STATEMENT OF LICENSING POLICY

London Borough of Sutton BRS Licensing Section Civic Offices St Nicholas Way Sutton Surrey SM1 1EA

INDEX

SECTION	CONTENTS	PAGE
1	Introduction	1
2	Policy Principles, Purpose & Scope	3
3	Strategic integration with other policies and regulatory systems	4
4	Cumulative impact	6
5	Policy - consultation & review	12
6	Information exchange	13
7	Committee structure & delegation of functions	13
8	Hearings process	14
9	General principles of licensing decisions	15
10	Application process	17
11	Premises licence & Club Premises Certificate applications	18
12	Temporary Event Notice applications	20
13	Personal Licence applications	21
14	Crime & Disorder objective	21
15	Public Safety objective	22
16	Prevention of Public Nuisance objective	22
17	Prevention of Harm to Children objective	24
18	Special Events	26
19	Licence/Certificate conditions	26
20	Enforcement	27
21	Live Music, Dancing & Theatre	28
22	Reviews	28
23	Relevant representations	29
24	Complaints against Licensed Premises	31
25	Licensing Register	31
26	Copyright & royalties	31

List of Appendices	32
Appendix A – Table of delegations	33
Appendix B – Operating Schedules – matters to check	35
Appendix C – Contact Details	37

1. Introduction

- 1.1 This Statement of Licensing Policy is made under section 5 of the Licensing Act 2003 (the 2003 Act) and details the Councils administration of those licensing functions under it.
- 1.2 The London Borough of Sutton is committed to the delivery of sustainable economic growth throughout the Borough. The Council believes that our Town and District Centres are vital to generating a thriving local economy and have the opportunity to bring with them both economic and social benefits.
- 1.3 Our Town Centres are evolving and Sutton is looking to the future to ensure the Borough can think ahead and position itself to weather these changes. This will include strengthening our leisure offer by creating a lively attractive night time economy that is fully inclusive, encourages families back into the high street in the evening and most importantly is safe.
- 1.4 Our vision is therefore for Sutton to have a vibrant and diverse night time economy which will include a wide choice of high quality and well managed entertainment and cultural venues in our town and district centres that are valued by those who live, work and visit the Borough.
- 1.5 The Council has extensive experience in regulating entertainment with Sutton currently home to over 500 licensed premises including pubs, bars, wine bars, restaurants, theatres and nightclubs. Many other premises including cultural venues and shops are also licensed.
- 1.6 This policy identifies the importance of widening the overall offer of licensed premises in the Borough and the associated impact on the quality of life and protection of our local residents. It also takes into consideration the development of a greater diversity in the types of entertainment and cultural activity on offer for all age groups. By doing this it furthers the objectives of prevention of crime and disorder and public nuisance.
- 1.7 The Council understands the detrimental effect that a drink dominated offer can have on the high street, its residents and visitors and wishes to discourage the effects of excessive vertical drinking. In response to this the Council are encouraging initiatives that create a positive change in Sutton's night time economy including the provision of additional seating in premises which serve alcohol. This provides an opportunity for people to sit and enjoy a drink and order food by table service, in place of open bar space which caters for high volume vertical drinking. As such this policy will actively promote the implementation of the licensing objectives.
- 1.8 Through this Policy the Council aims to secure the safety and amenity of residential and business communities whilst ensuring a sustainable

entertainment and cultural industry. To achieve this we must consider the needs of residents and businesses for a safe and healthy environment to live and work in. The Council recognises the importance of well-managed entertainment premises to the local economy, ambience and culture of the Borough and is committed to partnership working with the licensing trade, local businesses, the Successful Sutton Business Improvement District, residents and the responsible authorities.

