



Licensing Committee

Date: FRIDAY, 27 SEPTEMBER 2013

Time: 10.00 AM

- Venue: COMMITTEE ROOM 4 4A CIVIC CENTRE, HIGH STREET, UXBRIDGE UB8 1UW
- MeetingMembers of the Public andDetails:Press are welcome to attendthis meeting

Councillors on the Committee:

Dominic Gilham (Chairman) Mike Bull David Yarrow (Vice-Chairman) Josephine Barrett Judy Kelly Peter Kemp Carol Melvin Brian Stead Lynne Allen (Labour Lead) Janet Gardner

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Agenda

1	Apologies for Absence
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2 Declarations of Interest in matters coming before this meeting

Part 1 - Members, Press and Public

3	To agree the minutes of the meeting held on 5 June 2013	Pages - 1 - 8
4	Personal Licence Consultation	Pages - 9 - 44
5	Addressing the Problems with Super Strength Alcohol & Street Drinkers	Pages - 45 - 60
6	Scrap Metal Dealers Act 2013	Pages - 61 - 66
7	Update on Ladbrokes Licensing Appeal	Pages - 67 - 68

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Minutes

LICENSING COMMITTEE

5 June 2013



Meeting held at Committee Room 5 - Civic Centre, High Street, Uxbridge UB8 1UW

	Committee Members Present: Councillors Dominic Gilham (Chairman) David Yarrow (Vice-Chairman) Lynne Allen (Labour Lead) Josephine Barrett Judy Kelly Peter Kemp Carol Melvin Brian Stead Janet Gardner LBH Officers Present: Beejal Soni, Legal Advisor	
	Stephanie Waterford, Licensing Manager Sharon Garner, Licensing Officer Ian Meens, Licensing Officer	
	Nadia Williams, Democratic Services Officer	
	Also Present: PC Ian Wares, Metropolitan Police Service	
33.	APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE (Agenda Item 1)	
	There were no apologies for absence notified.	
34.	DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST IN MATTERS COMING BEFORE THIS MEETING (Agenda Item 2)	
	There were no declarations of interest notified.	
35.	TO AGREE THE MINUTES OF THE MEETINGS HELD ON 18 APRIL AND 9 MAY 2013 (Agenda Item 3)	
	The minutes of the meetings held on 18 April and 9 May 2013 were agreed as an accurate record.	
36.	LICENSING ACT 2003 DEREGULATION (Agenda Item 4)	Action by
	In introducing the report, the Licensing officer highlighted that the Government had introduced a draft regulations relating to the deregulation of Schedule 1 of the Licensing Act 2003, which sought the removal of the requirement for a licence in England and Wales in the following areas:	
L	1	

	Performance of Plays and Performance of Dance – Licenses would no longer be required in these areas, as long as performances took place between 8am and 11pm with no more than 500 people in the audience. It was noted that a licence would be required where the audience exceeded the 500 limit.	
ו א	Indoor Sporting Events – Licenses for these events would not be required, as long as performances took place between 8am and 11pm with an audience of no more than 1000 people. Events in excess of this figure would also require a licence.	
t	Members were directed to note that amendments had also been made to definition of 'Boxing & Wrestling', which now included mixed martial arts requiring ring/cage fighting events to be licenced.	
	The Licensing officer advised that the Live Music Act 2012 deregulated live music in certain premises between certain times and deregulation of Schedule 1 of the Licensing Act 2003, were in addition to those provisions.	
	It was noted that the draft regulations relating to the deregulations were being debated in the House of Lords on 3 June 2013 to be passed in the House of Commons. Members of the Committee would be notified once the regulations had been passed by Parliament and became statute.	
	In answer to a query regarding the use of Temporary Events Notices (TENs), officers advised that no changes had been made in this area.	
	Members expressed concerns about the monitoring of indoor sporting events, which may attract audience in excess of 1000 people.	
1	Officers explained that such events included only those with spectator audience.	
	The Chairman requested officers to provide a list of indoor venues in the Borough which accommodated more than 500 people.	
	Resolved that officers:	
	1. Notify the Committee when the draft regulations relating to the deregulation of Schedule 1 of the Licensing Act 2003 was enacted.	Beejal Soni Stephanie Waterford
	2. Provide a list of indoor venues in the Borough which accommodated more than 500 people.	
37. (OPERATION CONDOR UPDATE (Agenda Item 5)	Action by
	Officers directed the Committee to note the report on Operation Condor, which was an exercise conducted by the Metropolitan Police Service, supported by the Local Authority, where high risk and non- compliant premises were visited in the Borough between Friday 26 and Saturday 27 April 2013.	

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	It was noted that most of the premises visited had complied with the regulations and conditions. However Licensing officers observed a number of minor breaches, which were mostly related to drinks measures and some drunk and disorderly behaviour.	
	Members were advised that officers were also now working closely with betting premises to resolve minor compliant issues that had been observed.	
	Officers highlighted that during the exercise, a drug warrant had been executed, as well as the enforcement of a closure notice to the Tommy Flynns Public House in Hillingdon.	
	A number of test purchases carried out in off- Licences at the same time by Trading Standards officers during the same period had resulted in the issuing of 6 penalty notices for underage sales of alcohol.	
	A Member welcomed the initiative but expressed concern that some premises may have been alerted in advance about the days and times of the operation, suggesting that such premises would therefore have had the opportunity to be prepared. PC Wares advised that Operation Condors were usually carried out two to three times annually at various times unannounced.	
	The Committee noted that penalty notices had been enforced during the operation and indicated that an accurate list setting out the number of times that each premises had either received a waning, or been issued penalty notices would be useful.	
	Resolved	
	The Committee requested officers to provide a list of the premises that had been issued with a warning and Penalty Notices, prior to and during the 26 and 27 April 2013 Operation Condor.	Stephanie Waterford
38.	REDUCING THE STRENGTH (Agenda Item 6)	Action by
	In introducing the report, officers advised that the 'Reducing the Strength' was a scheme that had been implemented in Ipswich to control the sale of 'Super Strength' alcohol at a cheap price in off- licences. This type of alcohol was often brought by people with drug dependent issues and by young vulnerable people.	
	To take part in the scheme, Licensees in Ipswich were invited to voluntarily sign up, by applying to the Licensing Authority for a minor variation, to add a condition to their licence restricting the sale of super strength alcohol. Out of 130 off licences, 53 had voluntarily signed up to the scheme.	
	It was noted that since the introduction of the scheme Suffolk Police had seen a reduction in alcohol-related crime and disorder. Officers stated that the scheme had been brought to the Committee's attention to consider whether this was an initiative that Members may	

wish to encourage in Hillingdon.

The Chairman noted that 40% of the off licences had signed up for the scheme in Ipswich and suggested that with 200 off licences in Hillingdon, operating such a scheme on a voluntary basis would cause great concerns, particularly as it was highly likely to lead to hotspots in the Borough.

A Member added that should this lead to hotspots, these could be reviewed as they emerged. Officers advised that problem areas were currently being reviewed in Hillingdon as they emerged.

The Chairman advised that the Committee would require additional information before giving consideration for such a scheme to be operated in Hillingdon. In particular, Members would require the following additional information:

- Figures setting out the percentage of alcohol related violence in the Borough
- Figures in respect of the number of alcohol related issues dealt with in hospitals
- A list of areas currently adversely affected by the sale of strong alcohol
- Investigation of concerns as to how the situation would be dealt with in a scenario where there were several off licences in a road with just one volunteering to join the scheme whilst the other off licences choose not to.

A Member suggested that there was a need for the Council to use proactive measures in dealing with such issues, particular in areas where the issue was prolific, such as the area adjacent to the canal in Hayes.

Officers commented that the entire Borough had been designated a 'Controlled Drinking Zone' and that Police held the power to enforce dispersal when necessary.

The Legal Advisor added that, as well as staffing and patrolling of the scheme, it must be noted that the scheme would also need to be enforced.

PC Wares added that Police resources had recently been stretched, due to recent incidents and the introduction of the new Policing Model. It was noted however, that dedicated officers would be posted back in areas the changes had settled. PC Wares advised that Inspector George would be visiting Suffolk Police to discus the scheme further and suggested that perhaps the Hayes canal areas could be used as a pilot.

Resolved that:

- 1. The Reducing the Strength report be noted.
- 2. Officers investigate and provide further details as set

	out below:	
	 Figures setting out the percentage of alcohol related violence in the Borough Figures in respect of the number of alcohol related issues dealt with in hospitals A list of areas currently adversely affected by the sale of strong alcohol Investigation of concerns as to how the situation would be dealt with in a scenario where there were several off licences in a road with just one volunteering to join the scheme whilst the other off licences choose not to. 	Stephanie Waterford PC Ian Wares
39.	MATTERS IN COURT (Agenda Item 7)	Action by
	Officers directed Members to note the update report on the Licensing Matters in Court.	Beejal Soni
	Judicial Review – Asgar and Gill v London Borough of Hillingdon	
	The Legal Advisor reported that in respect of the Judicial Review relating to Asgar and Gill v London Borough of Hillingdon, the appellant had giving notice to their solicitor to withdraw from this matter. In addition, the Council had placed the appellant on notice and would further pursue the solicitor personally, which may result in the appellant paying the Council's costs.	
	Tamara Lounge Appeal	
	The Licensing Manger gave a verbal update on Tamara Lounge and explained that there had been a review of the premises licence in September 2012, which had resulted in conditions being imposed. These conditions were subsequently the subject of an appeal which had now been listed at the Magistrates Court for 25 June 2013, following a delay in the Court tracing the documents.	
	The Legal Advisor added that following discussions with the solicitors acting for Tamara Lounge, an acceptable proposal may be submitted in order to settle out of court.	
	Ladbrokes Appeal	
	Members were informed that following a case hearing meeting on 28 May 2013, The Council had given an indication that it would be defending its position. Officers advised that two days in September 2013 had been set aside for the full appeal hearing.	
	Resolved	
	That the report on the Licensing Matters and the verbal updates provided at the meeting be noted.	

40.	20 MAY 2013 - APPLICATIONS RECEIVED (Agenda Item 8)	Action by
	Resolved	
	That the Committee note that list of applications received and processed by the Licensing Service up to 20 May 2013.	
41.	APPLICATION TABLE (Agenda Item 9)	Action by
	The Committee noted that the list of new premises licence applications received by the Licensing Services showed that 50% of the applications had been submitted by off licences.	
	Resolved	
	That the list of New Premises licence applications for the period of May to April 2013 be noted.	
42.	ANY OTHER BUSINESS (Agenda Item)	Action by
	Encouraging greater reporting from members of the public A Member suggested that there should be publicity encouraging members of the public to report concerns about off licences selling alcohol to people who were already intoxicated.	
	PC Wares advised that most off licences were required to and now had CCTV installed in their premises, which they were obliged to run and retained for 30 days. Therefore, should a report relating to incidents such as the sale of drugs be received, officers would have sufficient time to seize the evidence (in conjunction with the Police). If however, it transpired that CCTV was not in working order, the Police had the power to close the premises.	
	The Chairman added that such details should be included in the Information provided during Operation Condor and should also be publicised on the Council's website in order to raise awareness and encourage members of the public to report such issues of concern.	
	General Updates	
	The Chairman advised that there were some areas in need of updating and following discussions, the Committee agreed the areas as listed below:	
	 Hearing Protocols for New Premises Licence, Reviews, Gambling, Sex Establishments Renaming the Licensing Sub-Committees from 'North' and 'South' (as this was considered to be misleading) to 'A' and 'B' Requested officers to provide details of the application history when writing reports Following Sub-Committee hearings, the decisions to be circulated to Sub-Committee Members electronically. 	Beejal Soni Licensing Service Democratic Services

Resolved	
That officers follow-up the list of actions as set out above.	
The meeting, which commenced at 10.00 am, closed at 11.00 am.	

These are the minutes of the above meeting. For more information on any of the resolutions please contact Danielle Watson on 01895 277 488. Circulation of these minutes is to Councillors, Officers, the Press and Members of the Public.

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Agenda Item 4

CONSULTATION ON A LOCAL ALTERNATIVE TO PERSONAL LICENCES

ITEM

Committee	Licensing Committee	
Officer Contact	Sharon Garner x7230	
Papers with report	Appendix 1 – Consultation Paper Appendix 2 – Impact Assessment	
Ward(s) affected	All	

SUMMARY

To inform the Committee of the consultation to abolish personal licences.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Committee instruct Officers to draft a response to the Consultation.

