

Report of	Licensing, Food and Safety Manager	Author	Jon Ruder
Title	Amendments to the Licensing Policy		☎ 282840
Wards affected	Not applicable		

This report details a proposed change to the Statement of Licensing Policy to include the Public Space Protection Order

1. Decisions Required

- 1.1 Members are asked to consider the proposed amendment to the Licensing Policy to include a reference to the Public Space Protection Order (PSPO).

2. Reasons for Decisions

- 2.1 The PSPO is part of the Council's integrated approach to managing the town centre during the day and night and aims to ensure that people in the town centre can go about their business without being subjected to activities that have a detrimental effect on their quality of life.

3. Alternative Options

- 3.1 To leave the Policy unchanged.

4. Matters for consideration

- 4.1 It is suggested that the following paragraph be added to the policy -

The Council has put in place a Public Space Protection Order for the Town Centre because it was satisfied that activities carried out in the area were having a detrimental effect on the quality of life of those in the locality and had given rise to complaints. The prohibitions introduced by the PSPO support and contribute to achieving the aim of the Licensing Policy to create desirable destinations for a variety of people.

5. Strategic Plan References

- 5.1 The Statement of Licensing Policy attempts to strike a difficult but reasonable and proportionate balance between the different and often competing aspirations of licensed businesses and residents. This Policy recognises the importance of widening the choice and appeal of licensed premises and the development of cultural, social and community activities while at the same time offering reasonable and proportionate protections to local residents, visitors and other non-licensed businesses. The policy is in line with the Council's vision to create a Borough that is vibrant, prosperous, thriving and welcoming.

6. Consultation and Publicity Considerations

- 6.1 The original Policy was the subject of an extensive consultation process as prescribed by the Licensing Act 2003. In view of the fact that addition does not change the Policy it is not considered that a wholesale consultation is necessary; the revised Policy will be placed on the Council's website.

7. Financial Implications

- 7.1 There may be costs incurred in defending any action brought against the Council which seeks to judicially review the Statement of Licensing Policy.

8. Equality, Diversity and Human Rights Implications

- 8.1 The draft revised Statement of Licensing Policy has been prepared in accordance with and taken account of, all relevant legislation. There is an Equality Impact Assessment in Place for the Policy.

9. Community Safety Implications

- 9.1 The Licensing Policy is a key component in the Council's strategy to tackle crime and disorder and anti-social behaviour, particularly alcohol related anti-social behaviour and as such it will contribute significantly towards improving overall community safety.

10. Health and Safety Implications

- 10.1 There is no known direct public health and safety issues arising from the adoption of the amended Licensing Policy.

11. Risk Management Implications

- 11.1 A flexible yet robust revised Statement of Licensing Policy will continue to provide both the Council and the Licensing Authority with a sound basis for decision making in relation to licensed premises and a secure platform from which to promote the four licensing objectives as outlined in the Licensing Act 2003.