- 1.9 Alcohol-related illness or injury accounts for 180,000 hospital admissions per year. The total annual healthcare cost related to alcohol misuse are in excess of £1.7 billion per year with the bulk of this cost borne by the NHS. Alcohol-related deaths have more than doubled since 1979, with more people dying at a younger age.
- 1.10 Alcohol is associated with a wide range of criminal offences including drink driving, being drunk and disorderly, criminal damage, assault and domestic violence. In young people alcohol is associated with antisocial behaviour and teenage conceptions. In Sutton the prevalence of binge drinking is estimated at 14.7% compared to 14.3% in London and 20.1% nationally. However for small geographic areas within the borough, at middle super output area level, the range is 10% to 21%. The estimated levels of drinking at "increasing risk" is higher than London or England levels. Sutton has lower rates of alcohol related hospital admissions compared to the London and national rates. These rates have increased over the last 5 years but the rate of increase in Sutton is greater than that of the regional and national increases. The picture of risky drinking behaviour is complex. Information from synthetic estimates on binge drinking suggests a link with deprivation in Sutton. Patterns of health services use suggests that higher risk drinking is more wide spread – occurring in both deprived and affluent areas.
- 1.11 London Ambulance data shows that Sutton town centre is a hotspot for alcohol related violence. This mostly occurs on Friday and Saturday evenings into the early hours. Drug and Alcohol Needs Assessments have highlighted the increased numbers of younger adults entering into substance misuse treatment, particularly for powder cocaine abuse. This is likely to have a link to disorder in the night time economy. Wandle Valley, a largely residential ward with no night time economy of note, also has concerning levels of assault. Lower level alcohol related disorder, particularly linked to groups of youths, remains the key concern of residents interviewed in the borough wide INSI survey. The bottom end of Sutton high street is perceived as a particularly intimidating location by some residents. The majority of minors stopped in the possession of alcohol in the past year live in St Helier and Wandle Valley, with the peak time being between 19:00 and 21:00.

- 1.12 Clusters of particular types of licensed premises in Sutton's Town and District Centres can lead to an accumulation of issues culminating in increased crime and disorder, anti-social behaviour and public nuisance. Saturation policies will be considered to address these.
- 1.13 The sale of high strength alcohol can also be a significant factor undermining the licensing objectives. On and off-sales will be encouraged to sign up to the Borough-wide commitment to "reducing the strength" whereby premises commit to not sell beer, lager or cider in excess of 6.5% alcohol by volume. Premises within saturation zones are particularly encouraged to comply with this.
- 1.14 This policy sets the expectations for licence holders in the Borough and establishes a framework by which they will be supported to deliver those expectations with a clear and stepped approach to enforcement where appropriate.
- 1.15 This Statement of Licensing Policy has been produced following the provisions of the 2003 Act and the Guidance issued under section 182 of the 2003 Act published in October 2012.

2 Policy Principles, Purpose & Scope

Principles

- 2.1 The Council, in partnership with the other Responsible Authorities, will carry out its licensing functions as required by the 2003 Act in order to promote equally the four licensing objectives:
 - a) the prevention of crime and disorder
 - b) public safety
 - c) the prevention of public nuisance
 - d) the protection of children from harm
- 2.2 This Statement of Licensing Policy fulfils the requirements of the 2003 Act by setting out the policies that the Council will generally apply to promote the licensing objectives when making decisions on applications made under it. It also gives applicants, interested parties and representatives guidance on the administration, application, objection, and hearing processes.
- 2.3 The Council will have due regard to the 2003 Act, the regulations made under it, the Secretary of States' Guidance and this Policy when administering licences under the 2003 Act.
- 2.4 This Policy seeks to avoid duplication with other regulatory regimes as far as possible but recognises that there will be unique circumstances that arise that will require specifically tailored conditions.
- 2.5 The Council will ensure it follows the principles of the Human Rights Act 1998 and the Race Relations Act 1976 (as amended) in the

administration of licences under this Policy.

2.6 Applicants should be aware that the Licensing Authority is entitled to impose conditions on a licence in accordance with the areas included in the operating schedule or when valid representations have been submitted.

Purpose

2.7 This policy's principle purpose is to provide elected members of the Licensing Committee with details of the local authorities powers as licensing authority and inform members, licence applicants, residents and businesses of the parameters within which the Sub Committees will make their decisions.

<u>Scope</u>

2.8 Sutton Council, as the licensing authority under the 2003 Act, is responsible for administering premises licences, club premises certificates, temporary event notices and personal licences in the Borough in respect of the sale and/or supply of alcohol and the provision of regulated entertainment and late night refreshment as defined within the 2003 Act.

3 Strategic Integration with other Policies and Regulatory Systems

3.1 The Council has adopted a variety of strategies to protect and promote a Safer, Fairer, Greener Borough. These include the Opportunity Sutton programme and strategies for Crime and Disorder Reduction and Alcohol Harm Reduction. The Council has taken initiatives to prevent anti-social behaviour, noise and degradation of the street environment. These problems are often associated with, but not limited to, late night entertainment. A combination of licensing, planning and other powers along with effective management of the street environment is required to tackle these problems. This Licensing Policy will contribute to those overarching aims expressed in the Local Development Plan, Joint Health and Well Being Strategy and Community Safety Strategy and specifically the underpinning Opportunity Sutton Programme and Multi-Agency Alcohol Harm Reduction Strategy. Through the promotion of the licensing objectives the policy will contribute to improving the quality of life for residents and businesses and reduce alcohol related hospital admissions.