INFORMATION

The Government has published a consultation document on its proposal to abolish personal licences. The consultation started on 12th September 2013 and finishes on 7th November 2013.

Under the current legislation, all sales of alcohol must be authorised by a personal licence holder. Additionally, all premises selling alcohol must specify the Designated Premises Supervisor (DPS) for that premises, who must hold a personal licence.

The consultation suggests keeping two national benchmarks for training and CRB checks and asks for views on requiring all alcohol sales to be made or authorised by the Designated Premises Supervisor rather than a personal licence holder. It also suggests requiring a CRB declaration to be provided with any future applications to vary the Designated Premises Supervisor.

The Government also proposes to enable Local Authorities to impose conditions on a premises licence following a Review of the licence, requiring all staff selling alcohol to carry out training, as accredited by the Secretary of State, in problem premises.

In the event of personal licences being abolished, the law will change with regard to the number of Temporary Event Notices (TENs) to allow a person who is either the named DPS of a premises licence or the holder of an accredited training course to give 50 TENs a year. Anyone who does not meet the criteria will only be allowed to give 5 TENs a year.

Currently, anyone who holds a personal licence can give 50 TENs a year and non-personal licence holders can only give 5 TENs a year.

PART 1 – MEMBERS, PUBLIC AND PRESS

Licensing Committee – 27 September 2013

The abolishing of personal licences will also affect many current conditions imposed on the licence by the Licensing Sub-Committee stipulating that there shall be one or more personal licence holders on the premises whilst alcohol is sold. Such conditions will become void.

The consultation paper and impact assessment are attached to this report as Appendix 1 and Appendix 2 respectfully.



Consultation Personal Alcohol Licences: Enabling Targeted, Local Alternatives

September 2013

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Ministerial foreword

This Government has already reformed licensing to give more power to local people and individuals – residents, licensing authorities and police officers – who are best placed to tackle alcohol-related harms. And where previous governments looked for top down solutions, our recent response to the Alcohol Strategy consultation set out how government, local people and industry all have a role to play.



Alcohol doesn't always cause problems, though. For example, in local pubs, at museums, galleries, sports clubs and charity events, alcohol can bind communities together and drive local growth – if sold responsibly. That is why, while taking a firm line on the harms caused by alcohol, this Government has also committed, where possible, to cut red tape for businesses without undermining important safeguards against alcohol-related harm.

Our consultation response has already detailed a range of measures to free up responsible businesses, from increasing the limit for Temporary Event Notices from 12 to 15 to introducing a brand new authorisation for community and ancillary sellers. But there's more that can be done.

Responses to the Alcohol Strategy consultation suggested that the system of personal licences may not always be the most efficient and effective way of tackling crime and disorder. Its cost to businesses – in application fees, training and criminal records checks – is significant. And yet it applies to everyone in the same way, regardless of local circumstance or risk. We have already announced that we will reform the system by removing the requirement to renew them. However, we believe that there may be a way to further enable better and more targeted alternatives to the system as a whole.

This consultation seeks your views on our ideas for how that might happen.

Jim to Ju ____

Jeremy Browne MP Minister of State for Crime Prevention

About this consultation

Scope of the consultation

Topic of this consultation:	This consultation seeks your views on whether personal licences should be abolished, enabling licensing authorities to apply relevant conditions to premises licences where appropriate.
Scope of this consultation:	Licensing authorities, the police, the licensed trade
Geographical scope:	England and Wales
Impact Assessment (IA):	A consultation stage IA is included with the consultation document.

Basic information

То:	We are keen to hear from everyone who would be affected by the measure, including licensing authorities, residents' groups, police, the trade and health bodies.
Duration:	The consultation runs for eight weeks from 12 September to 7 November.
Enquiries:	personallicencesconsultation@homeoffice.gsi.gov.uk
How to respond:	Information on how to respond can be found on GOV.UK. Responses can be submitted online through the Home Office website www.gov.uk/government/consultations/ personal-alcohol-licences-enabling-targeted-local-alternatives or by post by sending responses to:
	Alcohol Team Drugs and Alcohol Unit Home Office 4th Floor Fry Building 2 Marsham Street London SW1P 4DF
Additional ways to become involved:	Please contact the Home Office (as above) if you require information in any other format, such as Braille, large font or audio. The department is obliged to both offer, and provide on request, these formats under the Equality Act 2010.
After the consultation:	Responses will be analysed and a 'Response to the Consultation' document will be published. This will explain the Government's final policy intentions. All responses will be treated as public, unless stated otherwise.

1. Introduction

- 1. Alcohol-related crime and anti-social behaviour is unacceptable, costly and dangerous. In 47% of violent incidents, the victim believed the perpetrator to be under the influence of alcohol and a fifth of all violent incidents took place in or around a pub or club¹. The cost of alcohol misuse in England alone is estimated at £21 billion a year².
- 2. The Government has set out in its Alcohol Strategy, and in its recently published response to the Alcohol Strategy consultation, a whole range of national and local measures to tackle these alcohol-related harms. Nonetheless, the stark statistics about harmful drinking should not distort the wider picture of alcohol's place in our national life. In local pubs, at museums, galleries, sports clubs and charity events, alcohol makes for more vibrant communities. As the alcohol industry supports 1.8 million jobs across the country, it makes them richer and encourages growth, too³.
- 3. In the vast majority of these cases, alcohol is consumed responsibly and sold by responsible businesses. One of the main focuses of this Government has been to free up this responsible majority from unnecessary red tape to help drive local growth while maintaining the safeguards needed to tackle the irresponsible behaviour of a few.
- 4. In its response to the Alcohol Strategy consultation, the Government has already set out some of the ways it will make alcohol licensing more targeted, proportionate and flexible. These include increasing the TENs limit from 12 to 15, allowing for a more flexible and proportionate approach to late night refreshment, and creating a new, light touch authorisation for community and ancillary sellers of alcohol the Community and Ancillary Notice (CAN).
- 5. In addition, the Government will also reform the system of personal licences. First, we do not believe that renewing personal licences every ten years is an effective or proportionate way to tackle crime and disorder. We have therefore committed to removing that requirement. The Government has also listened to wider concerns that the whole system of personal licences itself may be poorly targeted and ineffective. Secondly, then, it also committed to consulting on the abolition of personal licences altogether.
- 6. This consultation sets out the Government's proposal for how alcohol licensing would work if personal licences were abolished. It seeks your views on whether this would reduce burdens on business or undermine the four licensing objectives⁴.

- 1 Office for National Statistics (2013). Crime Statistics, Focus on: violent and sexual offences, 2011/12.
- 2 The Government's Alcohol Strategy (2012).

4 The four licensing objectives are: public safety; preventing crime and disorder; preventing public nuisance; and protecting children from harm.

³ The economic outlook for the UK drinks sector and the impact of the changes to excise duty and VAT

announced in the 2008 Budget and Pre-Budget Report, Oxford Economics (February 2009).

2. Proposal

The current system of personal licences

- 7. The current system of personal licences requires that all alcohol sales be made or authorised by a personal licence holder. At the same time, the Designated Premises Supervisor (DPS) in relation to licensed premises must hold a personal licence.
- 8. This system uses two key safeguards to ensure that alcohol is sold responsibly and to prevent crime and disorder at licensed premises. First, personal licences may be denied to, or forfeited from, those who have criminal convictions for certain offences. Secondly, applicants for a personal licence must be trained. To ensure a level playing field for bar staff nationally, these safeguards are qualified by two 'benchmarks' set by Government:
 - i. only offences listed as relevant under the 2003 Act may be considered as a basis for denying the grant of, or revoking, a personal licence; and
 - ii. only training courses accredited by the Secretary of State are valid for applications.

Weaknesses of the current system

- 9. Following our discussions with partners during the Alcohol Strategy consultation, we have become concerned that this system may not be effective in ensuring responsible sales and tackling crime and disorder. For example, although all alcohol sales must be at least authorised by a personal licence holder, it is not always the case, in practice, that a personal licence holder is present on the premises at all times to do this. Moreover, no person working at licensed premises except the DPS is required to hold a personal licence. All this would seem to restrict the system's ability to prevent those with criminal records and a poor understanding of alcohol harms from working at, or even managing, a licensed premises.
- 10. Finally, and perhaps most fundamentally, the system is not targeted. It is a national, blanket requirement. All premises, from the riskiest to the quietest, must comply with it and incur significant costs in training, application fees and criminal records checks as a result. This Government questions whether this is appropriate for all licensed premises.

Premises licence conditions as a local alternative

11. Licensing authorities already have the power to impose conditions on premises licences, as long as those conditions are precise, enforceable and appropriate to promote the licensing objectives for the premises in question. They are a flexible tool: conditions may, for example, require that CCTV be installed or that door staff be present. They may also, already, require strict training requirements of those selling alcohol, over and above the requirements already in place through the personal licences regime.

12. The Government recognises that the safeguards afforded by personal licences – training and criminal records checks – are important tools that may be appropriate in specific cases. However, conditions added to premises licences could provide a better and more targeted way of applying these safeguards. Licensing authorities and the police would have a more flexible tool at their disposal over which they had local control. Well run businesses, for their part, would no longer have to spend money on unnecessary training and criminal records checks.

Enabling the local alternative

- 13. To ensure that licensing authorities could use such conditions in a flexible and effective way, if this proposal were taken forward the Government could maintain, and even strengthen, existing legislation in two key ways.
- 14. First, we could keep the national benchmarks for training and criminal records checks. At present, these ensure that a level playing field for business exists across the country. In the event that personal licences were abolished, these benchmarks would still ensure that, if training or criminal records checks were required at a premises, businesses would not have to comply with different standards from one licensing authority to another. For example, we believe that removing the Government's accreditation of training courses could increase burdens on business if employees had to be trained multiple times to comply with different local standards.
- 15. Secondly, we could strengthen existing legislation in several areas. We could:
 - i. Require all alcohol sales to be made or authorised by the DPS, rather than a personal licence holder
 - ii. Allow the police to object to a new DPS based on the crime prevention objective in general, rather than only in 'exceptional circumstances'
 - iii. Allow licensing authorities to require a criminal records declaration to be provided with any new application to vary a DPS
 - iv. Allow those who either are named as the DPS in relation to a premises licence or have accredited training to give up to 50 Temporary Event Notices (TENs) a year; those without would be limited to giving five.
- 16. Finally, to make any conditions requiring training easy to enforce for the police and licensing authorities, we would work with training providers to ensure that training certificates can be provided in a readily available and easily recognisable form.
- 17.A summary of this proposal, including the above potential changes to legislation, is at Annex A of this consultation document. An Impact Assessment, explaining how it would affect business, is also available on GOV.UK. Questions based on this proposal are set out at Section 4.

3. Information about you

The following questions ask for some information about you. The purpose of these questions is to provide some context on your consultation responses and to enable us to assess the impact of the proposals on different groups of people. By providing this information you are giving your consent for us to process and use this information in accordance with the Data Protection Act 1998.

Company name or organisation:

Which of the following best describes you or the professional interest you represent? Please select one box from the list below:

- Individual involved in licensed trade/club premises
- Small or medium sized enterprise involved in licensed trade/club premises (up to 50 employees)
- () Large business involved in licensed trade/club premises
- Trade body representing the licensed trade/club premises or alcohol producers
- Alcohol-related best practice scheme
- Person or organisation specialising in licensing law
- () Voluntary and community organisation
 -) Licensing authority if yes, please specify:

- Licensing authority officer ()
- \bigcirc Public health body (e.g. Primary Care Trust, Local Health Board, Director of Public Health)
- \bigcirc Local Government (other)
- \bigcirc \bigcirc \bigcirc Police and crime commissioner
 - Police force
 - Police officer
- \bigcirc Member of the public
- \bigcirc Other (specify in the box below):

4. Questions

Question 1: Do you think the Government's proposal would reduce burdens, in terms of time and/or money, on business, including small and medium enterprises?

Yes No D/K

Question 2: Do you think this proposal would undermine the licensing objectives? The four licensing objectives are: public safety; preventing crime and disorder; preventing public nuisance; and protecting children from harm.

Yes No D/K

Question 3: Do you think nationally accredited training courses for those authorising alcohol sales are necessary to help licensing authorities promote the licensing objectives?

Yes No D/K

Question 4: Do you think a statutory list of relevant offences, such as theft or handling stolen goods, is necessary to help licensing authorities promote the licensing objectives?

