activities and conditions as outlined in Annex G – Conditions relating to the protection of children from harm.
- 6.17 Applicants for premises licences and certificates are to copy details of their applications to the Local Safeguarding Children Board, People First xxxx, PO Box XX, Civic Centre, Station Road, Harrow, Middlesex, HA1 XXX.

7. Licensed Hours

- 7.1 A primary aim of the Licensing Act is to move away from fixed permitted hours for the sale of alcohol. But allied to these freedoms for the licensed trade are the responsibilities established by the Licensing Objectives.
- 7.2 If its discretion is triggered, the Licensing Authority will consider conditions to licences and certificates to prevent public nuisance, crime or disorder, and these may include conditions drawn from the annexes to this Policy. Stricter conditions to control noise will be expected in areas that have denser residential accommodation, but this should not limit opening hours without regard to the individual merits of any particular application.
- 7.3 In the light of relevant representations, the Licensing Authority will deal with the issue of licensing hours having due regard to the individual merits of each application. Consideration will be given to conditions in respect of issues such as noise control measures, door staff, use of external or noise sensitive areas, CCTV, travel planning, etc, where premises affect, or are likely to affect residential areas.
- 7.4 As a general guide to applicants where indicated by their individual assessments, the Licensing Authority would expect pub and nightclub type premises (characterised by the predominant consumption of alcohol, 'vertical drinking', etc) applying for the 'on' sale of alcohol beyond 11pm, to consider stricter conditions. Other types of premises seeking to apply for licences or certificates after midnight, either to sell alcohol for consumption on the premises, or for entertainments, are also expected to consider stricter conditions. These latter premises include restaurants and cafés.

- 7.5 Where the only licensable activity is the sale of alcohol for consumption off the premises the Licensing Authority will generally consider licensing premises at any times they are open for shopping. Typically these premises are shops, stores and supermarkets. However, it may be considered that there are very good reasons for restricting hours, or imposing stricter conditions where, for example, the Police make representations in respect of shops known to be the focus for disorder, or disturbance.
- 7.6 Licensed premises, especially those operating late at night and in the early hours of the morning, can have a significant impact on people living, working or sleeping in the vicinity of the premises. The concerns include noise nuisance, light pollution, the potential for disorder and noxious smells. Due regard will be taken of the impact these may have and the Licensing Authority will expect Operating Schedules to satisfactorily address these issues. Applicants are advised to seek advice from the Council's Planning, Environmental Health and Pollution Control Officers before preparing plans, Operating Schedules, making alterations to premises, etc.

8. Applications

- 8.1 The Act imposes duties on applicants to provide the Licensing Authority with information in the form of an application, with specified supporting documents and a fee, in order to process an application. To assist the Licensing Authority applicants should check that the application pack is fully completed before sending it to the Licensing Authority and other statutory consultees. The Operating Schedule is essential so that the Licensing Authority and other interested parties can form a proper view as to what measures may be necessary to meet the four Licensing Objectives.
- 8.2 Applicants for the initial grant or variation of a licence or certificate are to describe in detail how they propose to meet the requirements of the four Licensing Objectives and relevant aspects of this Licensing Policy in the Operating Schedule which accompanies the application. Operating Schedules should be precise and clear about the measures proposed to promote each of the licensing objectives and in particular those relating to the protection of children from harm.
- 8.3 The Licensing Authority has produced annexes to this Policy describing conditions that may be applied in appropriate circumstances. If representations are raised with the Licensing Authority that the Licensing Objectives cannot be met unless additional specific conditions are attached, then the Licensing Authority may consider attaching additional conditions. In any event where measures to promote the Licensing Objectives are included in the Operating Schedule, conditions consistent with the Schedule will be attached to the licence or certificate, subject to the need for the Licensing Authority to amend, reword or revise the measure.
- 8.4 Applications that are incomplete will be returned to the applicant with an explanation for the return. Reasons may include incomplete or missing forms, the absence of the fee (including the failure of a means of payment such as a refused cheque); absence of required plans, certificates, photographs, advertisements, licences (or authorised copies), etc.
- 8.5 Planning legislation exists as a control over the use of property; it is independent of licensing legislation and has different objectives. The Licensing Authority considers as a matter of routine, that the planning position for a premise is resolved before an application for a licence or certificate is made.
- 8.6 It is strongly recommended that applicants ensure that:
- The proposed licensable activity does not contravene planning legislation; and
 - The hours sought are within the limits authorised by any planning permission.

- 8.7 In circumstances where an applicant seeks to apply without resolving the necessary planning requirements, it will be for the applicant to detail the special circumstances that justify a departure from the policy.
- 8.8 Potential applicants are requested to seek early advice from the Licensing Authority and other authorities such as the Police and Fire Authority, concerning the licensing requirements for premises, or for activities they are planning. Large or unusual events often need particular consideration, the Licensing Authority will expect authorities to be consulted at the earliest planning stage for such an event, and not less than six months prior to the performance. This will minimise uncertainty and provide time to finalise the Operating Schedule with the organisers well before a formal application is submitted.
- 8.9 Where a licence or certificate is in force but an event outside of the normal Operating Schedule is proposed, the licensee is encouraged to notify the Licensing Authority at least 3 months prior to the event in order that the Authority is able to complete any consultation required and offer any appropriate advice.
- 8.10 In the case of Temporary Event Notices, the Licensing Authority should be consulted at the earliest practical stage, and it is recommended that Notice be given at least 4 weeks before the event. For routine events the Notice should be made not more than 10 weeks prior to the event.

9. Representations

- 9.1 The Licensing Act places duties on persons and organisations to make “relevant representations” and often in a relatively short timescale. In this context a “relevant representation” has to positively link the issues to the premises (or person) in question and the issues must relate to the Licensing Objectives. The intention of Parliament is to apply a lighter bureaucratic touch to applications for licences and their variation. However, in the case of poorly performing premises, one of the sanctions is a new power of review.
- 9.2 The Licensing Authority cannot accept representations that it considers frivolous or vexatious. Additionally, in the case of a review of a licence or certificate, repetitive representations are also invalid.
- 9.3 Council officers will determine whether a representation is irrelevant, frivolous, vexatious, or repetitive in accordance with the Licensing Act and Guidance. This is subject to the power to refer a decision to the appropriate meeting of Elected Members where the particular circumstances require such an approach.
- 9.4 Where the Licensing Authority determines that a representation is invalid it will notify the person of the decision and the reason.
- 9.5 The ability to make representations to applications under the Act is more restricted than previous legislation. Hence representations may only be made by ‘interested parties’ and ‘responsible authorities’ as defined in the Act. Interested parties include persons and businesses in the vicinity of a premise, or the bodies representing them. Responsible authorities are usually public bodies including the Police, Fire Authority, Planning, Environmental Health, and health and safety authorities.
- 9.6 In determining whether ‘interested parties’ are in the vicinity of an applicant’s premises the Licensing Authority will primarily focus on the direct impact of the activities taking place on the premises on members of public living, working or in the area concerned. It is recognised that where there is a cumulative impact or effect of a premises on an area, other considerations may be relevant to the consideration of the vicinity of a premises.