<u>Planning</u>

3.2 The local planning authority is a responsible authority and can make representations on applications. However it can only make representations related to the licensing objectives. Public nuisance, public safety and crime and disorder are shared concerns of planning and licensing. Concerns that fall short of this are outside the scope of

the licensing regime.

- 3.3 A valid planning consent for the premises does not guarantee that the relevant licensing permissions will be granted and vice versa. Applicants should directly consult the local planning authority as early as possible to ensure that the premises have the necessary planning consent for the specific type of activity that the applicant wishes to undertake. Where this is not the case, the applicant will need to make a separate application for planning permission.
- 3.4 Planning is concerned with the development and use of premises and the impact on amenities and the environment, whereas Licensing is the regime that is directed at individual licensable activities and their management and their impact on the licensing objectives. Licensing is the most appropriate tool to ensure the licensing objectives are promoted through premises being properly managed and operated and where necessary the types, number, location and hours of premises being controlled when this cannot be done adequately through other legislation. Licensing is a key means of controlling nuisance and antisocial behaviour and part of a holistic approach to management of the evening and night-time economy.
- 3.5 Applicants are advised that it would be prudent to obtain planning permission prior to applying for a licence. If applicants are unsure of the planning system advice should be sought from the Councils planning department details of which are contained in appendix C.

Other Council Strategies

- 3.6 The Council recognises the links between excessive alcohol consumption and poor health. The Licensing policy and regime is a key element of a wider package of initiatives to tackle alcohol harm reduction delivered through the Sutton Multi-Agency Alcohol Harm Reduction strategy and contributing to the Borough's Joint Health and Well Being Strategy. Within the context of the Licensing Objectives, Planning has a key role to support these wider strategies. The Council recognises the public health impacts of alcohol use and will ensure they are taken into account when promoting the licensing objectives.
- 3.7 The Council recognises the value of integrating this Policy with other local authority policies on crime prevention, crime and disorder, planning, transport, tourism, race equality and culture, and any other plans introduced for the management of the night-time economy.
- 3.8 To ensure these issues are reflected in their considerations, the Licensing Committee will receive, when appropriate, reports on:
 - any transport protocols agreed between the police and any other licensing enforcement officers to ensure the need to disperse people from town centres swiftly and safely

- the cultural strategy for the area
- the employment situation in the Borough and the need for investment and employment.
- 3.9 This Policy confirms that, wherever possible, licensing will not duplicate the work of other statutory regimes that run parallel with its aims e.g. health and safety at work or fire safety.
- 3.11 The Licensing Committee, in considering a licence application, will not trespass into areas for which the local authority is statutorily responsible, for example, planning and food hygiene. Applicants will not be required to debate issues that have already been addressed, or are to be addressed, and determined by the local authority.

4 Cumulative impact

- 4.1 The Council recognises that the cumulative impact of the number, type and density of licensed premises in a given area, which may lead to low level, persistent and or serious problems of nuisance and disorder outside and some distance from the premises. These would be matters for the Licensing Committee. The Council recognises that the absence of a special policy on cumulative impact does not prevent a Responsible Authority or other person making representations that an application may give rise to cumulative impact.
- 4.2 Representations may be received from a responsible authority, and/or other person, that the cumulative effect of new licences is leading to an area becoming saturated with premises, making it a focal point for large groups of people to gather and circulate away from the licensed premises themselves, creating problems of disorder and nuisance over and above the impact from the individual premises. Queuing in itself may lead to conflict, disorder and anti-social behaviour. Local services such as public transport, public lavatory provision and street cleaning may not be able to meet the demand posed by such concentrations of drinkers leading to issues such as street fouling, littering, traffic and public nuisance.
- 4.3 Such issues are not restricted solely to premises licensed for on-sales but also off sales, late night refreshments and fast food takeaways and premises licensed for gambling. Clustering of such premises can contribute to a cumulative effect that can lead to and feed crime and disorder, public nuisance, street fouling and littering. Such outcomes significantly impact on fear of crime and undermine feelings of security and community well being.
- 4.4 In these circumstances, the Council may consider that the imposition of conditions is unlikely to address these problems and may consider the adoption of a special policy of refusing new premises licences or club premises certificates. This would only be wherever it receives relevant representations about the cumulative impact on the licensing objectives

from responsible authorities and other persons that an area is saturated with licensed premises and the granting of any more would undermine one or more of the licensing objectives.