Yes No D/K

Question 5: For what proportion of premises in your area do you think conditions requiring nationally accredited training would be appropriate?

<10% 25% 50% 75% >90%

Question 6: For what proportion of premises in your area do you think conditions requiring criminal records declarations for future Designated Premises Supervisors would be appropriate?

<10% 25% 50% 75% >90%

Question 7: Below, please provide evidence to support the answers you've given, making clear to which question the evidence refers.

Question 8: Is there anything else you think the Government should consider?

5. Glossary

Designated Premises Supervisor	Under the 2003 Act, licensed premises that authorise the sale of alcohol must, in most cases, have a DPS specified in the licence. Only a person who holds a personal licence can be a DPS.					
The Government's Alcohol Strategy	Published on 23 March 2012, the Strategy sets out how to tackle the problems caused by people drinking to excess.					
The Licensing Act 2003	The 2003 Act established a single, integrated scheme for licensing premises which are used for the sale or supply of alcohol, the provision of regulated entertainment, or the provision of Late Night Refreshment.					
The licensing objectives	Licensing authorities are defined in the 2003 Act. They are primarily district councils or unitary authorities in England and county boroughs in Wales. Licensing authorities grant and administer premises licences, club premises certificates and temporary event notices in their area, as well as, for example, personal licences and renewals of personal licences.					
Personal licences	Under the 2003 Act, each sale of alcohol under a premises licence must, with some exceptions, be made under the authority of a personal licence holder. A personal licence does not need to be associated with specific premises, and a person can apply for a personal licence if they are not currently working at any licensed premises.					
Temporary Event Notice (TEN)	Under the 2003 Act, a TEN enables the person who gave the TEN to carry on licensable activities (including selling alcohol) on an occasional basis without any other authorisation. The TEN must be given to the licensing authority, the police, and the environmental health authority (EHA). The police or the EHA can object on grounds related to any of the licensing objectives. There are limits on the number of TENs a person may give each year or the number of TENs which may be given in relation to specific premises. It is an offence to carry on a licensable activity without an appropriate authorisation.					

6. Annex A – Proposal Summary

Our proposal to abolish personal licences would cut unnecessary bureaucracy for businesses while maintaining key safeguards to tackle irresponsible premises. As well as abolishing personal licences, we would maintain, or even strengthen, existing legislation in several ways. We would:

- i. Amend the mandatory conditions to require all alcohol sales to be authorised by the DPS, rather than a personal licence holder;
- ii. Allow the police to object under s.37 of the 2003 Act to a new DPS based on the crime prevention objective in general, rather than only in 'exceptional circumstances';
- iii. Allow licensing authorities to require a criminal records declaration with each new change of a DPS; and
- iv. Allow those who either are named as the DPS on a premises licence or have accredited training to give up to 50 Temporary Event Notices (TENs) a year; those without would be limited to giving only five.

	Now	Proposal			
Who must be trained?	All personal licence holders, in effect:The DPS in relation to a premises licenceThose who may authorise alcohol sales	No-one ; unless required to be trained by a condition imposed on the premises licence			
What is the benchmark for training?	All training courses must be accredited by the Sec	pretary of State			
How can training be checked?	Inspection of the personal licence application ; and subsequently the personal licence itself at a premises				
Who must provide a criminal records check?	Applicants for, and those renewing, personal licences, in effect:	No-one			
Who must provide a criminal records declaration?	 The DPS in relation to a premises licence Those who may authorise alcohol sales 	No-one ; unless a condition imposed on a premises licence requires that all future applications to vary the DPS be accompanied by a criminal records declaration			
What is the benchmark for criminal convictions?	Only those offences listed as relevant in Schedule considered	those offences listed as relevant in Schedule 4 to the Licensing Act 2003 may be dered			

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Title: A consultation on a local alternative to personal licences	Impact Assessment (IA)		
IA No: HO0092	Date: 23 July 2013Stage: ConsultationSource of intervention: Domestic		
Lead department or agency:			
Home Office			
Other departments or agencies: N/A	Type of measure: Primary legislation		
	Contact for enquiries : Rob Williams (robertthomas.williams9@homeoffice.gsi.gov. uk)		
Summary: Intervention and Options	RPC Opinion: N/A		
Cost of Preferred (or more l	ikely) Option		

Total Net Present	Business Net	Net cost to business per	In scope of One-In,	Measure qualifies as
Value	Present Value	year (EANCB on 2009 prices)	Two-Out?	
£139m	£139m	-£13.2m	Yes	OUT

What is the problem under consideration? Why is government intervention necessary?

The Licensing Act 2003 ('the 2003 Act') attempts to ensure that alcohol is sold responsibly by requiring that all alcohol sales at a licensed premises must be authorised by a personal licence holder (PLH) and that the Designated Premises Supervisor (DPS) named on the premises licence must hold a personal licence. However, the Government is concerned that the system of personal licences may be currently ineffective and poorly targeted. As part of efforts to generate economic growth, the Government is committed to reducing unnecessary administrative burdens on businesses and will consult on whether conditions applied locally to premises licences would be a more cost effective and targeted alternative.

What are the policy objectives and the intended effects?

The overarching objective is to reduce regulation on business; remove unnecessary bureaucracy; supportlocal growth and give greater powers to licensing authorities to determine what is appropriate for their local areas, without undermining the statutory licensing objectives. The principle of conditions applied locally to premises licences, instead of personal licences, does have some risks, but these are assessed in this Impact Assessment as small.

What policy options have been considered, including any alternatives to regulation? Please justify preferred option (further details in Evidence Base)

The options are:

Option 1: Do nothing.

Option 2: Abolish personal licences but enable the use of locally applied conditions instead

The preferred option is Option 2 because it is judged to best meet the policy objectives.

Will the policy be reviewed? Yes	able, set rev	iew date: A	After 5 yea	rs	
Does implementation go beyond minimum EU requirements? N/A					
Are any of these organisations in scope? If Micros not exempted set out reason in Evidence Base.	< 20 Yes	Small Yes	Medium Yes	Large Yes	
What is the CO_2 equivalent change in greenhouse gas emission (Million tonnes CO_2 equivalent)	Traded: None	Non- None	traded:		

I have read the Impact Assessment and I am satisfied that (a) it represents a fair and reasonable view of the expected costs, benefits and impact of the policy, and (b) that the benefits justify the costs.

Signed by the responsible Minister:

lef Hellow Date: 25

RESTRICTED - DRAFT

Summary: Analysis & Evidence

Policy Option 2

Description: Abolish personal licences but enable the use of locally applied conditions instead FULL ECONOMIC ASSESSMENT

Price BasePV BaseYear 2012Year 2			Time Period	Net Benefit (Present Value (PV)) (£m)				
		2014 Years 10		Low: 83	3	High: 168	Best Estimate: 139	
COSTS (£m)		Total Transition (Constant Price) Years		Average Annual (excl. Transition) (Constant Price)		Total Cos (Present Value		
Low			neg		0.02		0.1	
High			neg	1		0.2	1.5	
Best Estimat	e		neg		0.1			
One-off trans Ongoing cos	sition cos sts to bus	st for t siness	es of additional	notifying condition	premises of ns applied thr	changes estimated	to total £1,200 in year 1. 0.02-0.1m per year.	
None.		ised c	osts by 'main aff		oups'		Total Danafi	
BENEFITS	(£m)		Total Tra (Constant Price)	Years	(excl. Trans	Average Annual sition) (Constant Price)	Total Benefi t (Present Value)	
Low			0			9.8	84.7	
High			0	N/A		19.4	193.7	
Best Estimate	e		0			16.2	139.8	
 Benefits to business from employees no longer needing to apply for personal licences, pay for criminal records checks or undergo training: £7.8-15.3m per year. Benefits to business from employees no longer needing to renew personal licences after 10 years: £2.0-4.1m per year (with the majority falling in year 2, 2015-16). Other key non-monetised benefits by 'main affected groups' Potential 'opportunity cost' savings to the police and courts from no longer needing to tackle and process personal licence related offences. 								
undermin ineffectiv • Uncertai a realisti • Benefits informati	a risk th ned. Hov /e, so rea nty arou c range highly s ion, so th	at the wever, movin nd pro of pos ensitiv ne risk	crime and disor , we believe the g them would pe pjections of appl sible scenarios. ve to estimated of a of estimation en	safeguai ose a low ication ar cost of tra rror is lov	rds already a v risk. We wil nd review vo aining. But th v.	tion objectives of th afforded by the pers Il assess this further lumes. Estimates re lese costs are base	biscount rate (%) 3.5 e 2003 Act could be onal licence regime are during the consultation. eflect what we believe to be d on real and reliable essed and accounted for.	
BUSINESS AS	SESSME	ENT (C	Option 2)					

Direct impact on bus	iness (Equivalent Annua	In scope of OIOO?	Measure qualifies as	
Costs: 0.1	Benefits: 13.3	Net: 13.2	YES	OUT

A. Strategic Overview

A.1 Background

- 1. In March 2012, the Government published its Alcohol Strategy, setting out a range of measures to tackle the issue of excessive alcohol consumption and its associated harms¹. The Alcohol Strategy included commitments made under the Government's Red Tape Challenge (RTC) to consult on measures to reduce the unnecessary burdens of the licensing regime on business, support local growth and give licensing authorities greater freedom to take decisions that reflect the needs of their local community.
- 2. The public consultation on the delivery of the Alcohol Strategy (28 November 2012 to 6 February 2013), set out proposals for cutting bureaucracy and freeing up businesses and local organisations such as community groups from unnecessary burdens. This included a proposal to simplify the system of personal licences which was a new idea that had not been part of the package of ideas generated by the RTC and was not part of the Alcohol Strategy. During the consultation, abolition of the system of personal licences was also suggested by some respondents. It could be argued that the current system is ineffective and poorly targeted.
- 3. In its response to the Alcohol Strategy consultation, the Government committed to removing the requirement to renew personal licences every 10 years. It also committed to consult on whether personal licences could be abolished, concerned that the current system may not be effective in proportion to the burden it places on business and that allowing for local targeted action instead might be more effective.

The current regime of personal licences

- Licensing authorities (LAs) i.e. district and borough councils or unitary councils

 administer the 2003 Act. LAs must currently carry out their functions with a view to promoting the licensing objectives (the prevention of crime and disorder; public safety; the prevention of public nuisance; and the protection of children from harm).
- 5. There are three different kinds of authorisation under which licensable activities can be provided:
 - Premises licence: to use a premises for licensable activities, subject to conditions.

¹ The Alcohol Strategy is available on the Home Office website: <u>http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/publications/alcohol-</u> <u>drugs/alcohol/alcohol-strategy</u>

- Club Premises Certificates: to allow a qualifying club (i.e., a members' club such as a working men's club or a political club) to engage in qualifying club activities, again, subject to conditions on the certificate, and;
- Temporary Event Notices (TENs), which enable the user to carry out licensable activities without other authorisation. Various limits apply (e.g. can only be used 12 times per year at the same premises).
- 6. Because of the above potential impacts of the misuse of alcohol the 2003 Act recognised that the sale and supply of alcohol carries with it greater responsibility than other licensable activities. The 2003 Act therefore requires that every sale of alcohol under a premises licence must be authorised by a **personal licence holder** (PLH), who must meet certain criteria before being issued with a personal licence (including undergoing a criminal records check and obtaining an accredited qualification).
- 7. The system of personal licences (relating to the supply of alcohol) enables PLHs to move more freely between premises where a premises licence is in force and was introduced under the 2003 Act. Premises licences are issued by licensing authorities (LAs) after scrutiny of all applications by the police where the applicant has been convicted of certain criminal offences ("relevant offences" listed at Schedule 4 of the Licensing Act 2003).
- 8. Additionally, under the 2003 Act, premises licensed with authorisation for alcohol sales must specify the **Designated Premises Supervisor** (DPS) for that premises. This person must be a **personal licence holder** (PLH). This will normally be the person with day to day responsibility for running the premises. Under the 2003 Act, each licensed premises (202,000 as at 31 March 2012²) therefore needs to have a PLH acting as a DPS. However, in large premises, such as supermarkets or large bars, there could be several personal licences held by junior managers. Licensing statistics show that there were 502,400 personal licences in force at the end of March 2012³. There is an exception from the DPS and PLH requirements for lower risk "community premises" (e.g. church halls).
- 9. The system of personal licences contains two safeguards which, according to evidence from licensing authorities, the police and academia⁴, can be effective in reducing alcohol-related harm. First, applicants for a personal licence must be trained. Secondly, licences may be denied to, or forfeited from, those who have convictions for certain offences. Furthermore, to ensure a level playing field for bar staff across the country, these safeguards are qualified by two specific

² Alcohol and Late Night Refreshment Licensing England and Wales, 2011/12 tables"

https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/alcohol-and-late-night-refreshment-licensing-england-and-wales-2011-12-tables

³ As above.