10. Cumulative Impact or Effect

- 10.1 In its licensing role, the Council is not empowered to determine the need or commercial demand for another pub, restaurant or hotel. These are issues for relevant planning controls and the market to determine. Nevertheless, the cumulative impact of licensed premises in a locality, where there is an impact on the promotion of the Licensing Objectives, is a licensing matter.
- 10.2 In circumstances where areas appear to be under stress and giving rise in the locality to concerns over nuisance, crime or disorder, the Licensing Authority will consider the adoption of a special policy to refuse new licences.
- 10.3 In applying this policy the Licensing Authority will consider any application made. It will be for the applicant to detail the special circumstances that justify departure from the policy.
- 10.4 The Licensing Authority will take the following steps when considering whether to adopt a special policy:
- The initial identification of concern about crime, disorder, or public nuisance.
 - Where it can be demonstrated that nuisance, crime or disorder is arising as a result of customers of licensed premises, identifying the area from which problems are arising and the boundaries of that area.
 - Consultation with all defined parties.
 - Adopting a policy about future licence or club premises certificate applications from that area.
 - Publication of the special policy.
- 10.5 To apply the special policy, the Licensing Authority will consider representations based on the impact on the licensing objectives of the relevant application. While any applicant is to address the issues relevant to the special policy in the application and operating schedule, the onus is on the objectors to provide evidence to back up any assertion that the nature of the application would produce the cumulative impact claimed. Account is to be taken of the differing impacts of premises with different styles and characteristics. It is recognised that there is a diverse range of premises that sell alcohol, serve food and provide entertainment. These cover a wide range of contrasting styles and characteristics, hence the Licensing Authority will have regard to those differences and the differing impacts on the local community. It therefore also recognises that, within this policy, it may be able to approve licences or certificates that are unlikely to add significantly to the impact, and will consider the circumstances of each individual application.
- 10.6 The Licensing Authority will not use such policies solely:
- As the grounds for removing a licence or certificate when representations are received about problems with existing licensed premises.
 - To refuse modifications to a licence or certificate, except where the modifications are directly relevant to the policy, for example where the application is for a significant increase in the capacity limits of the premises.
- 10.7 The Licensing Authority will review any special policies regularly to see whether they have had the effect intended, and whether they are still needed. The success and application of such policies have to be considered alongside the effect of other of the policies, and in particular, those Licensing Objectives relating to Public Nuisance and to Crime and Disorder.

11. Integrating Strategies and Avoiding Duplication

- 11.1 There are many stakeholders in the leisure industry, covering a wide range of disciplines. Many are involved, directly or indirectly, in the promotion of the licensing objectives, particularly those relating to the prevention of crime, disorder and public nuisance. Their strategies deal in part with the licensing function, and the Council will set up multi-disciplinary working groups to ensure proper integration of local crime prevention, planning, transport, tourism and cultural strategies. Such groups may also usefully identify and make recommendations for changes to licensing policy.
- 11.2 Arrangements will be made, where appropriate, for the Licensing Committee to receive reports on the following matters to ensure these are reflected in their decisions:
- The needs of the local tourist economy and cultural strategy for the Borough.
 - The employment situation in the Borough and where appropriate the need for investment and employment.
- 11.3 It is recognised that there should be a clear separation of the planning and licensing regimes. Licensing applications should not be a re-run of the planning application. The Council recognises the need to avoid as far as possible duplication with this and other regulatory regimes.
- 11.4 The Council will ensure that regular reports are sent from the Licensing Committee to the Planning Committee advising them of the situation regarding licensed premises in the Borough, including the general impact of alcohol-related crime and disorder to assist them in their decision-making.
- 11.5 However, other legislation does not cover the particular circumstances of various licensable activities and the Licensing Authority will consider attaching conditions to premises licences and club premises certificates where these are necessary for the promotion of the licensing objectives and are not already provided for in other legislation.
- 11.6 The promotion of equality of access, while not one of the Licensing Objectives, is a matter in which the Licensing Authority encourages all licensees to comply with relevant legislation such as the Disability Discrimination Act 1995 and race relations legislation. Further advice on meeting the needs of persons with disabilities can be found on the website of the Disability Rights Commission at www.drc-gb.org

12. Enforcement, Protocols with Enforcement Agencies

- 12.1 Once licensed, it is essential premises are maintained and operated so as to ensure the continued promotion of the licensing objectives and compliance with the specific requirements of the Licensing Act. The Licensing Authority will make arrangements to monitor premises and take appropriate, proportionate enforcement action.
- 12.2 The Council will work closely with the Police to establish protocols to ensure an efficient deployment of Police and Council Officers engaged in enforcing licensing law and inspecting licensed premises, in order to ensure that resources are targeted at problem and higher-risk premises. Similar working arrangements are envisaged with the Fire Authority and other similar enforcement agencies in areas of mutual interest.

13. Cultural Strategies

- 13.1 In its role of implementing local authority cultural strategies, the Council recognises the need to encourage and promote live music, dance and theatre for the wider cultural benefit of the community, particularly for children. When considering applications for such events and any conditions on licences or certificates, the Council will carefully balance the cultural

needs with the necessity of promoting the licensing objectives and the protection of the vulnerable.

- 13.2 Consideration will be given to the particular characteristics of any event, including the type, scale and duration of the proposed entertainment, especially where only limited disturbance may be caused.
- 13.3 The authority will monitor the impact of licensing on the provision of regulated entertainment, and particularly live music and dancing. Where there are indications that events are being deterred through requirements within the discretion of the Licensing Authority, this policy will be revisited to determine how the situation might be reversed.

14. Complaints against Licensed Premises

- 14.1 Complaints relating to licensable activities carried out at licensed premises will be referred to the Council's Licensing Section. Subject to the nature of complaint, complainants may be encouraged to raise the complaint directly with the licensee or business concerned.
- 14.2 Where practicable the Licensing Authority will seek to facilitate mediation between applicants, relevant statutory agencies and occupiers of nearby premises, local residents groups, community or interested groups where significant issues have arisen relating to an application. The Licensing Authority, where possible, will facilitate mediation through:
- Identification of potential issues for other relevant statutory agencies particularly regarding the safety and amenity of local residents.
 - Negotiation of potential conditions to reflect the resolutions achieved through mediation methods.

Where mediation is not practicable or fails, the Licensing Authority will arrange for a hearing to review the licence or certificate, or to determine the application.

