

11 November 2020

Report of	Licensing, Food and Safety Manager	Author	Jon Ruder ☎ 282840
Title	Review of the Statement of Licensing Policy // Results of Consultation		
Wards affected	All		

1. Executive Summary

- 1.1 The report seeks the Committee's approval of the draft Statement of Licensing Policy, following a period of public consultation, and recommends its adoption to full Council.

2. Recommended Decisions

- 2.1 That any comments received following the consultation exercise, undertaken for the five-year review of the Statement of Licensing Policy, be considered.
- 2.2 That the Policy, attached at Appendix 1 to the report, be approved with any necessary amendments, and its adoption be recommended to full Council.

3. Reasons for Recommended Decision

- 3.1 Under the Licensing Act 2003, the Council needs to review and readopt a Statement of Licensing Policy every five years.

4. Alternative Options

- 4.1 There is no alternative option and the Policy must be reviewed and readopted in order to be compliant with the current Licensing Act 2003 legislation.

5. Supporting Information

- 5.1 The Committee, at its last meeting, approved the Draft Statement of Licensing Policy for the purposes of consultation. The consultation process ran between 8 October and 6 November 2020 and at the point of writing this report no responses have been received. The Committee will be aware that a light touch was taken to the review of the Policy in the light of the challenges posed by the Pandemic; a large number of responses to the consultation were not expected because of this.

6. Strategic Plan References

- 6.1 The proposed draft review of 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 businesses.

7. Publicity Considerations

- 7.1 The Policy will be available to view and download from the Council's website.

8. Financial Considerations

- 8.1 There may be costs incurred in defending any action brought against the Council by persons wishing to challenge the Statement of Licensing Policy by way of a Judicial Review. However, by carrying out the required consultation in accordance with the law and the Section 182 Guidance, the risk of such action is minimised.

9. Equality, Diversity and Human Rights Implications

- 9.1 The draft revised Statement of Licensing Policy has been developed in accordance with and taken account of, all relevant legislation and national and local strategies.

10. Community Safety Implications

- 10.1 The Licensing Policy is a key part of the controls on the sale of alcohol and as such it will contribute towards improving overall community safety.

11. Health and Safety Implications

- 11.1 There is no known direct public health and safety issues which might arise from the adoption of the draft revised Licensing Policy. Act 2003.

12. Risk Management Implications

- 12.1 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.

13. Environmental and Sustainability References

- 13.1 There are no known environmental and sustainability considerations arising from the adoption of the revised Policy.