⁴ Ker K, Chinnock P. Interventions in the alcohol server settings for preventing injuries. *Cochrane Database Syst Rev* 2006; **2:** CD005244. pub2.

'benchmarks' set by Government: (i) only training courses accredited by the Secretary of State are valid for applications, (ii) only offences listed as relevant under the 2003 Act may be considered in denying the grant of, or revoking, a personal licence.

- 10. When a PLH wants to renew their licence, they must pay a fee to the licensing authority and submit a fresh criminal records check. If they have committed a relevant offence, the LA must then notify the chief officer of police for its area who may, within 14 days, notify the LA that he considers that the continuation of the licence would undermine the crime prevention objective. If so, the authority must hold a hearing to consider the objection notice unless it is agreed that a hearing is unnecessary. Following this hearing, the licensing authority may decide not to renew the licence.
- 11. The criteria for personal licences under the 2003 Act are seen by many as a vital part of the licensing system. Under previous licensing legislation now obsolete there was a 'fit and proper person' test for anyone who wanted to be a premises licence holder. The police, the public and local licensing officers need to know that there is a responsible and knowledgeable person overseeing alcohol sales under a premises licence and the personal licences system is intended to achieve to this. The Government has however considered whether the system could be simplified further.
- 12. The Government has already committed to remove the current requirement on a PLH to renew his/her licence on a ten yearly basis. The system is more onerous than current requirements for a driving licence (where only a renewal of a photograph is required) and the risks (see below) of abolishing the requirement are limited and manageable given existing safeguards.
- 13. During the consultation it was suggested that the system of personal licences could itself be abolished. The Government believes that this proposal should be considered further. Personal licences may not be effective in ensuring responsible alcohol sales. For example, although all alcohol sales must be authorised by a PLH, in practice and in law the PLH is not required to be on the premises to do so. Moreover, no other member of staff except the DPS need be a PLH. This allows irresponsible owners and managers and bar staff to circumvent the system's safeguards. Finally, the system is poorly targeted. All licensed premises, from the riskiest to the quietest, must comply with it regardless of risk or history of crime and disorder or public nuisance at the premises.
- 14. As a result, the current system may not be worth the substantial costs, in application fees, training and criminal records checks, it imposes on business. In theory, it may be possible to reform the system to make it more effective. Some respondents to the consultation, for example, called for a national database of personal licences to make information sharing on personal licence holders easier.

However, this would not solve its more fundamental problems: that it applies to every premises regardless of risk, and that employees may still work at a premises without a personal licence.

Enabling local alternatives to personal licences

- 15. LAs can already impose conditions on premises licences to, for example, require that CCTV be installed or door staff be present. The Government is considering abolishing the nationally prescribed personal licences regime. It proposes enabling local use of the existing premises licence to provide the safeguards of training and criminal records checks where the LA considers it appropriate to promote the licensing objectives. In the case of the training safeguard, a condition in a new or reviewed premises licence could, for example, require that the DPS to be trained. In the case of criminal records, a condition could require that any new DPS submit a declaration of their criminal record to the LA and police. This would strengthen the already existing process under s.37 of the 2003 Act whereby the police can object to a new DPS on crime and disorder grounds. This would also cut the cost to business of applying for criminal records checks.
- 16. In abolishing personal licences, it is open to the Government to also abolish the nationally set benchmarks. It has considered whether, for example, the industry or the market be allowed to set them instead. However, this approach would be risky. Without nationally set benchmarks, the level playing field for businesses could disappear, risking a race to the bottom in the quality and rigour of training courses, for example. In fact, if businesses were forced to train employees more than once to comply with different local training standards, this option could increase burdens. As a result, the Government proposes that the current, nationally set, benchmarks should remain.
- 17. This approach of locally applied safeguards, but nationally set benchmarks would have risks, however. These include the risk that licensing authorities impose these conditions on enough premises licences to substantially reduce the saving to business. However, we believe this risk would be small.
- 18. Since these safeguards are useful in some cases (see para 9 above), the Government has considered how it could strengthen existing legislation to enable LAs to use them where appropriate. To do this, the Government would:
 - i. Amend the mandatory conditions to require all alcohol sales to be authorised by the DPS, rather than a personal licence holder
 - ii. Remove the current requirement in s.37 of the Licensing Act 2003 that police object to a new DPS only in exceptional circumstances
 - iii. Allow licensing authorities to require a criminal records declaration from each new DPS
- iv. Allow those who either are named as the DPS on a premises licence or have accredited training to give up to 50 Temporary Event Notices (TENs) a year; those without would be limited to giving only five.

Links or interactions with other policies and proposals arising from the Government's Alcohol Strategy

- 19. Abolishing personal licences and replacing them with conditions applied locally to premises licences would have interdependencies with other licensing policies. These are limited to two areas: the authorisation of alcohol sales in the event that personal licences are abolished; and the different number of TENs that PLHs may give compared to non-PLHs.
- 20. Authorising alcohol sales: All alcohol sales must be authorised by a PLH and each premises must have a Designated Premises Supervisor who must be a PLH. This is to ensure that alcohol is sold responsibly. In order to maintain this clear line of responsibility the Government simply proposes that all alcohol sales be authorised by the DPS. At present, it is possible for DPSs to be named as the DPS on multiple premises licences, although we have no data on how prevalent this practice is. If the Government were to legislate so that the DPS authorises all alcohol sales at a premises, this could lower the number of people able to do this for multiple premises. However, in the event that personal licences were replaced by locally applied conditions on premises licences, only a very small number of DPSs would require training or repeated criminal records checks. This is because we estimate that the number of premises on which conditions would be imposed would be very low. As a result, we consider this interdependency to be negligible, and have not estimated it in this Impact Assessment. However, if during the consultation process we become aware that there are interdependencies, we would assess those fully in the final stage IA.
- 21. **TENs:** At present, PLHs may give 50 TENs, while non-PLHs may only give five. Since all alcohol sales under a TEN must be authorised by the giver of the TEN, this is intended to reflect the greater risk in allowing those who are not PLHs to sell alcohol. The Government agrees that this is a concern, and intends to reflect this, in the event that personal licences are abolished, by changing the law on TENs to allow those who are either the named DPS of a premises licence, or the holders of an accredited training course, to give 50 TENs a year. Those who do not meet these criteria will still only be able to give five TENs a year. Therefore, considering that the vast majority of current personal licence holders would still be able to give 50 TENs a year under this proposal, there is only a very low risk that this interdependency could burden businesses. As a result, it has not been assessed in this IA. If during the consultation process we become aware that there are significant inter-dependencies, we would assess those fully in the final stage IA.
- 22. Other policies in the Alcohol Strategy, including increasing the TENs limit and the Community and Ancillary Notice (CAN): Abolishing personal licences presents no interdependencies with other policies arising from the Government's response to the Alcohol Strategy consultation. In the case of increasing the TENs

limit, this is because that limit is only applicable to premises as discussed in the TENs IA on this policy. In the case of the CAN, no CANs user will require a personal licence, so this policy is also unaffected.

A.2 Groups Affected

Businesses that sell alcohol from licensed premises and individual personal licence holders (PLHs) who work in businesses engaged in on- and off-trade sales of alcohol from licensed premises

23. It is a requirement under the 2003 Act that every sale of alcohol must be authorised by a PLH and each licensed premises must have a Designated Premises Supervisor (DPS) who is a PLH. An on-trade or off-trade business is likely to either be managed or owned by a PLH or PLHs will be employed by such businesses, who will frequently arrange for training of their staff to obtain the PLH qualification. As above, there were estimated to be 502,400 personal licences in force at the end of March 2012, 16 per cent more than the 434,200 on 31 March 2010 (includes estimates for non-response).⁵

Licensing authorities (LAs)

24. LAs are responsible for the administration of the 2003 Act and, as such, are responsible for processing applications for granting and renewing personal licences. They also have powers to revoke a personal licence if the PLH was convicted of a relevant criminal conviction during the application period. The cost of the personal licence fee (and the cost of renewal) is intended to cover their costs.

The police

25. The police have a role as responsible authorities under the 2003 Act and are therefore consulted on various processes including personal licence applications. They have a duty to consider personal licence applications and consider objecting in cases where the applicant has a conviction for a relevant offence listed at Schedule 4 of the Licensing Act 2003. They are also responsible for enforcing offences under the 2003 Act, including those in relation to PLHs.

The courts

26. If a PLH is charged with a relevant criminal offence, he or she is required to notify the Magistrates Court, no later than the first time they make their first appearance in connection with that offence. If the PLH is convicted of a relevant offence by a Magistrates or Crown Court, the court has powers to order forfeiture of the personal licence. There is an existing statutory duty on the court at that stage (if it has been given notice by the PLH or made aware by some other means) to notify

⁵ https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/alcohol-and-late-night-refreshment-licensing-statistical-news-release/alcoholand-late-night-refreshment-licensing-statistical-news-release#personal-licences

the relevant licensing authority that the PLH has been convicted of a relevant offence and the nature of that offence. The courts are already prompted by Sentencing Guidelines to consider an ancillary order to forfeit a personal licence in cases where the convicted offender is a PLH.

The Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS)

27. Although, at present, the basic level criminal records checks required to renew a personal licence are administered by Disclosure Scotland, consideration is being given to the provision of basic checks by the DBS in due course.

Consultation

- 28. Within Government: Cabinet Committee clearances (RRC and HA) were gained prior to the publication of the Alcohol Strategy and the launch of the later public consultation. Clearances (HA; EAC; RRC) will also be needed for the announcement/implementation of this policy. Clearance processes have included official and Ministerial level discussions with other Government departments, including the Department of Health, Department for Business, Innovation and Skills, Her Majesty's Treasury, HM Revenue and Customs, the Department for Culture, Media and Sport, and the Department for Communities and Local Government.
- 29. **Public Consultation:** This Impact Assessment has been developed prior to a technical consultation with partners. Government officials will hold technical discussions with representatives from the trade, licensing authorities and the police.

B. Rationale

30. An effective and proportionate regulatory framework is essential to public safety and crime prevention and also ensures that responsible businesses are not undermined by irresponsible businesses. If misused, alcohol is a dangerous substance and the Government has taken the view that the overall framework provided by Licensing Act 2003 - as amended by the Police and Social Responsibility Act 2011 - is appropriate. However, a well-run and diverse hospitality industry has the potential to boost growth and representatives of this industry have highlighted concerns, as part of the Red Tape Challenge, about some of its administrative burdens. The Government is committed to removing unnecessary regulation (with particular regard to local organisations such as community and arts groups and schools, and businesses that are not connected to alcohol-related problems) and to exploring further how it can make the day to day process of licensing as easy as possible for all responsible businesses. The policy objective behind the proposal in this Impact Assessment is to reduce the administrative burdens of the 2003 Act without undermining the licensing objectives.

C. Objectives

31. The objectives are to:

• Remove an unnecessary burden on businesses without significantly undermining the licensing objectives.

D. Options

32. The options considered in this IA are:

- **Option 1:** Do nothing (retain the status quo of requiring personal licences to be renewed every ten years).
- **Option 2:** Abolish personal licences and instead allow licensing authorities to apply conditions to premises licences requiring staff to be trained or have their criminal records checked.