- 14.3 If mediation methods are used it will not override the right of any interested party to ask that the Licensing Authority consider their valid representations, or for any licence or certificate holder to decline to participate in a mediation meeting.
- 14.4 The Licensing Authority will disregard any representations that are irrelevant, frivolous and/or vexatious.
- 14.5 A senior Police Officer may, under section 161 of the Licensing Act 2003 close premises in the interest of Public Safety for up to 24 hours on the grounds of likely or imminent disorder on or in the vicinity of the premises. Premises may also be closed if a public nuisance is being caused by noise from the premises.
- 14.6 Additionally, a review of the licence or certificate will take place within 28 days of any action by the Police to close down the premises for up to 24 hours, or longer if so granted by the Magistrates Court on grounds of disorder or public nuisance - Annex L of the Statutory Guidance and Section 167 of Licensing Act 2003.

15. Administration, Exercise and Delegation of Functions

- 15.1 The Council is involved in a wide range of licensing decisions and functions and has established a Licensing Committee to administer them. Appreciating the need to provide a speedy, efficient and cost-effective service to all parties involved in the licensing process, the Committee delegates certain decisions and functions and has a Sub-Committee to deal with aspects of its responsibilities.

- 15.2 The following Table at Annex A sets out the delegation of decisions and functions to Licensing and General Purposes Committee, the Sub-Committee and to Officers. All matters dealt with by Officers will be reported for information and comment only to the next Committee meeting.
- 15.3 Delegations are without prejudice to Officers referring an application to a Sub-Committee or Committee; or a Sub-Committee to a Committee, if considered appropriate in the circumstances of any particular case.

Annex A

TABLE OF DELEGATIONS OF LICENSING FUNCTIONS

MATTER TO BE DEALT WITH	FULL COMMITTEE	SUB-COMMITTEE	OFFICERS
Application for personal licence		If a police objection	If no objection is made
Application for personal licence with unspent convictions		All cases	
Application for premises licence/club premises Certificate		If a relevant representation is made	If no relevant representation is made
Application for provisional statement		If a relevant representation is made	If no relevant representation is made
Application to vary premises licence/club registration Certificate		If a relevant representation is made	If no relevant representation is made
Application to vary designated personal licence holder		If a police representation	All other cases
Request to be removed as designated personal licence holder			All cases
Application for transfer of premises licence		If a police objection	All other cases
Application for Interim Authorities		If a police objection	All other cases
Application to review premises licence/club premises Registration		All cases	
Decision on whether a complaint is irrelevant, frivolous, vexatious, etc			All cases
Decision to object when local authority is a consultee and not the relevant authority considering the application.			All cases
Determination of a police representation to a temporary event notice		All cases	

Annex B

Proposals for Conditions that support the issue of licences or certificates by the Authority.

These proposals are principally drawn from the annexes to the Statutory Guidance to Authorities. Additional information may be provided in the annexes and in individual cases the guidance may have to be considered alongside these conditions. The way conditions should be applied to licences or certificates is described within the body of the main Policy.

Annex C – Conditions relating to the prevention of crime and disorder.

Annex D – Conditions relating to Public Safety (including fire safety).

Annex E – Theatres and Cinemas (Promotion of Public Safety).

Annex F – Conditions relating to the prevention of public nuisance.

Annex G – Conditions relating to the protection of children from harm.

Proposed Conditions

General

The Licensing Authority recognises that it is important to balance any conditions attached to a licence or certificate so as not to be disproportionate or overly burdensome but to achieve the licensing objectives. Therefore, where conditions are necessary they will be tailored to the individual style and characteristics of the particular premises or event concerned. Where relevant representations have been made, the Licensing Authority will consider attaching conditions necessary for the promotion of the licensing objectives, including those drawn from the relevant Model Pools of Conditions set out in the guidance issued by the Secretary of State under Section 182 Licensing Act 2003.

The following conditions should not be regarded as standard conditions to be automatically imposed in all cases. They are designed to provide a range of possible options for controls at specific premises or related to specific activities. Any individual preparing an operating schedule is at liberty to volunteer any measure, such as those described below, as a means of promoting the licensing objectives. When incorporated into the licence or certificate as a condition, they become enforceable under the law and the breach of a condition could give rise to prosecution.

Once licensed it is essential that premises are maintained and operated so as to ensure the continued promotion of the licensing objectives and compliance with the specific requirements of the 2003 Act. The Licensing Authority will make arrangements to monitor premises and make appropriate enforcement action to ensure this.

The Licensing Authority will work closely with the Metropolitan Police to establish protocols to ensure an efficient deployment of Police and Council officers engaged in enforcing licensing law and inspecting licensed premises, in order to ensure that high-risk activities receive the highest priority.

Annex C**The prevention of Crime and Disorder**

When addressing the crime and disorder objective, applicants should initially identify any issues likely to adversely affect the objective and then the steps to deal with them. Such measures on the Operating Schedule might include the following::

- (i) Details of registered Door Supervisors and other appropriately trained staff to be provided, including the number, their location whilst working at the premises, and the times they will be on duty. All Door Supervisors are to be licensed by the Security Industry Authority.
- (ii) The fitting of CCTV equipment, its location and specification.
- (iii) Where applicable to the use of the premises such measures as an 'over 21' policy, or provision of adequate search facilities, or 'no entry or re-entry' after a certain hour. .
- (iv) Measures proposed to prevent possession, supply, or consumption of illegal drugs and possession of weapons, for example by adequate search arrangements and/or spot checks by door supervisors.
- (v) Measures to be implemented to promote sensible drinking and prevent binge drinking.
- (vi) Details of the management of any promotional events such as "happy hour" or special offers, which may include their duration, times, location within premises and whether any additional measures such as increased security is to be utilised during these events to minimise crime and disorder.
- (vii) The location of lighting inside/outside the premises.
- (viii) Measures aimed at discouraging anti-social behaviour.
- (ix) Whether or not the premises will be serving alcohol in glass or plastic containers. If serving alcohol in glass containers, identify what measures will be implemented to ensure patrons cannot take glass container outside the premises.
- (x) Whether the premises belongs to a local Pub or Club Watch scheme.
- (xi) Measures to discourage crime, for example the fitting of alarms, the positioning of cigarette or other vending machines in full view of staff, and the fitting of gaming machines with an approved security device/metal boot or emptied at night.

The Police Crime Prevention Advisor is able to visit premises and advise if requested. Applicants assessing the risks associated with this objective can obtain detailed guidance from the Police. The Licensing Authority recommends that crime prevention advice is obtained and implemented.

Possible conditions relating to the prevention of crime and disorder**1. Text/Radio pagers**

- 1.1 Text/radio pagers shall be provided linked to the Metropolitan Police and to such other licensed premises as may be required by the Licensing Authority.
- 1.2 The text/pager equipment shall be maintained and kept in working order at all times and shall be operated appropriately in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions.
- 1.3 The pager link shall be activated and made available to and monitored by the designated premises supervisor or a responsible member of staff at all times when the premises are open to the public.
- 1.4 All instances of crime and disorder shall be reported via the text/radio pager link by the designated premises supervisor or a responsible member of staff to an agreed police contact point.