- 4.5 In the absence of a special saturation policy the responsibility is on those making representations to provide evidence to back up any contention that the addition of the premises in question would produce the cumulative impact claimed, whilst recognising that the impact can be expected to be different for premises with different styles and characteristics.
- 4.6 The Council will take the following steps when considering whether to adopt a special saturation policy:
 - Identify concern about crime and disorder, public safety, public nuisance or protection of children from harm;
 - Assess the causes of these concerns;
 - Consider whether there is good evidence that crime and disorder or nuisance are occurring or activities pose a threat to public safety or the protection of children from harm;
 - Establish that the evidence demonstrates this is a result of the activities of customers from licensed premises or that the risk of cumulative impact is imminent;
 - Identify the area from which problems are arising and the boundaries of that area;
 - Consult with those specified in section 5(3) of the 2003 Act; and
 - Subject to the above, adopt a policy about future licence applications from that area within the terms of the Secretary of States' guidance; and
 - Publish a special policy within this statement of licensing policy
 - 4.7 The Council will review any special saturation policies at least every five years to see whether they have had the effect intended, and whether they are still needed.
 - 4.8 The Council will not use such policies solely:
 - as the grounds for revoking a licence when representations are received about problems with existing licensed premises; or,
 - to refuse applications to vary an existing licence, except where the modifications are directly relevant to the policy, (for example, where the application is for a significant increase in the capacity limits) and are strictly appropriate for the promotion of the licensing objectives.
 - 4.9 Any such policy would relate only to the rebuttable presumption of refusing new applications for premises licences or club premises certificates. Any policy would not justify and would not include

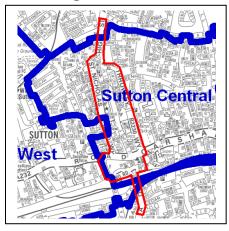
provisions for a terminal hour in a particular area.

4.10 There can be confusion about the difference between the "need" for premises and the "cumulative impact" of premises on the licensing objectives, for example on crime and disorder. "Need" concerns the commercial demand for another pub or restaurant or hotel and is a matter for the planning authority and for the market. This is not a matter for a licensing authority in discharging its licensing functions or for its statement of licensing policy.

Saturation Zones

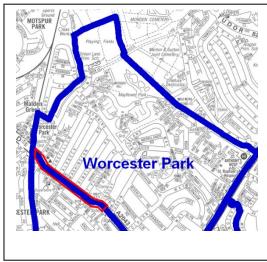
- 4.11 The Council acting as Licensing Authority is applying the special policies, by adoption at full Council on 31 March 2014, relating to cumulative impact as outlined in Amended Guidance (paragraphs 13.23-13.38) to the following limited areas in Sutton:
 - Sutton High Street
 - Central Road, Worcester Park
 - Rosehill
 - Wrythe Lane, The Wrythe
 - The Queen Victoria Junction, Nonsuch and Worcester Park
 - Sutton Common Road, Stonecot
 - Wallington Town Centre
 - Mollison Drive, Beddington South

Sutton High Street



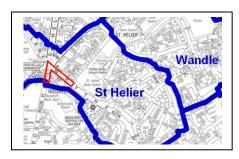
The area is defined as Sutton High street and roads within the area bounded by and including Sutton High Street from its northern end at the junction with Oakhill Road, Marshalls Road, Throwley Way, crossing and including Carshalton Road, Chalk Pit Way, Sutton Court Road and Brighton Road up to and including its junction with Cedar Road on the eastern side and from Sutton High Street from its northern end at the junction with Oakhill Road, Crown Road, St Nicholas Way, Sutton Park Road, Grove Road and Brighton Road up to and including its junction with Cedar Road on the western side. Issues of concern are focussed on all of the licensing objectives and particularly associated with anti-social behaviour, public nuisance, littering, street fouling and littering associated with the cumulative impact of licensed on and off sales, late night refreshment and fast food.