E. Appraisal

GENERAL ASSUMPTIONS AND DATA

- 33. The **number of applications** was extrapolated from licensing data for the period 2006-07 to 2009-10. Applications were trending downwards over this period but we do not know the extent to which this trend has continued since 2009-10, or is likely to continue further. We believe the trend was partly a transitional effect following implementation of the personal licences process in 2005-06. It may also reflect underlying economic conditions. In order to account for this uncertainty we modelled three scenarios for application numbers (Chart A1 in the annex illustrates these scenarios):
 - **a.** In the *lower bound* scenario, application numbers continue on a linear downward trend until they hit a minimum level which we assume to be 30,000 per year.
 - **b.** In the *upper bound* scenario, application numbers remain flat at the 2009-10 level of 43,500 per year. Note that applications could conceivably increase over time so this is a conservative upper bound scenario.
 - **c.** In the *best estimate* scenario, application numbers continue to fall at a diminishing rate, mirroring the available data. Under this scenario numbers remain flat at 40,000 per year from 2012-13 onwards.
- 34. The **cost of applying for a personal license** comprises the fees and time requirement associated with completing three forms: the main personal licence application form⁶, a convictions declaration form⁷, and a Criminal Records Bureau

⁶ Available from: <u>http://biiab.bii.org/qualifications/apply-for-personal-licence</u>

⁷ Example available at: <u>www.torbay.gov.uk/disclosure-convictions.doc</u>

(CRB) check⁸. The fees for the main application and CRB check are £37 and £25 respectively. Initial testing indicates that completion of all three forms and applications would take approximately one hour. We intend to test this assumption further during the technical consultation. We assume that the applicant is a Designated Premises Supervisor (DPS) with an average wage equivalent to that of a bar manager. We estimate this at £13.30⁹ which is based on the Annual Survey of Household Earnings 2012, uprated by $16.4\%^{10}$ to account for 'on costs'. The total unit cost of application is therefore **£75.30** (37+25+13.30).

- 35. A further requirement is that all applicants attend an accredited **training course**. There are various courses applicants can choose from and we have no information on the spread of course selection. Therefore we have modelled the following range:
 - **a.** An *upper bound* estimate based on the most established training provider, BIIAB, costing £180 and 7 hours of time (6 hour external training course plus an assumed 1 hour of unproductive travel time) for a DPS at £13.30 per hour.
 - **b.** A *lower bound* estimate based on an online alternative costing £102 and assumed to last 6 hours with no travel time.
 - **c.** A *best estimate* calculated as a weighted average of the above, with 75% assumed to use the BIIAB option because it is the most established, and 25% assumed to use the cheaper alternative.

The unit cost of training therefore ranges from £182 to £273 with a best estimate of £250.

- 36. The **number of reviews** per year undertaken by licensing authorities (LAs) have remained relatively constant between 1,000 and 1,300 between 2007-08 and 2011-12¹¹. This policy proposal will not affect the power of LAs to carry out reviews and we do not expect to see any significant increase in reviews because the personal licence regime is not judged to be effective in providing safeguards. Nevertheless the possibility exists that LAs will have an incentive to increase the number of reviews they carry out, either as a result of this proposal or the wider policy proposals of the Alcohol Strategy and continuing implementation of the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 licensing reforms. Therefore we have modelled a range of options:
 - **a.** In the *upper bound* (low cost) scenario, reviews remain constant at 1,015 per year (the 2011-12 level).

⁸ Available at: <u>www.disclosurescotland.co.uk</u>

⁹ASHE 2012 - mean publicans and managers of licensed premises

¹⁰ BIS guidance based on: <u>http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/portal/page/portal/labour_market/labour_costs/main_tables</u>

¹¹ From licensing statistics: <u>https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/department-for-culture-media-sport/series/alcohol-entertainment-late-night-refreshment-licensing-statistics</u>. Note that data was not collected for 2010-11.

- **b.** In the *lower bound* (high cost) scenario, reviews are assumed to double to a rounded 2,000 per year.
- **c.** The *best estimate* scenario is based on the midpoint of these, rounded to 1,500 per year.
- 37. The additional conditions that LAs will be able to apply following a review are to require staff to be trained and to have staff's criminal records checked. We do not know the extent to which these additional powers would be used. However the licensing statistics¹² provide the basis for the estimation of a sensible range. In 2011-12, 8% of reviews resulted in the DPS being removed. As this is a more drastic condition than either of the new conditions, we take this to represent the *lower bound* for both additional conditions. In 2011-12, 56% of reviews resulted in other conditions being added or modified. This is a broader category than either of the new conditional combined *upper bound* for both additional, i.e. the upper bound for each individual condition is assumed to be 28% (half of 56%). The *best estimate* is the midpoint of the resultant range 18%. So, of the 1,000 to 2,000 reviews estimated to be carried out each year, 18% would result in a training requirement and a further 18% would result in a criminal record check requirement, under the best estimate scenario.
- 38. The **unit cost of a training condition** is equal to the training costs outlined above, i.e. between £182 and £273. The **unit cost of a criminal record check condition** is equal to the cost of submitting a basic criminal records check form (£25) and the time involved, estimated at 30 minutes. We assume that both conditions would be applicable to one DPS per premises. It is possible that the conditions could be applied to more than one individual per premises in which case these assumptions would underestimate the potential costs. However it is also likely that some of those required to undergo training would have done so already as a result of having been personal licence holders. In this case, these assumptions would overestimate the potential costs. We have assumed that these two risks roughly offset each other.
- 39. We assume that all the impacts of this proposal fall on business. It is possible that some personal licence costs are borne by individuals. This assumption will be addressed during the technical consultation.
- 40. The net benefits from the proposal to remove the requirement to renew personal licences after ten years have been included in the calculations for this measure. Details of those impacts are not repeated here but can be found at in the impact

¹² <u>https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/department-for-culture-media-sport/series/alcohol-entertainment-late-night-refreshment-licensing-statistics</u>

assessment entitled, "Removing the requirement to renew personal licences under the Licensing Act 2003"¹³.

41. The base year is 2014/15 and the assumed implementation date is April 2014. If the actual implementation date turns out to be later than modelled, then the true net present value and EANCB would be slightly lower than presented due to additional discounting.

Option 1 – Do nothing

42. There are no additional costs and benefits to the baseline associated with the do nothing option.

<u>Option 2</u> – Abolish personal licences and instead allow licensing authorities to apply conditions to premises licences requiring staff to be trained or have their criminal records checked

COSTS

Business Costs

- 43. The costs associated with Option 2 are based on the additional conditions that licensing authorities (LAs) might apply to premises. We have modelled a range of potential costs. The assumptions that underlie these estimates are described above.
- 44. In the *lower bound* (high cost) scenario, we assume that 2,000 reviews take place per year and that the conditions requiring staff to be trained and criminal records to be checked will be applied in 28% of those reviews each. Lower bound training unit costs are assumed to be £273 in order to be consistent with the benefits assumptions. This results in additional costs to businesses (who we assume would incur all costs) of £150,000 per year in relation to the training condition and £20,000 in relation to the criminal checks condition.
- 45. In the *upper bound* (low cost) scenario, we assume that 1,015 reviews take place per year and that the conditions requiring staff to be trained and criminal records to be checked will be applied in 8% of those reviews each. Upper bound training unit costs are assumed to be £182 in order to be consistent with the benefits assumptions. This results in additional costs to businesses of £10,000 per year (after rounding) in relation to the training condition and around £3,000 (which rounds to zero to the nearest £10,000) in relation to the criminal checks condition.

¹³ When finalised, this will be published in the IA library: <u>https://www.gov.uk/government/publications?publication filter option=impact-assessments</u>

- 46. In the *best estimate* scenario, we assume that 1,500 reviews take place per year and that the conditions requiring staff to be trained and criminal records to be checked will be applied in 18% of those reviews each. This results in additional costs to businesses of £70,000 per year in relation to the training condition and £10,000 in relation to the criminal checks condition.
- 47. **Total costs** therefore are estimated to range between £20,000 and £170,000 with a best estimate of £80,000 per year, or between **£0.1m** and **£1.5m** with a best estimate of **£0.7m** in present values over 10 years.

Public Sector Costs

- 48. Licensing authorities will no longer receive fee income from personal licence applications. However the fee was designed to cover the cost of administering the regime. As this cost will no longer be present, the net impact on LAs is zero.
- 49. We expect that there will be a one-off cost to LAs from having to familiarise themselves with, and to notify premises of, the changes to the regime. We estimate that this would mean up to a maximum of 15 minutes per licensing official per licensing authority. Based on an hourly wage for a licensing officer of £13.28 per hour¹⁴ we estimate one-off familiarisation costs for all 350 Licensing Authorities of **£1,162**. This is classed as 'negligible' in the rounded net present value calculations. Sensitivity analysis reveals that this cost would remain negligible even if the time component was considerably longer than estimated.
- 50. We will explore during the consultation whether these assumptions fully capture costs to the public sector.

BENEFITS

Business Benefits

51. The benefits associated with Option 2 are based on the savings that businesses make from no longer having to incur the costs of applying for a personal licence. We have modelled a range of potential benefits. The assumptions that underlie these estimates are described above.

¹⁴ This is the mean hourly wage of licensing officers. Data was obtained from the 2012 Annual Survey of Hours and Earnings (provisional). <u>http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/rel/ashe/annual-survey-of-hours-and-earnings/2012-provisional-results/index.html</u>. This was uprated by 16.40% to include on-costs (see BIS guidance based on

http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/portal/page/portal/labour_market/labour_costs/main_tables)

- 52. In the *lower bound* scenario we assume that there would have been 30,000 personal licence applications per year. The total cost of applying and attending the appropriate training comes to an estimated £7.8m per year.
- 53. In the *upper bound* scenario we assume that there would have been 43,500 personal licence applications per year. The total cost of applying and attending the appropriate training comes to an estimated £15.3m per year.
- 54. In the *best estimate* scenario we assume that there would have been 40,000 personal licence applications per year. The total cost of applying and attending the appropriate training comes to an estimated £13.1m per year.
- 55. In addition the benefits to businesses from not having to renew personal licences after ten years are estimated at between £2.1m and £4.2m (best estimate £2.1m) per year on average, though this is heavily dominated by benefits falling in 2015/16 when the bulk of personal licences are due for renewal. The detail behind these estimates is presented in a separate impact assessment¹⁵.
- 56. **Total benefits** are estimated to range between £9.8m and £19.4m per year on average with a best estimate of £16.2m per year on average, or between **£84.7m** and **£167.7m** with a best estimate of **£139.8m** in present values over 10 years.

Public Sector Benefits

- 57. As described in the Costs section, the ongoing net impact on licensing authorities is zero.
- 58. There are potential cost savings to the police from no longer having to tackle personal licence related offences. Similarly there may me cost savings to courts from no longer having to process personal licence related offences. Both impacts are estimated to be small and 'opportunity' in nature (i.e. would involve a freeing up of resources rather than a cashable saving) and have not been quantified.

¹⁵ "Removing the requirement to renew personal licences under the Licensing Act 2003". When finalised, this will be published in the IA library: <u>https://www.gov.uk/government/publications?publication_filter_option=impact-assessments</u>

NET EFFECT

	Average annual net benefits (£m)	NPV (£m)
Lower bound	9.6	83.2
Upper bound	19.3	167.6
Best estimate	16.1	139.1

Table 1 – Estimated Net Present Value (NPV) for Option 2

59. Table 1 presents the estimated net benefits of the different scenarios modelled for Option 2. The best estimate produces a net present value, discounted over a ten year period, of **£139.1 million**.

ONE IN; TWO OUT (OITO)

- 60. Option 2 has an on-going year-on-year impact on business and is therefore in scope for OITO.
- 61. The benefit to businesses is estimated to range between £9.6m and £19.3m per year with a best estimate of £16.1m per year. This equates to a **NET OUT of £13.2 million** per year, EANCB (2009 prices).

SENSITIVITY ANALYSIS

62. In general, uncertainty has been accounted for through the use of ranges. These have been selected so that the true values are likely to lie within their bounds. The primary driver of the net present value is the reduced cost of training. But these costs are based on real and reliable information, so the risk of estimation error is judged to be low. And a range of costs has been assessed to account for the different training that applicants can attend.

E. Risks

63. There is a risk that licensing authorities impose these conditions on more premises than we have estimated. This could reduce the deregulatory impact of the policy. However, we believe this risk is low. This is because specific evidence is required to trigger a review of a licensed premises and any imposed condition

must be appropriate to promote the licensing objectives. The absence of training requirements on its own, for example, is very unlikely to be enough.

- 64. There is also a risk that, by abolishing personal licences, any associated costs are transferred from the personal licence holders to the premises licence holders. In theory, individuals should pay for and manage their personal licences, while businesses pay for and manage their premises licences. However, we understand that, in practice, employers pay for their employees to get a personal licence. We will analyse during the consultation period whether this assumption remains valid.
- 65. Finally, there is a risk that abolishing personal licences would lead to higher crime and disorder risks at licensed premises. However, we believe that this risk is low. This is because we believe, based on discussions with partners during the Alcohol Strategy consultation, that the current system has a limited impact in preventing crime and disorder. For example, personal licence holders only train once a lifetime; with the abolition of the renewal requirement, they will only have their criminal record checked by the LA and police on application. Moreover, since people without personal licences may still work at licensed premises, the threat of forfeiture by the court is no real sanction. This new proposal could in fact be more effective, because it would allow licensing authorities to require training of the people who need to be trained. It will also allow a DPSs criminal record to be checked on being made the DPS rather than only on application for the personal licence. We will analyse during the consultation period whether these assumptions would be valid.