2. Door supervisors

- 2.1 An accurate and up-to-date log book shall be maintained in a format prescribed by the Licensing Authority, providing details of door supervisors employed in respect of the premises, which shall comprise two distinct parts:
- (i) A part recording the name, address, telephone number and registration number of each door supervisor employed in respect of the premises (whether employed directly or through an agency) and the name, address and telephone number of the agency providing the supervisor where the supervisor is not employed directly.
 - (ii) A part recording the name and registration number of each door supervisor, dates and times of commencement and finishing of work, signature of the door supervisor in respect of both, and details of any incident in which the door supervisor is involved, including the calling of the police and any police action taken.
- 2.2 All door supervisors, at all times when they are on duty, shall wear an identity badge, conspicuously displayed, and carry proof of registration.
- 2.3 There shall be a minimum of door supervisors on duty at the premises at all times during opening hours.
- 2.4 There shall be a minimum of one door supervisor for every 100 persons or part thereof at functions attended by adults.
- 2.5 Where the audience includes minors there shall be either:
- (i) a minimum of two door supervisors for every 100 persons or part thereof; or
 - (ii) at least one door supervisor per exit, whichever is the greater.
- 2.6 At least one female door supervisor shall be employed and available where appropriate.

3. Bottle bans, plastic containers and toughened glass

- 3.1 No glass bottles containing beverages of any kind, whether open or sealed, shall be given to customers for consumption on the premises, whether at the bar or by staff service away from the bar.
- 3.2 Bottles containing wine may be sold for consumption with a table meal by customers who are seated in an area set aside from the main bar area for the consumption of food.
- 3.3 No customers carrying open or sealed bottles shall be admitted to the premises at any time that the premises are open to the public.
- 3.4 Drinking vessels shall only be made from shatterproof material eg plastic or toughened glass.

4. CCTV

- 4.1 CCTV cameras shall be installed at the following locations: xxxxxxxxxxxx.
- 4.2 Equipment shall be installed, operated and maintained in good working order and in accordance with the recommendations of the Police or Crime Prevention Officer.

5. Open containers not to be taken from the premises

- 5.1 Customers shall be prevented from taking alcoholic or other drinks from the premises in open containers.

6. Restriction on drinking areas

- 6.1 Alcoholic drinks may only be consumed in the following location(s): at the following times

7. Proof of age

- 7.1 A valid proof of age card or other age identification shall be required to be produced by any person appearing to those selling or supplying alcohol to be under 18 (or 16 in the case of the consumption of beer, wine and cider in the company of an adult during a table meal) and who is attempting to buy alcohol.

8. Crime prevention notices

- 8.1 Notices shall be prominently displayed and prevented from damage and deterioration advising customers as follows:

9. Drinks Promotions

- 9.1 Licencees are to encouraged comply with the British Beer and Pub Association's 'Guidelines on On-Trade Promotions' to reduce the potential for crime and disorder.

10. Signage

- 10.1 Signs shall be prominently displayed and prevented from damage or deterioration:
- (a) advising normal hours of permitted licensable activities; and/or
 - (b) prohibiting access to children from the following locations at the following times

11. High Volume Vertical Drinking

- 11.1 A ratio of tables and chairs per customers shall be maintained.

12. Striptease, Table Dancing, Pole Dancing and entertainments of the like kind

- 12.1 The Licensing Authority has had standard conditions for premises that provide striptease and similar entertainments. These encompass all four of the licensing objectives contained in the Licensing Act 2003. The Licensing Authority wishes to ensure that public order is preserved, that the commission of other offences is deterred, and to ensure that such entertainments are merely part of a dance to music. In addition, the Licensing Authority wishes to ensure that publicity for such entertainments do not cause offence to other members of the community. The Licensing Authority, subject to representations in any particular case, may seek conditions which control the following:

- Advertising.
- Adoption of relevant Police guidelines relating to Codes of Conduct for the premises and performers.
- No touching and a "three feet rule".

- No physical participation by the audience.
- CCTV, which should be agreed with the Police, kept for at least 28 days and made available to both the Police and authorised officers from the Council.
- Time restrictions when close to schools, playgroups or other educational establishments, such as museums and places of worship.
- Appropriate levels of stewarding and registered door supervisors, as agreed with the Police.

Annex D**The maintenance of Public Safety**

When addressing the public safety objective, applicants should initially identify any issues likely to adversely affect the objective and then the steps to deal with them. Such measures on the Operating Schedule might include the following:

- (i) The maximum capacity figure for the premises and a statement demonstrating the premises' ability to accommodate the predicted number of patrons safely.
- (ii) Safe use of special effects/equipments (lasers, smoke machines, strobe lights etc) which may affect public safety.
- (iii) Measures to be implemented to promote sensible drinking and prevent binge drinking, for instance by the display of health warnings, legal warnings and the like.
- (iv) Measures proposed to prevent possession, supply or consumption of illegal drugs and possession of weapons, for instance by adequate search arrangements and/or spot checks by door supervisors.
- (v) The availability of drinking water.
- (vi) The location of any toughened glass to be installed at the premises.
- (vii) The availability of up to date public transport and car parking information at the premises.
- (viii) The details of any proof of age scheme to be implemented.
- (ix) A detailed plan that identifies all existing and proposed fire safety features, including smoke detectors, sprinkler systems, and the like. All fire safety measures are to comply with relevant standards.

Possible conditions relating to public safety (including fire safety)**13. Disabled People**

- 13.1 Adequate arrangements shall exist to enable the safe evacuation of disabled people in the event of an emergency; and disabled people on the premises shall be made aware of those arrangements.

14. Capacity

- 14.1 The number of persons admitted to the premises on any one occasion shall not exceed the maximum capacity of xx (such number to be inclusive of staff and performers working at the premises) and overcrowding in any part of the premises so as to interfere with the safety or comfort of the public shall not be permitted.
- 14.2 The maximum occupancy of the building at any one time shall be restricted in respect of the ground floor to xx persons and in respect of the first floor to xx persons (such numbers to be inclusive of staff and performers working at the premises) and overcrowding in any part of the premises so as to interfere with the safety or comfort of the public shall not be permitted.
- 14.3 A suitable method of determining the number of persons on the premises at any one time shall be employed to ensure that the maximum permitted number is not exceeded.
- 14.4 The licence holder, a club official, manager or designated premises supervisor should be aware of the number of people on the premises and shall inform any authorised person on request.

14.5 A notice, in a format prescribed by the Licensing Authority, shall be displayed in a prominent position at the entrance to the premises so as to be visible and easily understood, indicating the maximum number of persons permitted on the premises at any one time. Where there are specified numbers for particular parts of the premises, notices in a format prescribed by the Licensing Authority shall be displayed at the entrance to those parts, indicating the maximum number of persons that may be present there at any one time.

15. First Aid

15.1 An adequate and appropriate supply of first aid equipment and materials shall be available on the premises at all times.

15.2 At least one suitably trained first-aider who shall be responsible for first aid shall be on duty when the public are present. If more than one suitably trained first-aider is present on the premises, each person's responsibilities shall be clearly identified.

