

## STATEMENT OF LICENSING POLICY CONSULTATION

<b>Committee name</b>	Residents Education & Environmental Services Policy Overview Committee
<b>Officer reporting</b>	Daniel Ferrer, Residents Services
<b>Papers with report</b>	<b>Appendix A</b> - Overview of proposed policy changes <b>Appendix B</b> - Draft 2021 Statement of Licensing Policy <b>Appendix C</b> - Equality Impact Assessment
<b>Ward</b>	All

### HEADLINES

This report is to consult with and invite comments from the Committee on the updated draft Statement of Licensing Policy.

This Policy is deemed as 'Policy Framework' under the Council's constitution and so requires full approval by full Council.

### RECOMMENDATIONS:

**That the Committee considers the revisions to the Statement of Licensing Policy and offers comments to be considered by Cabinet at the end of the consultation period.**

### SUPPORTING INFORMATION

The Council is required to review its licensing policies at regular intervals to ensure that it is carrying out licensing functions in accordance with current legislation. During this review, consideration has been given to how changes might improve the way in which services are being delivered, to make them more efficient and customer friendly.

A draft policy has been produced which now needs to be consulted upon, prior to final consideration by Cabinet or adoption by full Council.

The Licensing Act 2003 controls sales of alcohol, regulated entertainment and late night refreshment. The Council is required by Section 5 of the Licensing Act 2003 to review the Statement of Licensing Policy every five years. Hillingdon's current policy was adopted by Full Council in January 2016 and is therefore due for review, and subsequent approval by January 2021, before it expires. There have been some legislative changes under the Licensing Act. This has been incorporated into the revised policy.

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Classification: Public

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Relevant appendices are:

- An overview document detailing the proposed changes is attached at **Appendix A**.
- The draft policy attached at **Appendix B**
- Equality Impact Assessment at **Appendix C**

**The proposed timetable for policy implementation is set out below:**

24 <sup>th</sup> September 2020	Draft Policies to Cabinet.
5 <sup>th</sup> October 2020	Consultation period starts
14 <sup>th</sup> October 2020	Licensing Committee
15 <sup>th</sup> October 2020	Residents Education & Environmental Services POC
22 <sup>nd</sup> November 2020	Consultation period ends
10 <sup>th</sup> December 2020	Final policy to Cabinet post-consultation
14 <sup>th</sup> January 2021	Statement of Licensing Policy considered at Full Council.

### **Implications on related Council policies**

A role of the Policy Overview Committees is to make recommendations on service changes and improvements to the Cabinet who are responsible for the Council's policy and direction.

The proposed Statement of Licensing Policy is a policy framework document under the Council's Constitution. As such, Cabinet is required to approve them in draft form with a timetable to include a period of formal consultation (minimum 6 weeks), to include Licensing Committee and the Policy Overview Committee. Cabinet will then consider the responses of the consultation before deciding whether or not to recommend them to full Council for adoption.

### **How this report benefits Hillingdon residents**

The regular review and adoption of the Statement of Licensing Policy ensures that the licensing framework are up to date and effective in ensuring a safe and regulated environment for users of licensed premises. It will also ensure that there are methods for robust enforcement and review of problem licensed premises.

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## **Financial Implications**

It is important that the Committee considers cost effective proposals that benefit resident taxpayers in relation to this review, which would ultimately be determined by Cabinet as part of the Council's broader budget planning process.

Corporate Finance has reviewed the report and confirms that there are no financial implications arising from the recommendations in this report.

## **Legal Implications**

The Borough Solicitor confirms that the legal implications are included in the report. Further, more detailed legal advice will be given as necessary when the outcome of the Consultation is reported back to Cabinet.

## **BACKGROUND PAPERS**

Current Statement of Licensing Policy

Revised Government Guidance issued by the Home Office under Section 182 of the Licensing Act 2003 - last updated 24 April 2018

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/explanatory-memorandum-revised-guidance-issued-under-s-182-of-licensing-act-2003>