F. Enforcement

- 66. In the event that personal licences are abolished, enforcement practices will not change. At present, police and licensing officers conduct routine visits of licensed premises and sometimes check personal licences as a part of this. In future, where a premises had a condition requiring that the DPS was trained, for example, officers could simply check the certificate of training during a routine inspection. We will investigate during the consultation whether there is a way that industry could standardise these certificates so as to make this enforcement process even easier for officers and the trade.
- 67. At present, when a DPS of a premises is changed under s.37 of the 2003 Act, the police may object to that DPS on crime prevention grounds. This process would continue if personal licences were abolished, but strengthened if licensing authorities imposed a condition requiring future DPSs at a premises to submit a convictions declaration when named on the licence. It is already an offence under the 2003 Act to make a false convictions declaration.

H. Summary and recommendations

68. The table below outlines the costs and benefits of the proposed changes.

Option	Costs	Benefits
	<i>Monetised</i> - £0.7m	Monetised - £139.8m
2	Additional conditions imposed upon premises following licensing authority review.	Savings to businesses from not having to apply for personal licences.
	Negligible costs to licensing authorities from communicating the changes in personal licenses.	
	Non-monetised	Non-monetised
	None.	Potential savings to police and courts from no longer having to deal with and process personal licence related offences.

Source: HO modelling

Table presents the total quantified (best estimate) and unquantified benefits and costs, discounted over 10 years. Net present values are calculated over 10 years.

69. Option 2 produces a net present value, discounted over a ten year period, of £139.1m. There is a clear and significant saving to business from avoiding the application and training costs associated with the personal licences regime. The effectiveness of the existing regime in terms of safeguarding the licensing objectives is thought to be limited. Therefore the costs associated with Option 2 are minor.

I. Implementation

70. If, following the consultation, the Government chooses to proceed with these changes, measures would be brought forward to implement them via amendments to the provisions on personal licences in the Licensing Act 2003.

J. Monitoring and evaluation

71. The duty to review all new policies after a minimum of five years would apply to this policy.

K. Feedback

72. Feedback will be sought on this policy as part of the public consultation on the personal licence abolition including the potential impact on the licensing objectives. The Government will seek technical input from licensing authorities, the police, the licensed trade and others.

ANNEX

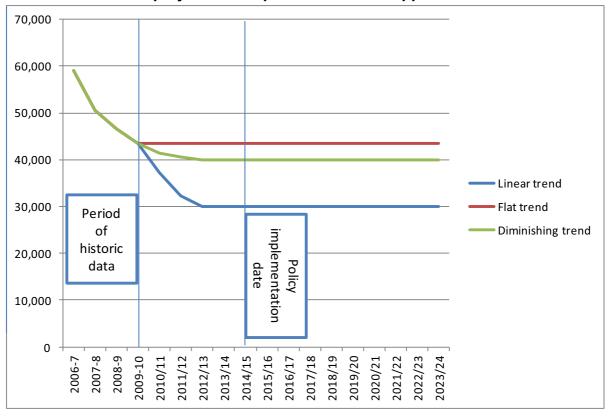


Chart A1: Modelled projections of personal licence applications

Agenda Item 5

ADDRESSING THE PROBLEMS WITH SUPER STRENGTH ALCOHOL & STREET DRINKERS

ITEM

Committee	Licensing Committee
Officer Contact	Stephanie Waterford, Licensing Service Manager x7232
Papers with report	Appendix 1 – Reducing the Strength Information Appendix 2 – Public Health Bid
Ward(s) affected	All

SUMMARY

To inform the Committee of current issues around the Borough with street drinkers and super strength alcohol.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Committee discuss the issues and direct Officers on the best course of action.

INFORMATION

At the last meeting of the Full Licensing Committee, Officers were instructed to investigate possible solutions to address issues with street drinkers and sales of super strength alcohol and report back with their findings.

Currently, there are hot spots around the Borough where street drinkers are most prevalent and can be intimidating, cause anti-social behaviour and cause a nuisance to the surrounding businesses and residents.

Officers have investigated a number of different avenues available to deal with the street drinking community and how the super strength alcohol is obtained.

Reducing the Strength

The Licensing Committee will be familiar with the 'Reducing the Strength' scheme implemented in Ipswich by the Suffolk Constabulary. The scheme restricts sales of super strength alcohol by placing a condition upon the premises licence.

Police Officers from Hillingdon visited Ipswich to find out more about the scheme and to see whether a similar model would be suitable to address the issues of street drinking in Hillingdon.

The conclusion of their visit was that the scheme would not be the best way to tackle the street drinkers and that it would involve a great deal of resources to implement. The Police have confirmed that they will not be looking to implement any similar scheme themselves, but they would support, where possible, to the Council in any similar initiative decided upon.

PART 1 – MEMBERS, PUBLIC AND PRESS

Licensing Committee – 27 September 2013

The Licensing Service is currently under pressure with other prioritie to implement such a scheme with significantly reduced assistance from the Metropolitan Police Services.

Information relating to the 'Reducing the Strength' campaign attached at Appendix 1.

Public Health Bid

Earlier this year, bids were invited by the Public Health Authority to support ideas which would address public health issues around the borough.

The Licensing Service made a bid for funds earlier this year to support various methods in dealing with the sale of super strength alcohol. This was part of a joint bid with Public Health, dealing with alcohol misuse. Full Copy attached at **Appendix 2**. Outcome of bid; we are in phase 2.

Removal of Street Furniture

A request was made to remove a bench in one of the street drinking problem areas in Hayes Town. After discussions with the Highways Service, it was considered that the removal of benches and other street furniture would not be supported by the local community and it would not stop street drinkers from congregating.

Targeted Enforcement & Reviews

Having considered all options for addressing problem drinking in the Borough, the Licensing Service believes that a series of compliance inspections and monitoring of off licensed premises in the problem areas would assist in gathering the evidence needed to progress enforcement action.

The Licensing Service is aiming to work with colleagues in the Metropolitan Police Service and to increase inspections carried out in order to ascertain where the street drinkers are obtaining their super strength alcohol. This is something that could be followed up with Premises Licence Reviews and/or legal action where necessary

If a licence review is brought in respect of issues with street drinkers, the Sub-Committee could consider the imposition of a condition to restrict sales of super strength alcohol on a case by case basis.



Go Super Strength free

Become a superhero of Ipswich and go 'Super Strength Free'.

Off-licence owners in lpswich are being called upon to become 'superheroes' of lpswich and go 'Super Strength Free'.

This would involve removing all beers, lagers and ciders from their stores with an alcohol volume of 6.5% or over that are sold for a very low price.

By taking part they will be recognised as a 'superhero'

of lpswich, supporting this campaign that aims to make lpswich a better place for everyone.

"We are super-strength free!" - East of England Co-operative Society

Executive Officer - Retail, Roger Grosvernor said:

"The East of England Co-operative Society is proud to support the 'Reducing the Strength' Campaign, and we would encourage other retailers in the town to get involved.

"As part of our commitment to 'Reducing the Strength', we have made our 26 stores in Ipswich 'super strength free', removing all super strength alcohol from shelves in these stores.

"We are the largest independent retailer in East Anglia and have over 200 trading outlets, which are located in more than 70 towns and villages including the three regional centres of Norwich, Ipswich and Colchester.

"As a co-operative, our business is entirely owned by our members, so local communities are at the heart of what we do. This campaign reflects our values by allowing us to get involved with a pro-active initiative that aims to improve the quality of life for these communities."

To learn more about joining the campaign and becoming 'super-strength free' contact the Constabulary's licensing team on **101** or email: **LicensingAlcoholSuffolkSupervisors@suffolk.pnn.police.uk**

Related links:	
About the campaign	
Super strength alcohol and crime	
Alcohol and Anti-social Behaviour	
Super strength alcohol and health	
Responsible licensing	
Lisa's story	
Related websites:	
Suffolk Drug and Alcohol Action Team 🗹	1
NORCAS 🗗	
NHS – drinking and alcohol ⊠	Page 47

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Ipswich Borough Council is a strong supporter of 'Reducing the Strength'

Ipswich Borough Council's Licensing and Enforcement team is responsible for all the administrative tasks and enforcement action associated with the issuing of various licences on behalf of the Council, including those for the sale of alcohol issued to offlicence premises.

Ipswich Borough Council is a strong supporter and joint founder of the 'Reducing the Strength' campaign, which asks off-licence owners to voluntarily remove superstrength beers, lagers and

ciders from their shelves.

The aims of the campaign align closely with the council's licensing objectives, which are to promote:

The prevention of crime and disorder.

Public safety.

The prevention of public nuisance.

The protection of children from harm.

The Council works closely with the police, County Council and health services to try to clear lpswich of the problems associated with the sale of super-strength drinks, which work against these objectives.

Councillors are aware of the various issues caused across the town, and are working with other agencies to recommend not allowing these super strong drinks to be sold as part of any new licence application. Also, in cases where sales have led to anti-social behaviour, a licence can be revoked or altered in a bid to stamp out the problem.

Councillor Neil Macdonald, Deputy Leader of Ipswich Borough Council, says: "This campaign is a very important one and gathers together many agencies to reduce the sale of these drinks which cause so many health and behavioural problems. We are pleased that the East of England Co-operative stores have taken the lead by removing super strength drinks from their shelves and we hope other supermarkets, neighbourhood stores and independent off-licences will follow suit.

"There are many advantages for shop owners to take action: 'Reducing the Strength' will increase opportunities to expand a business by reducing the anti-social behaviour associated with some of these shops. It is also good news for neighbours and the whole community."





Sixty per cent of violent crime in Ipswich in 2011/2012 was alcohol-related

The consumption of super strength alcohol is often

linked to underage drinking, crime, anti-social behaviour (ASB) and community issues.

It is hoped that by reducing the quantity of super strength alcohol being drunk in Ipswich, alcohol-related crime and disorder will also reduce.

Sixty per cent of violent crime in Ipswich in 2011/2012 was alcohol-related, and 38% of violent crime in Suffolk was alcohol-related.

Those who consume large amounts of strong alcohol can often become involved in criminal activity and can also make themselves vulnerable to crime. In cases of alcohol-related crime, often both the victim and offender have been drinking, making it harder for police to locate a suspect and discover what happened.

The high alcohol volume of super-strength drinks, and the very low cost, means that these products are often consumed by young people who engage in binge drinking, often putting themselves at risk and creating disruption in communities.

Suffolk Police works hard to combat the problems associated with anti-social drinking and the negative results of excessive alcohol consumption in our towns. Nighttime Economy Teams work within Ipswich and in other large towns across the county to pro-actively police problem areas where crime and ASB is affecting communities. It also works in partnership with partners in its ASB teams, who are dedicated to tackling the most complex cases of ASB across the county.

Crime in Suffolk has been continually falling for the past six years. Latest figures for lpswich also show a recent drop in crime. Pro-active measures such as this will help to ensure this trend continues, and campaigns such as this enable police to take positive measures to making Suffolk even safer.

Related links:

Related websit	es:	Page 49	
Lisa's story			
Responsible	licensing		
Go super stre	angth free		
Super streng	th alcohol and health		
Alcohol and	Anti-social Behaviour		
About the ca	mpaign		

PDF created with pdfFactory trial version www.pdffactory.com



Super strength alcohol can seriously jeopardize your health and safety

Super-strength alcohol can have a serious effect on your health - that's the message from NHS Suffolk as it supports the campaign to stop the sale of superstrength alcohol in offlicenses in Ipswich.

Sally Hogg, NHS Suffolk's assistant director of public health said: "Drinking alcohol in moderation doesn't present any danger to your health.

"However, last year in Suffolk there were more than 13,000 admissions to hospital with an alcohol

related condition and every other day one person in Suffolk will die from an alcohol related condition.

"Drinking super-strength alcohol such as lager, beer or cider of more than 6.5% volume can lead to significant health problems. If it is abused, alcohol can do immense damage to the body, both physically and mentally, which is why it is important to stick to the recommended daily limit of alcohol intake of 3 - 4 units for men and 2 - 3 units for women.