15.3 A suitable rest room shall be available free of charge at all times which contains the following:

- (a) a quiet and cool atmosphere;
- (b) adequate seating;
- (c) continuous free access to cold drinking water; and
- (d) an adequate and appropriate supply of suitable first aid materials.

16. Lighting and Electrical Installations

16.1 Fixed Installations

- (a) All electrical wiring, fittings and appliances shall be constructed and maintained in a safe and satisfactory condition to the satisfaction of the Licensing Authority.
- (b) In the absence of adequate daylight, the lighting in any area accessible to the public shall be fully in operation when they are present.
- (c) Where electric lighting is supplied for stairs, ramps or passages outside the premises and is operated by a switch adjacent to an exit door, it need not be continuously supplied but it must be constantly available for use.
- (d) A system of emergency lighting, independent of the normal lighting of the premises, shall be provided and shall illuminate all escape routes. The system shall operate automatically on failure of the normal lighting or be on at all times, and shall be maintained in efficient working order and tested at specified intervals to the satisfaction of the Licensing Authority and the fire authority, with details of tests recorded in the Fire log-book.
- (e) Emergency lighting batteries shall be fully charged before the admission of the public.
- (f) In the event of the failure of normal lighting, where the emergency lighting battery has a capacity of one hour, arrangements shall be in place to ensure that the public, members or guests leave the premises within 20 minutes unless within that time normal lighting has been restored and the battery is being re-charged; if the emergency lighting battery has a capacity of three hours, the appropriate period by the end of which the public should have left the premises is one hour.

- (g) Each enclosed area within the premises shall be sufficiently illuminated to a minimum level so that other parts of the area are always clearly visible.
- (h) Corridors, passageways and stairways shall be evenly illuminated to a level not less than that required by the current British Standard Code of Practice.
- (i) If the premises has a single phase electricity supply the premises shall have installed Residual Current Device protection to all final sub-circuits on the socket outlet ring mains with a maximum operating time of 40 milli-seconds at a current of 150 milliamperes, designed to operate if the earth-leakage current exceeds 30 milliamperes. A test button shall also be incorporated.
- (j) Where practicable, stage lighting shall be supplied from a separate sub-circuit from that supplying the main hall lighting. Any lighting and electrical apparatus on the stage likely to become heated shall be provided with suitable protection to prevent contact by scenery or any other combustible material.
- (k) At least three electric handlamps shall be available at the premises at all times for use by appointed staff and the handlamps shall be properly maintained at all times and ready for use in an emergency.

16.2 Temporary electrical installations

- (a) Temporary electrical wiring and distribution systems shall not be provided [without notification to the Licensing Authority at least ten days before commencement of the work] and/or [without prior inspection by a suitable qualified electrician].
- (b) Temporary electrical wiring and distribution systems shall comply with the recommendations of BS 7671 or where applicable, BS 7909.
- (c) Temporary electrical installations shall only be installed by a competent person; or
- (d) Where they have not been installed by a competent person, temporary electrical wiring and distribution systems shall be inspected and certified by a competent person before they are put to use.
- (e) All temporary electric cable which is not a fixture at the premises shall be heavily and adequately insulated and protected and any metal clad switchgear, spot lamp frames, etc. shall be effectively earthed and each circuit adequately fused.
- (f) Temporary electrical installations shall be disconnected from the permanent installation immediately after each occasion on which they are used and all temporary electrical installations shall be removed entirely as soon as the need for them has ceased.

17. Indoor sports entertainments

- 17.1 An appropriately qualified medical practitioner shall be present throughout a sports entertainment involving boxing, wrestling, judo, karate or other sports entertainment of a similar nature.
- 17.2 Where there is a ring, it shall be constructed and supported by a competent person and inspected and certificated by a competent authority and any material used to form the skirt around the ring must be flame-retardant.
- 17.3 At any wrestling or other entertainments of a similar nature, members of the public shall not occupy any seat within 2.5 metres of the ring.

17.4 At water sports entertainments, staff adequately trained in rescue and life safety procedures shall be stationed and remain within the vicinity of the water at all material times.

18. Special effects

18.1 No laser beams (pyrotechnics or real flame), strobe lights, explosives, flammable or smoke-producing agents, toxic or hazardous substances and any similar entertainment involving special effects or special risks shall be used on the premises except following prior notification to the Licensing Authority at least ten days in advance.

18.2 Any special effects or mechanical installation should be arranged and stored so as to minimise any risk to the safety of the audience, the performers and staff.

18.3 Signs shall be prominently displayed at the entrance to the premises where appropriate to advise members of the public that special effects will be used during the performance and what those special effects will be.

19. Certificates

19.1 Copies of the following certificates shall be produced to the Licensing Authority or the fire authority upon request:

- (a) Certificate of Electrical Safety.
- (b) Certificate of Safety for Emergency Lighting.
- (c) Certificate of Structural Soundness.

20. Combating the supply of drugs

20.1 An outer body search shall be carried out where there is reasonable suspicion that an individual is in possession of an illegal drug or an offensive weapon; or

20.2 An outer body search of the public shall be a condition of entry.

20.3 Notices shall be displayed advising the public that an outer body search is a condition of entry and that the Police will be informed if anyone is found in possession of illegal drugs or offensive weapons.

20.4 Security arrangements shall be sufficient to discourage the sale, supply and consumption of drugs on or in the immediate vicinity of the premises [e.g. require that security staff check the toilet area regularly].

20.5 The Police shall be informed if anyone is found in possession of illegal drugs or an offensive weapon or is known to have been involved in the sale or supply of illegal drugs.

20.6 Persons who are known to have been convicted of drug and drug-related offences which are not spent shall be excluded from the premises.

20.7 The Police shall be consulted regarding the steps which could be taken to assist with the surveillance of offenders and in respect of other crime prevention measures.

20.8 The advice of the Police shall be sought on procedures for keeping records of incidents (eg violence, disorder and other criminal activity, drug and weapons seizures) and making such records available for inspection.

- 20.9 The Police shall be consulted in the development of any policies concerning:
- (a) The storage, disposal and transfer of confiscated drugs and weapons into lawful custody; and
 - (b) Procedures relating to the treatment of individuals who commit criminal offences.
- 20.10 The Licensee shall liaise with the police and local drug agencies to develop a written Drugs Prevention Strategy for the premises.

21. Ceilings

- 21.1 All ceilings in those parts of the premises to which the audience are admitted should be inspected by a suitably qualified person who will decide when a further inspection would be necessary and a certificate concerning the condition of the ceilings forwarded to the Licensing Authority following each inspection.

Annex E

Theatres and Cinemas (Promotion of Public Safety)**Possible conditions relating to public safety in Theatres and Cinemas****22. Access to Cinemas, Theatres, Auditoriums, and similar premises**

- (a) Licensees are required to restrict children from viewing age-restricted films, according to the recommendations of the British Board of Film Classification or, where relevant, any age restriction determined by the Licensing Authority. The Licensee should state in the Operating Schedule what measures are to be put in place to control such access.
- (b) Subject to the existence of controls under other legislation and the need to determine relevant representations, where a regulated entertainment is specially presented for children the Council as Licensing Authority will consider the following to control access and egress and to ensure the safety of children:
- (i) An adult member of staff to be stationed in the vicinity of each of the exits from any level, subject to there being a minimum of one member of staff per 50 children, or part thereof.
 - (ii) No child, unless accompanied by an adult, to be permitted in the front two rows of any balcony.
 - (iii) No standing to be permitted in any part of the auditorium during the performance.

Note –Following relevant representations the Licensing Authority will consider attaching conditions to licenses and permissions to prevent harm to children.

22.1 Attendants

- (a) The number of attendants on each floor or tier in a closely seated auditorium shall be as set out on the table below:

Number of members of the audience present on a floor	Minimum number of attendants required to be present on that floor
1-100	One
101-250	Two
251-500	Three
501-750	Four
751-1000	Five
And one additional attendant for each additional 250 persons (or part thereof)	

- (b) Attendants shall not be engaged in any duties that would hinder the prompt discharge of their duties in the event of an emergency or entail their absence from that floor, tier or auditorium where they are on duty.
- (c) Any attendant shall be readily identifiable to the public.

22.2 Standing and sitting in gangways etc

- (a) Sitting on floors shall not be permitted except where authorised in the premises licence or club premises certificate.
- (b) Waiting or standing shall not be permitted except in areas designated in the premises licence or club premises certificate.

(c) In no circumstances shall anyone be permitted to -

- (i) sit in any gangway;
- (ii) stand or sit in front of any exit; or
- (iii) stand or sit on any staircase including any landings.

22.3 Drinks

(a) Except as authorised by the premises licence or club premises certificate, no drinks shall be sold to or be consumed by a closely-seated audience except in plastic and paper containers.

22.4 Balcony Fronts

(a) Clothing or other objects shall not be placed over balcony rails or upon balcony fronts.

22.5 Seating

- (a) The premises shall not be used for a closely-seated audience except in accordance with plans previously submitted to and approved by the Licensing Authority, a copy of which shall be kept available at the premises and shall be shown to any authorised person upon request.
- (b) Where any part of the premises is used for a closely-seated audience exceeding 250 people there shall be an unobstructed seatway or space of at least 305 mm (12 ins) measured between perpendiculars between the back of one seat and the foremost portion of the seat arm or frame immediately behind.
- (c) Where the potential audience exceeds 250 all seats in the auditorium should, except in boxes accommodating not more than 8 persons, be either securely fixed to the floor or battened together in lengths of not fewer than four or more than twelve.
- (d) If tiered seating is provided, the back of the highest level and the ends of the rows shall be provided with an effective safety barrier to the satisfaction of the licensing authority.
- (e) No article shall be attached to the back of any seat which would reduce the clear width of seatways or cause a tripping hazard or obstruction.
- (f) A copy of any certificate relating to the design, construction and loading of any temporary seating shall be kept available at the premises and shall be shown to any authorised person on request.

23. Premises used for film exhibitions

23.1 Attendants – premises without a staff alerting system

(a) Where the premises are not equipped with a staff alerting system the number of attendants present should be as set out in the table below:

Number of members of the audience present on the premises	Minimum number of attendants required to be on duty
1-250	Two
And one additional attendant for each additional 250 members of the audience present (or part thereof)	
Where there are more than 150 members of an audience in any auditorium or on any floor or tier	At least one attendant shall be present in any auditorium or on any floor or tier

23.2 Attendants – premises with a staff alerting system

- (a) Where premises are equipped with a staff alerting system, the number of attendants present should be as set out in the table below:

Number of members of the audience present on the premises	Minimum number of attendants required to be on duty	Minimum number of other staff on the premises who are available to assist in the event of an emergency
1-500	Two	One
501-1000	Three	Two
101-1500	Four	Four
1501 or more	Five plus one for every 500 (or part thereof) persons over 2000 on the premises	Five plus one for every 500 (or part thereof) persons over 2000 on the premises

- (b) Staff shall not be considered as being available to assist in the event of an emergency if they are:
- (i) the holder of the premises licence or the manager on duty at the premises; or
 - (ii) a member of staff whose normal duties or responsibilities are likely to significantly affect or delay his or her response in an emergency situation; or
 - (iii) a member of staff whose usual location when on duty is more than 60 metres from the location to which he or she is required to go on being alerted to an emergency situation.
- (c) Attendants shall as far as is reasonably practicable be evenly distributed throughout all parts of the premises to which the public have access and keep under observation all parts of the premises to which the audience have access.
- (d) The staff alerting system shall be maintained in working order.

23.3 Minimum lighting

- (a) The level of lighting in the auditorium should be as great as possible consistent with the effective presentation of the film.

Note – the level of illumination maintained in the auditorium during the showing of films would normally be regarded as satisfactory if it complies with the standards specified in BS CP 1007: (Maintained Lighting for Cinemas).

Annex F

The prevention of public nuisance

When addressing the public nuisance objective, applicants should initially identify any issues likely to adversely affect the objective and then the steps to deal with them. Such measures on the Operating Schedule might include the following:

- (i) Measures to demonstrate that, between 11.00 pm – 7.00 am: no noise is audible a metre from the façade of the nearest noise sensitive premises, or no noise is audible within the nearest noise sensitive premises. Depending on the individual circumstances, the Licensing Authority look for the provision of an acoustic report.
- (ii) Details of the location and types of noise attenuation measures used to minimise noise and vibration escaping the premises and car parking areas. Such measures may include soundproofing, acoustic lobbies and sound limitation devices.
- (iii) Demonstrate measures to avoid vehicular queuing on the carriageway, and disturbances from patrons queuing on the footpath.
- (iv) Arrangements for and the timing of deliveries to the premises.
- (v) The location of gardens and other open-air areas and the hours of use of such areas.
- (vi) The hours of use of refuse and recycling facilities. The storage capacity, site and screening of such facilities.
- (vii) Identify whether the activity will generate additional litter (including fly posters and/or illegal placards) in the vicinity of the premises, and measures to deal with them.

Possible conditions relating to the prevention of public nuisance**24. Hours**

24.1 The permitted opening hours shall be; or

24.2 The premises shall be closed to the public betweenhours andhours.

24.3 Amplified music or other entertainment noise from within the premises shall not be audible at any residential premises between the hours ofand [Regulated entertainment] or [consumption of alcohol] shall not be permitted in the following areasbetween the times ofhours andhours.

25. Noise and Vibration

25.1 A scheme for the soundproofing of the building shall be submitted to the Licensing Authority. The use of the premises shall not commence until all soundproofing works have been carried out to the satisfaction of the Licensing Authority. The soundproofing works shall be maintained thereafter to the satisfaction of the Licensing Authority.