"Whilst a regular can of lager would normally contain two units of alcohol, a super-strength lager could contain in excess of four units of alcohol - more than the recommended daily limits for both men and women.

"Excessive alcohol consumption can lead to health problems such as liver disease, cancer or even a stroke. Other consequences include depression, impotence and excessive weight gain.

"NHS Suffolk supports this campaign to stop the sale of super-strength lager in off-licences as it could have a significant positive effect on people's health and reduce the number of unnecessary hospital admissions and early deaths."

Top tips to stay within recommended alcohol limits:

When you are out, try having a soft drink or glass of water for every alcoholic drink you have.

If you are at home don't top up your glass - this way you will lose track of how much you are drinking.

Try not drinking every night, and have at least two alcohol free days each week. Give your body a break - however, don't save up all your units and binge drink over one or two nights.

Try a non-alcoholic cocktail - you might just be pleasantly surprised.

What's in your drink?

A standard glass of wine (175ml) contains 2.3 units

A large glass of wine (250ml) contains 3.3 units

A pint of lager (4%) contains 2.3 units

A pint of beer/lager (5.2%) contains 3 units

A bottle of wine contains 10 units

Related links:

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<u>Funds</u> <u>Proposal</u> <u>Form</u>		
	Residents Services	
	Licensing Service& Public Health	
-	Reducing the Strength and Early Intervention and Prevention Alcohol Misuse Project Stephanie Waterford, Licensing Service Manager& Sharon Daye, Interim Director of Public Health	
Deadline for submission:		
	Summary of proposal and outline business case	
This is a joint proposal to tackle	issues surrounding alcohol misuse, street drinking and alcohol dependency.	
Reducing the Strength Scheme:		
The upstream preventative section of this proposal is to implement a scheme to reduce the availability of high strength cheap alcohol typically consumed by street drinkers. The scheme will be delivered in partnership with the Metropolitan Police Service. License holders for off licensed premises, will be encouraged to sign up to the scheme by varying their licenses to specify a condition which would prohibit the sale of high strength cheap alcohol.		
Super strength alcohol is often available in licensed premises very cheaply and is often bought by persons with alcohol dependency issues or young vulnerable people. The consumption of this type of alcohol can exacerbate crime and community issues i.e. street drinking, theft, antisocial behaviour etc. This is in addition to the obvious physical and mental effects on the individual consuming the alcohol.		
Hillingdon has approximately 270 Off-licenses licensed to sell alcohol. The Licensing Service and the Police have identified two hot spots where street drinking is most prevalent. These are:		
		The Licensing Service and the F

The proposal is to work in the hot spot areas by requesting license holders to vary their licenses to include a condition prohibiting sales of high strength cheap alcohol.

The Local Authority will work in close partnership with the Police, NHS and trade representatives to ensure that the scheme is implemented fairly and that licensees are part of the solution to the problems associated with alcohol consumption.

The Police and Licensing Service have noted that street drinkers can develop alcohol dependency issues for a variety of reasons.

The Police are also looking to implement dispersal zones and banning orders to assist with the problem of known street drinkers congregating in certain areas. This, however only pushes individuals away from the specified zone and will not prevent them obtaining alcohol in the first place.

The downstream reactive part of the proposal is for a Specialist Alcohol Nurse based in A&E at HillingdonHospital. <u>Overall Aim</u>: To ensure the identification and treatment of individuals who present at A&E or are admitted to hospital for alcohol-related reasons, targeting dependent and high-risk drinkers in particular.

The proposal is based on successful models at St Mary's, Ealing and NorthwickParkHospitals, and a 12-month pilot at HillingdonHospital from November 2011 to November 2012. The main objectives for the post are twofold: (a) To <u>divert</u> individuals with alcohol-specific conditions from future hospital presentations / admissions, thereby reducing the pressures on and costs to acute services. (b) To deliver broader outcomes, including (i)reduced alcohol consumption among individuals receiving interventions and (ii) improved understanding of alcohol issues and needs among hospital staff.

<u>Background:</u> There is correlation between alcohol misuse and a range of health issues, including: liver disease, hypertension, gastritis and heart disease, as well as its relation to wider social care, criminal and community safety problems, such as domestic violence, child abuse, road traffic accidents, crime and disorder, assault, social nuisance and suicides. Hillingdon currently has one of the highest rates of alcohol-attributable hospital admissions in London at 2,667 per 100,000. LAPE (Local Alcohol Profiles for England) reveal that Hillingdon scores are 'significantly worse' than the national average on alcohol-attributable hospital admissions.

The London Health Observatory estimated in 2010 that Hillingdon has:

- 42,654 drinkers at 'increasing risk'
- 10,378 at 'higher risk'
- 5,708 dependent drinkers
- 20,584 binge drinkers.

Local substance misuse agencies treated 446 Hillingdon residents in 2008-09 for primary alcohol use. There were 4,800 alcohol-related hospital admissions in the same period, suggesting that large numbers were presenting to acute services, rather than specialist treatment services. More recent data reveals that the number of primary alcohol misusers entering treatment has significantly increased (535 in January 2013) but alcohol-attributable hospital admissions, also continue to increase year on year (there were 3,344 per 100 00 during 2010/2011).

Early Intervention and Prevention Alcohol Misuse Project:

<u>Overall Aim</u>: To ensure the identification and treatment of individuals who present at A&E or are admitted to hospital for alcohol-related reasons, targeting dependent and high-risk drinkers in particular.

The proposal is based on successful models at St Mary's, Ealing and Northwick Park Hospitals, and a 12-month pilot at Hillingdon Hospital from November 2011 to November 2012. The main objectives for the post are twofold: (a) To <u>divert</u>Hillingdon residents with 'alcohol-specific' conditions from future A&E presentations / and admissions, thereby reducing the pressures on and costs to acute services. (b) To deliver broader outcomes, including (i)reduced alcohol consumption among individuals receiving interventions and (ii) improved understanding of alcohol issues and needs among hospital staff.

- The Hillingdon pilot was a joint initiative between CNWL Drug & Alcohol Services (HDAS) and the Hillingdon Hospital A&E department. It involved the deployment of a band 7 nurse (with specialist training in managing addiction disorders) in A&E. The pilot project importantly revealed that amongst those individuals who accepted the intervention, re-presentations to A&E were significantly reduced, engagement in community treatment was significantly more likely and treatment outcomes were much improved. The **immediate priorities** of the specialist alcohol nurse will include:
 - To deliver brief nursing interventions, including advice and motivational interviews, to dependent and other high risk drinkers presenting at A&E.
 - To support dependent drinkers to access appropriate services, including out-patients services and community-based treatment.
- To raise the awareness and understanding of alcohol issues among A&E staff, and train A&E staff to screen for alcohol misuse.

The investment would be best focused on dependent drinkers attending A&E. They are easily identifiable, may already be repeat attenders, and are most likely to have alcohol-specific conditions. Therefore, they form the cohort who can be most feasibly diverted from repeat hospital attendances and / or admissions. In addition, because the specialist post also offers a wider training resource for hospital staff, there is the potential to deliver outcomes for a much larger group of risky drinkers whose alcohol problems have not been identified or whose conditions are alcohol-attributable rather than specific. The post will ensure that hospital staff screen more widely for alcohol

misuse, and make appropriate brief interventions or referrals into structured treatment. There is a strong evidence base to show that hospital-based brief clinical interventions are effective in engaging and motivating individuals who would not otherwise access treatment services.

Anticipated Benefits:

- Reduced repeat attendances at A&E.
- Avoidance of future hospital admissions.
- Increased numbers of dependent and hazardous drinkers taking up community-based treatment.
- Lower levels of alcohol consumption among those receiving interventions.
- Greater awareness, understanding, knowledge of alcohol issues among hospital staff.
- Increased commitment of A&E and ward staff to screen, identify and refer dependent, harmful and hazardous drinkers.
- Improved pathways between acute services and the treatment system.
- Embedding the delivery of brief nursing interventions and advice in a hospital setting, making best use of the window of opportunity to engage and motivate patients promptly.
- Reduction of alcohol-related hospital admissions by targeting patients with alcohol-specific conditions and supporting dependent drinkers into structured community-based or out-patient treatment.
- The diversion of patients from unplanned attendances and admissions by delivering immediate interventions on-site and / or offering longer term treatment options in community-based settings.
 - Minimising longer term harm by ensuring the screening and identification of patients who would not otherwise have been identified as having an alcohol problem at that stage.

Section 1: Ho	does the proposal link with the public health outcomes
••••	

Domain 1: Improving the wider determinants of health	
Objective: Improvements against wider factors that affect	High strength brands can contain up to 4 units per can, which is more than the recommended daily limits for alcohol intake.
Objective: Improvements against wider factors that affect health and wellbeing, and health inequalities	
noalth and wonsoning, and noalth moqualities	By reducing the availability of high strength cheap alcohol, street drinkers and other vulnerable persons will not buy the more harmful drinks and will
	therefore help to reduce admissions to hospital, reduce crime and disorder and ASB and also improve the health of the street drinking community.

Domain 2: Health Improvement	This proposal is a targeted intervention, as opposed to a population-level approach. Interventions aimed at individuals can help make people aware of
Objective: People are helped to live healthy lifestyles, make healthy choices and reduce health inequalities	the potential risks they are taking (or harm they may be doing) at an early stage. This is important, as they are most likely to change their behaviour if it is tackled early. In addition, an early intervention could prevent extensive damage.
	Excessive alcohol consumption can lead to long term health problems including liver disease, depression, cancers, strokes etc. The restriction on availability of high strength alcohol would encourage regular drinkers to make healthier choices.
	The reducing the strength scheme has been successfully implemented in the lpswich area. NHS Suffolk says 'the proposals could have significant positive effect on people's health and reduce the number of unnecessary hospital admissions and early deaths.'
Domain 3: Health Protection	
Objective: The population's health is protected from major incidents and other threats, while reducing health inequalities	
Domain 4: Healthcare public health and preventing premature mortality	Regularly drinking over the 'lower risk guidelines' increases the chances of suffering more serious health harms, which contribute to people dying
Objective: Reduced numbers of people living with preventable ill health and people dying prematurely, while reducing the gap between communities.	 prematurely eg. Cancer of the throat, oesophagus or larynx. Regularly drinking two large glasses of wine (ABV 13%) or two pints of strong lager (ABV 5.2%) a day could make you three times as likely to get mouth cancer. Breast cancer in women. Regularly drinking just above the guidelines increases the risk of getting breast cancer by around 20% A stroke Heart disease or an irregular heartbeat, which can lead to a heart attack High blood pressure Liver disease such as cirrhosis and liver cancer. If you regularly drink just

	above the lower-risk guidelines, the risk of liver cirrhosis increases 1.7 times
	Source:http://www.nhs.uk/Change4Life/Pages/alcohol-health-harms.aspx
Section 2: Demonstrate how it relates to one or more o	of the following areas:
Children engaged in risky behaviour Too many young people engage in potentially harmful behaviours that can be a risk to their health, such as alcohol abuse, drug taking, smoking, taking risks with sexual behaviour or being overweight.	The effects of alcohol on young people are not the same as they are on adults. While alcohol misuse can present health risks and cause careless behaviour in all age groups, it is even more dangerous for young people. <u>Health Risks:</u> Because young people's bodies are still growing, alcohol can interfere with their development. This makes young people particularly vulnerable to the long-term damage caused by alcohol. This damage can include: cancer of the mouth and throat; sexual and mental health problems - including depression and suicidal thoughts; liver cirrhosis and heart disease. Research also suggests that drinking alcohol in adolescence can harm the development of the brain. Young people might think that any damage to their health caused by drinking lies so far in the future that it's not worth worrying about. However, there has been a sharp increase in the number of people in their twenties dying from liver disease as a result of drinking heavily in their teens. Young people who drink are also much more likely to be involved in an accident and end up in hospital. <u>Source:http://www.nidirect.gov.uk/young-people-and-alcohol-what-are-the- risks</u>

	Dementia As we live longer, more of us will suffer from dementia, and we need to do more to diagnose or support its treatment and support carers.	
	Physical activity If we can increase the amount of physical activity for people, then we can improve physical and mental health and reduce chronic disease.	
ľ	Obesity	
	Obesity is at threat to health and wellbeing across the population.	
Ра	Adult and Child Mental Health Mental illness is the largest single cause of disability in our society, and we can be more imaginative in the design of services to help tackle the causes and support adults and children.	
rage 57	Type 2 Diabetes	
57	i Type 2 Diabetes is a major cause of illness and death. Education, information and behavioural change can improve quality of life.	
	An Increasing child population and Maternity Services	
	With an above average birth rate in Hillingdon, we need to do more to support pregnant mothers.	
	Substance Misuse	Tighter controls on the availability of high strength alcohol will help to reduce
		the effects on the health of the drinker and also alcohol related crime and disorder and anti-social behaviour.
	Work that feeds into smoking cessation, alcohol and drug abuse.	This proposal focuses on alcohol misuse in both adults and young people who are regularly drinking over the 'lower risk guidelines' and as such increasing the chances of suffering more serious health harms, which

	contribute to their dying prematurely.
Older People including sight loss	
With more of us living longer, the range of services for older people needs to reflect their needs	
Dental Health Our children have above average levels of dental decay and we need to educate families about the value of good oral health.	