25.2 Noise or vibration shall not be permitted to emanate from the premises so as to cause a nuisance to nearby properties.

25.3 Doors and windows shall be kept shut during operating hours.

25.4 Amplified sound equipment shall be governed by a sound limiting device set at a level approved by the Licensing Authority.

25.5 Prominent, clear and legible notices shall be displayed at all exits requesting the public to respect the needs of local residents and to leave the premises and the area quietly.

- 25.6 All reasonable steps shall be taken to ensure that people entering or leaving the premises conduct themselves in an orderly manner and do not in any way cause annoyance to residents and people passing by the premises.
- 25.7 The use of explosives, pyrotechnics and fireworks of a similar nature which could cause disturbance in surrounding areas shall be prohibited; or
- 25.8 The use of explosives, pyrotechnics and fireworks of a similar nature which could cause disturbance in surrounding areas shall be prohibited except following prior notification to the Licensing Authority at least ten days in advance.
- 25.9 The placing of bottles into receptacles outside the premises shall only take place between the hours of 8.00 a.m. and 7.00 p.m.

26. Noxious smells

- 26.1 The premises shall be properly vented and noxious smells shall not be permitted to emanate from the premises so as to cause a nuisance to nearby properties.

27. Light pollution

- 27.1 Flashing or particularly bright lights on or outside the premises such as would cause a nuisance to nearby properties shall not be permitted.

28. Litter

- 28.1 Litter bins and / or cigarette butt bins shall be provided in the vicinity of the premises. The number and locations of such bins shall be determined by the Licensing Authority.

Annex G**The protection of children from harm**

When addressing the protection of children from harm objective, applicants should initially identify any issues likely to adversely affect the objective and then the steps to deal with them. Such measures on the Operating Schedule might include the following potential situations for children to:

- (i) Purchase, acquire or consume alcohol in circumstances that are illegal.
- (ii) Be exposed to drugs, drug taking or drug dealing.
- (iii) Be exposed to gambling.
- (iv) Be exposed to activities of an adult or sexual nature including the exhibition of film, or transmission of programmes or videos that include strong language and/or sexual content
- (v) Be exposed to incidents of violence or disorder.
- (vi) Be exposed to environmental pollution such as cigarette smoke or excessive noise. In view of concerns about passive smoking, the Licensing Authority may expect, where necessary, a 'no smoking' area be set aside for use by children.
- (vii) Be exposed to hazards.
- (viii) Purchase cigarettes from vending machines. The Licensing Authority expects these machines to be in sight and under the supervision of bar staff.

Note – This is not intended to be an exhaustive list.

Potential conditions relating to the protection of children from harm**29. Access for children to licensed premises****29.1 Age Restrictions – specific**

- (a) Children under 18 are not permitted on the premises; or
- (b) Children under 18 are not permitted on the premises between hours andhours; or
- (c) Children under 18 are not permitted on the premises (in the following areas) (betweenhours andhours) (during the following licensable activities:.....); and/or
- (d) Children under xx are not permitted on the premises.

29.2 Age Restrictions - Cinemas

(a) Films shall be classified in the following way:

- U - Universal – suitable for audiences aged four years and over
- PG - Parental Guidance - some scenes may be unsuitable for young children
- 12A - passed only for viewing by persons aged 12 years or older or persons younger than 12 when accompanied by an adult
- 15 - passed only for viewing by persons aged 15 years and over
- 18 - passed only for viewing by persons aged 18 years and over

(b) Immediately before each exhibition at the premises of a film passed by the British Board of Film Classification there shall be exhibited on screen for at least five seconds in such a manner as to be easily read by all persons in the auditorium a reproduction of the certificate of the Board or, as regards a trailer advertising a film, of the statement approved by the Board indicating the classification of the film.

- (c) Where a programme includes a film recommended by the Licensing Authority as falling into the 12A, 15 or 18 category no person appearing to be under the age of 12 and unaccompanied, or under 15 or 18 as appropriate, shall be admitted to any part of the programme; and the licence holder shall display in a conspicuous position a notice in the following terms –

PERSONS UNDER THE AGE OF [INSERT APPROPRIATE AGE] CANNOT BE ADMITTED TO ANY PART OF THE PROGRAMME

Where films of different categories form part of the same programme, the notice shall refer to the oldest age restriction.

This condition does not apply to members of staff under the relevant age while on-duty provided that the prior written consent of the person's parent or legal guardian has first been obtained.

29.3 Age Restrictions – Theatres

- (a) Admission of children under 18 shall not be permitted to entertainment incorporating adult entertainment.
- (b) Where performances are presented especially for unaccompanied children attendants shall be stationed in the area(s) occupied by the children, in the vicinity of each exit; on each level occupied by children the minimum number of attendants on duty shall be one attendant per 50 children or part thereof.

29.4 Children in performances

- (a) Backstage facilities shall be of a sufficient size to accommodate safely the number of children taking part in any performance.
- (b) All chaperones and production crew on the show shall receive instruction on the fire procedures applicable to the venue prior to the arrival of the children.
- (c) Special effects, which may trigger adverse reactions especially with regard to children such as smoke, dry ice, rapid pulsating or flashing lights, shall not be used without consent of the Licensing Authority.
- (d) Children performing shall be kept under adult supervision at all times including transer from stage to dressing room and anywhere else on the premises.

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Meeting: **LICENSING AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE**

Date: **29 NOVEMBER 2004**

Subject: **LICENSING ACT 2003**

LICENSING POLICY AND CONSULTATION, FURTHER UPDATE ON THE LICENSING POSITION

Responsible Officer: **CHIEF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH OFFICER**

Contact Officer: **ANDY APPLEBY**

Portfolio Holder: **COUNCILLOR PHIL O'DELL**

Key Decision: **NO**

Section 1: Summary

1. Summary

- 1.1 The Licensing Act 2003 created a new statutory duty for local authorities to licence premises and persons for the sale of alcohol. This Report considers the Draft Licensing Policy for approval. Following consideration by this committee and review by specialist Counsel, Full Council must approve the Policy.
- 1.2 This committee considered reports on the 4th March 2003, 29th September 2003 and most recently on the 16th June 2004. These reports covered the provisions of the legislation in some detail. The licensing regulations that accompany the Act were issued for consultation in October with the draft fees regulations following in early November.
- 1.3 The Licensing Service Manager is now in post and has started the detailed planning and procedures for the new Team and the new duties.

Decision Required

2. **Recommendations (for decision by Licensing and General Purposes Committee)**
 - 2.1 **To consider responses to the Draft Licensing Policy and refer the Policy to Full Council for approval.**

Reason for report

REASON: In order to meet the legislative requirement to approve and publish the Licensing Policy by the statutory deadline of the 7th January 2005.

Implications if recommendations rejected

The Council must approve the Licensing Policy by the statutory deadline or it will be unable to exercise its statutory duties with regard to the Licensing Act 2003.

Section 2: Report

3. Consultation with Ward Councillors

- 3.1 The changes affect the whole Borough. Briefings for elected members in the form of bespoke training events took place in October 2004.
- 3.2 Additional training is scheduled for early February 2005 for those members who are likely to sit on Licensing Panels and determine applications for licences. Officers are currently working on the programme and syllabus, but it is anticipated this can be completed within 5 hours. Prior to sitting on a Panel, members must complete the training to comply with the Licensing Act.. The training will be targeted at the needs of this committee, but would be open to other members with an interest in the subject.

4. Policy Context

- 4.1 The report to this committee on the 4th March 2003, agreed the initial approach to the then Licensing Bill 2002. The report to this committee on the 29th September 2003, considered the Act, agreed the consultees for the Draft Licensing Policy and arrangements for the approval of the Draft Licensing Policy.
- 4.2 At the September 2003 meeting it was expected that the final Statutory Guidance and the Regulations were imminent, based on information issued by DCMS. It is now apparent that the DCMS decided to wait for publication of the Alcohol Harm Reduction Strategy before proceeding with licensing implementation. The Alcohol Harm Reduction Strategy was published in March 2004 and the licensing Statutory Guidance was submitted for the approval of Parliament in April 2004.
- 4.3 At the meeting on the 16th June 2004, this committee received an update on the Act and the work that had been achieved so far in meeting the requirements of the new statutory duties. The statutory guidance to local authorities on the content of Licensing Policies was finally issued on the 17th July 2004.

5. **Relevance to Corporate Priorities**

- 5.1 The prevention of crime and disorder, public safety, the prevention of public nuisances and the protection of children from harm are the stated Licensing Objectives in the Act. Additionally the DCMS expects that the changes to opening hours and the availability of a wide range of customer-oriented premises with a greater flexibility in the sale of alcohol, will assist tourism and the local economy. All these issues are central to Corporate Priorities and have a particular relevance to a Safer Harrow.

6. **Licensing Policy**

- 6.1 The Licensing Policy establishes the basis for applications under the Act, and the way these are determined. Hence the Policy must be complete and approved prior to the commencement of applications to the licensing authority. The Policy is for a three-year period and must be kept under review during this period. In drawing together its Licensing Policy the authority has to:
- Comply with the requirements of the Licensing Act.
 - Have regard to the Statutory Guidance issued to authorities by the Secretary of State under Section 182 of the Act.
 - Consider responses made to the Draft Policy as a part of the consultation.

- 6.2 The Statutory Guidance was issued in July 2004. Officers revised the draft Policy, which was then issued for consultation. Consultees included statutory organisations such as the Metropolitan Police, London Fire and Emergency Planning Authority, Area Child Protection Committee, Harrow Licensing Justices and Harrow Primary Care Trust.
- 6.3 Additional consultation was undertaken with the occupiers of all premises likely to require licensing, residents' representatives including Residents' Associations, Ward Councillors, those groups and persons who responded to the Council's initial awareness raising publicity in May 2003, business representatives, including the Chambers of Commerce, Harrow Town Centre Forum, Harrow in Business.
- 6.4 Internal consultation was undertaken with People First, Planning, Transportation, Crime and Disorder, Drug Action Team, Youth Offending Team. Copies of the Draft Policy were distributed through Libraries and the Council Website.
- 6.5 In total 28 responses to the Draft Policy were received by the deadline. Additional responses were received after the deadline which will be taken into account in due course and on review of the Policy. The following table gives a break down of the responses:

Type of Consultee	Number of Responses	Percentage of Total
Individual resident	7	25%
Residents' Association	4	14%
Business	14	50%
Statutory Organisations	3	11%

- 6.6 To assist consultees with their comments on the Policy, a Reply Form was produced and distributed with the policy. While comments could be submitted in any format, all respondents used the Form. The form provided space for comments on each of the sections of the policy and highlighted a selection of key policies for particular comment or analysis. A copy of the revised Policy is at appendix A. A tabulated summary of the substantive responses is attached at appendix B.

7. Approval by Full Council

- 7.1 On the 14th September LACORS published the DCMS Order that appointed the 7th February as the start of the transitional period for the conversion of existing licences. Guidance issued with this notification stated that the Policy must now be published by the 7th January 2004, in

accordance with the Order, which is contrary to earlier guidance from LACORS.

- 7.2 To clarify the position Harrow has sought the advice of specialist Licensing Counsel as to whether the Policy can be published by 7th January 2005 as a draft, but subject to approval in accordance with the earlier guidance. Counsel has confirmed that in his opinion the Policy must be approved by Full Council prior to publication and that following the Order by DCMS there is no choice in this matter.
- 7.3 DCMS have stated that the approval of the Licensing Policy is to take place at full Council and further, "there should be no delegation of the function to the local authority's Executive." There is no discretion in this respect.
- 7.4 It will be necessary for the recommendation from Licensing and General Purposes Committee to be confirmed at a special meeting of Council to be held before the 7th January 2005. This is required by the Regulations. Discussions will take place as to how this can best be achieved.

8. Consultation

- 8.1 This Committee considered the issue of consultation in detail at the meeting of the 29th September 2003 and agreed the approach to consultation on the Licensing Policy.

9. Finance Observations

- 9.1 The funding for the initial three years (2003/4, 2004/5 and 2005/6) of the new statutory duty was approved by Cabinet on the 18th February 2003. The ongoing revenue costs are intended in the legislation to be offset by income from licensing fees and charges. However, the Government will set these fees and charges centrally and final details are still awaited.
- 9.2 The expenditure plans and projected income have been reported through the Medium Term Revenue Budget Strategy planning process and will be considered by Cabinet as part of the review of the Council's Budget.

10. Legal Observations

- 10.1 Legal matters are covered in the body of the report.
- 10.2 It is advised that specialist Licensing Counsel reviews the Policy and the way it reflects the comments arising from the consultation. This review is to take place as soon as practicable.

11. Conclusion

- 11.1 The Licensing Act creates a new system of personal and premises licensing out of existing systems of public entertainments, night café and liquor licensing. A part of these changes will be a liberalisation of licensing hours, whilst retaining safeguards for local residents and the community. Fundamental to the approach of licensing authorities will be the statement of Licensing Policy, which will also provide the baseline for decisions on individual applications.
- 11.2 Officers will continue to review the proposals regarding the extent of the new powers as they become clear and report these to the Committee for decision.

Section 3: Supporting Information/ Background Documents

- 11.1 Licensing Act, available on the Stationery Office web site at:

<http://www.legislation.hmso.gov.uk/acts/acts2003/20030017.htm>

- 11.2 Explanatory Notes to the Licensing Act, available at:

<http://www.legislation.hmso.gov.uk/acts/en/2003en17.htm>

- 11.3 Statutory Guidance, available at:

http://www.culture.gov.uk/alcohol_and_entertainment/default.htm

- 11.4 Alcohol Harm Reduction Strategy for England

<http://www.strategy.gov.uk/su/alcohol/index.htm>