Links to transformation project or health initiatives

ĺ	Name of Project/Programme or health initiatives	Explain the links
	· · ·	
гас	Early Intervention and Prevention Programme	The newly formed Early Intervention and Prevention Team will be adopting a life course approach to early intervention and prevention. This proposal is a primary prevention programme – which aims to prevent the onset of serious health harms – such as those listed above, with emphasis being on early
ac af		identification and change behaviours so that disease is prevented from developing.

How will you measure your outcomes

Please see Table below.

List of indicators (Please show how you will measure the outcomes from your prospective project) (You may need to speak to your Peformance Intelligence Team for advice)

	Indicator	How it is captured?	Baseline Measure
	Reduced repeat	Built into project evaluation framework. Data captured from	Position as at 31 st
	attendances at A&E.	Hospital Episode Statistics (HES Data)	March 2013
	 Avoidance of future hospital admissions. 	As Above	Position as at 31 st March 2013
	Indicator	How it is captured?	Baseline Measure
rage ber	 Lower levels of alcohol consumption among those receiving interventions. 	Via treatment services client records (HDAS/HAGAM)	Position as at 31 st March 2013
	 Greater awareness, understanding, knowledge of alcohol issues among hospital staff. 	Staff Survey at 3, 6, 12,18 months	Position as beginning of project (staff survey)
	 Increased commitment of A&E and ward staff to screen, identify and refer dependent, harmful and hazardous drinkers. 	Specialist Alcohol Nurse to collect via referral forms	Position as beginning of project (staff survey)

		How it is captured?	Baseline
	Indicator		Measure
•	Improved pathways between acute services and the treatment system.	Treatment Drug Reference Group	Position as at 31 st March 2013
•	Reduction in antisocial behaviour freeing up Police and Council resources	Liaison with the Police and ASBIT team in respect of call out figures	
• • Pag	Reduction in alcohol harm to the individual drinker	Feedback to be obtained on street drinking related hospital admissions	
Page 60	A possible reduction in underage drinking	Monitoring of street drinking hotspots	
•	Reduction in complaints about street drinkers	Feedback on complaint statistics to be requested from the police and ASBIT.	

Agenda Item 6

SCRAP METAL DEALERS ACT 2013

Committee	Licensing Committee
Officer Contact	Beejal Soni
Papers with report	None
Ward(s) affected	All

SUMMARY

The Scrap Metal Dealers Act 2013 ("the Act") received Royal Assent on 28th February 2013 and is due to come into force from 1st October 2013.

The Act repeals the Scrap Metal Dealers Act 1964 (and related legislation) and Part 1 of the Vehicles (Crime) Act 2001, creating a revised regulatory regime for the scrap metal recycling and vehicle dismantling industries. The Act maintains local authorities as the principal regulator but gives them the power to better regulate these industries by allowing them to refuse to grant a licence to 'unsuitable' applicants and a power to revoke licences if the dealer becomes 'unsuitable'.

In order to discharge the Council's duties and obligations under the Act, it is possible that the Council's Scheme of Delegation may be amended later this year in order to enable the Licensing Committee to determine applications where it is proposed to refuse an application for a scrap metal dealer licence.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Licensing Committee notes the content of this report

INFORMATION

Key provisions of the new licensing regime

Licences

The Act makes it a requirement for a scrap metal dealer to hold a licence in order to carry on in business as a dealer. It is an offence to carry on a business without firstly obtaining a licence. Any person convicted can be fined at level 5 on the standard scale.

The Act creates two separate categories of scrap metal licences – a site licence and a collector's licence.

• A site licence allows the dealer to carry on business at any authorised site

• The collector's licence covers dealers who do not have a site but regularly collect through door to door collections.

PART 1 – MEMBERS, PUBLIC AND PRESS

Licences will be issued by the local authority in which the site is located or in which the collector operates. If a dealer intends to work from more than one local authority area, relevant licences will have to be obtained from each authority. A dealer may only hold either a site or collector's licence in any individual authority's area. Applications for a licence must be accompanied by full personal and business details and the relevant fee.

Suitability of the applicant

Local authorities must be satisfied that an applicant is a suitable person to operate as a scrap metal dealer before they may issue any licence. When determining whether an applicant is suitable, a local authority may have regard to any information that it considers relevant. Relevant matters will include applicant's behaviour in the operation of their business, alongside matters such as whether the dealer (or proposed site manager under a site licence) has been convicted of relevant offences or subject of relevant enforcement action. Prior refusals or revocations of scrap metal licences or environmental permits may also be taken into account.

To assist in determining this 'suitability test', a local authority can consult with other local authorities; the Environment Agency or Natural Resources Wales; and with the police.

Licence determinations

Licences granted will be valid for three years and may be renewed or varied or revoked. If an applicant or named site manager has been has been or is convicted of a relevant offence the local authority may add conditions requiring that:

• The dealer must not receive scrap except between 0900 and 1700 on any day

• That all scrap metal received must be kept in the form in which it is received for a specified period, not exceeding 72 hours, beginning with the time when it is received.

Where a council proposes to reject an application for a licence or revoke it or vary it, the applicant has to be notified and offered the opportunity to make representations and given at least 14 days to indicate that they wish to do so. If the applicant indicates that they wish to make representations, a further period of time must be given for these to be provided. If the applicant wishes to make oral representations then an opportunity to appear before the committee must be afforded to them. Because the legislation mostly mirrors the requirements of the Licensing Act 2003, the LGA has suggested that hearings be delegated to Licensing Committees/ Sub-Committees.

Any decision to refuse, revoke or vary any application must be accompanied by detailed reasons. In such cases, the applicant has right of appeal within 21 days from the date on which they were notified of the decision. Appeals against a decision are made to the local magistrates' court.

A record of all individuals and businesses licensed as scrap metal dealers is required to be maintained upon a central register, to be hosted by the Environment Agency. Dealers are obliged to inform the local licensing authority of any material change of information supplied in connection with an application and local authorities are obliged, in turn, to notify the Environment Agency.

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Licence compliance

In order to comply with their licence, any licensed dealer must:

- Display a copy of the relevant licence, in a prominent position, at each site or in any vehicle they use in the course of their business
- Verify the full name and address of anyone they receive scrap metal from by checking documents, data or other information from a reliable and independent source
- Pay for scrap metal by means of non-transferable cheque or electronic transfer of funds only
- Maintain full records of any scrap metal received or disposed of in the course of their business

Failure to comply with any of the above requirements constitutes an offence under the Act.

Enforcement

Police officers and authorised local authority officers have the right to enter and inspect a licensed site at any reasonable time provided they have given notice. Where giving notice would prevent the officers concerned checking that the legislation has been complied with, or they have tried to give notice but have failed, then they can still enter the site. These rights do not extend to any residential premises, however, and neither can force be used to gain entry. Where needed, a warrant allowing the use of force to gain entry can be obtained from a magistrate. Anyone obstructing an officer's right of entry or failing to produce a record is guilty of an offence.

Police officers or authorised local authority officers also have power to issue a closure notice on a non-residential premises being used as an unlicensed scrap metal dealer's site. The closure notice has to be given to the site manager and any other person who appears to be a director or manager of the business or anyone who occupies another part of any building or structure. A police officer or the council can cancel a closure notice through a cancellation notice.

Having issued a closure notice, an officer may apply to a magistrate for a closure order. An order cannot be applied for until a week after the closure notice was made or once more than six months have passed from the date when the notice was given. A magistrates' court may make an order where it is satisfied that a closure notice has been given and the premises continues to be used as a dealer's site or there is a reasonable likelihood it will in the future. The closure order can require the site to be immediately closed, for the dealer to stop using it in the course of their business, or for a sum to be retained by the court until requirements of the court have been met. The making of a closure order may be appealed to the Crown Court. Failure to comply with a closure order is an offence and an authorised officer may enter a premise and do anything necessary to ensure compliance with a closure order.

Transitional arrangements

In order to allow local authorities to process applications for scrap metal dealers licences without existing business being in a position where they cannot operate, the Home Office is implementing a transitional process. The release of key regulations including hearing procedures, fee setting licensing considerations has been delayed, leading to officers having to prepare for the transition when and as information becomes available.

The following timetable for transition is confirmed:

• Local authorities may set a licence fee from 1 September 2013.

• The main provisions of the Act commence on 1 October 2013, including the offence of buying scrap metal for cash.

• Dealers and motor salvage operators registered immediately before 1 October 2013 will be deemed to have a licence under the Act from 1 October 2013, provided the dealer submits an application for a licence on or before 15 October 2013. In such case their deemed licence will last until the council either issues them with a licence or gives notice of the decision to refuse a licence. However, they will be able to continue trading pending an appeal against the decision not to grant a licence.

• Where a dealer submits an application on or before 15 October 2013 but does not supply all the required information with the application form then the deemed licence remains in effect after 15 October 2013.

• Where a dealer with a deemed licence fails to submit an application on or before 15 October 2013 the deemed licence will lapse on 16 October 2013.

• Other scrap metal dealers, not previously registered, will be able to apply for a licence from 1 October 2013, but will have to wait until a licence is granted before they can legally trade.

• Local authorities will complete suitability checks on applicants and decide whether to issue licences. The Local Government Association (LGA) recommends that decisions on whether to grant or refuse a licence to previously registered dealers are made before 1 December 2013.

• All other enforcement provisions within the Act commence on 1 December 2013.

Meeting the timetable

In lieu of guidance from the Home Office, the LGA has taken on a co-ordination role to help achieve consistency in application of the new licensing regime. This authority is having regard to guidance received from the LGA including guidance on setting fees for licences under the Act.

Bearing in mind the short time frame prior to the Act commencing, Cabinet Member briefings have been issued. It is anticipated that a policy and fee for this new licensing regime will be presented to Cabinet in November 2013. Simultaneously, it is anticipated that Council will consider whether to extend the remit of the Licensing Committee to include the Act.

Final preparations to ensure that all involved parties understand their responsibilities and roles under the Act are due to begin shortly. These include:

• Local operators will be informed of the transitional arrangements; the steps they must take to ensure continuity of business; and the steps this council will take to determine their applications.

• Application forms, process and procedure, together with guidance notes will be confirmed and issued.

- Staff will receive full training on the Act.
- Partner services will be contacted and communication channels confirmed.
- Officers will be formally authorised.

A schedule of fees will also be calculated and come into effect retrospectively as at 1 October 2013. Fees will be calculated in accordance with Home Office and LGA guidance, when received, and will be considered at Cabinet level.

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The Licensing Service is currently collating information from the Food, Health and Safety team (who currently hold responsibility for Scrap Metal Dealer registration) relating to scrap metal dealers registered under the current regime. It is expected that all existing operators will wish to continue their business into the new regime and that a few new operators may apply.

Policy implications

It is anticipated that the introduction of this new licensing regime has the potential to make a significant contribution in dealing with metal theft and the impacts of metal theft in the borough.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

None at this stage. The introduction of the new licensing regime is likely to introduce a new fees and charges scheme at a later date.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

Legal considerations have been amalgamated into this document. Further work will require detailed and focused legal involvement.

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Agenda Item 7

ITEM

LADBROKES APPEAL UPDATE

Committee	Licensing Committee
Officer Contact	Stephanie Waterford, Licensing Service Manager x7232
Papers with report	None
Ward(s) affected	Uxbridge North

SUMMARY

To inform the Committee of the outcome of the Ladbrokes Appeal, being heard at Uxbridge Magistrates Court on 23rd and 25th September 2013.

RECOMMENDATION

That the committee note the information

INFORMATION

Due to reporting deadlines, a full briefing note will be provided at the Licensing Committee meeting.

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