Central Road, Worcester Park



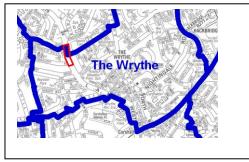
The area is defined as Central Road, Worcester Park from its western end at the Borough boundary continuing into Cheam Common Road to its junctions with Ruskin Drive and The Retreat. Issues of concern are focussed on all of the licensing objectives and particularly associated with anti-social behaviour, public nuisance, littering, street fouling and littering associated with the cumulative impact of licensed on and off sales, late night refreshment and fast food.

Rosehill



The area is defined as Rosehill from south of its junction with Rosehill Avenue up to and including the Rosehill Roundabout and Wrythe Lane from south of its junction with Roberstbridge Road up to and including Rosehill Roundabout. Issues of concern are focussed on all of the licensing objectives and particularly associated with antisocial behaviour, public nuisance, littering, street fouling and littering associated with the cumulative impact of licensed on and off sales, late night refreshment and fast food.

Wrythe Lane, The Wrythe

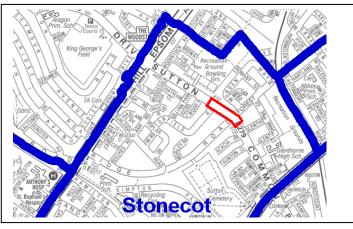


The area is defined as Wrythe Lane from its junction with Westminster Road at the northern end to past its junction with Connaught Road at its southern end. Issues of concern are focussed on all of the licensing objectives and particularly associated with anti-social behaviour, public nuisance, littering, street fouling and littering associated with the cumulative impact of licensed on and off sales, late night refreshment and fast food.

Queen Victoria Junction, Nonsuch

The area is defined as Malden Road from its junction south of Church Hill Road northward, A24 London Road from its junction of with Briar Court northward to its junction with Glyn Road, and Cheam Common Road from its junction with Wellington Avenue southward. Issues of concern are focussed on all of the licensing objectives and particularly associated with anti-social behaviour, public nuisance, littering, street fouling and littering associated with the cumulative impact of licensed on and off sales, late night refreshment and fast food.

Sutton Common Road, Stonecot



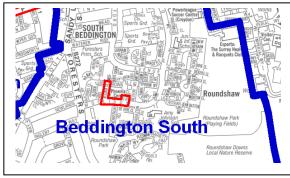
Sutton Common Road from west of its junction with Tonfield Road to north of its junctions with Acacia Drive and Glenthorne Gardens. Issues of concern are focussed on all of the licensing objectives and particularly associated with anti-social behaviour, public nuisance, littering, street fouling and littering associated with the cumulative impact of licensed on and off sales, late night refreshment and fast food.

Wallington Town Centre



The area is defined as A237 Manor Road from its junction with Croydon Road, continuing south into Woodcote Road up to and including its junction with Stafford Road and continuing into Stafford Road running east up to the Borough boundary. Issues of concern are focussed on all of the licensing objectives and particularly associated with anti-social behaviour, public nuisance, littering, street fouling and littering associated with the cumulative impact of licensed on and off sales, late night refreshment and fast food.

Mollison Drive, Beddington South



The area is defined as Alcock Close up to and including its junction with Mollison Drive and continuing eastward on Mollison Drive up to its junction with Meteor Way. Issues of concern are focussed on all of the licensing objectives and particularly associated with anti-social behaviour, public nuisance, littering, street fouling and littering associated with the cumulative impact of licensed on and off sales, late night refreshment and fast food.

- 4.12 This arises from concern about crime and disorder, public safety, public nuisance and protection of children from harm. In particular these areas experience higher levels of anti-social behaviour and public nuisance caused by those drawn to the areas by the availability of premises licensed for alcohol, late night refreshment along with the attraction of other entertainments and recreational activities. They also are areas where greater concern for safety is expressed by residents arising from issues directly associated with customers of licensed premises that is supported by further detailed evidence.
- 4.13 The Council has considered other available controls including those set

out in paragraph 13.39 of the Guidance. Measures currently available include Planning Policies, ward action plans to tackle crime and antisocial behaviour, CCTV coverage, drink banning orders, Designated Public Place Orders giving Police powers to seize alcohol and stop street drinking, Behave or Be Banned schemes and Responsible Retailer Agreements.

- 4.14 The effect of adopting a special policy of this kind is to create a rebuttal presumption that applications for the grant or variation of premises licences or club premises certificates which are likely to add to the existing cumulative impact will normally be refused or subject to certain limitations, following relevant representations, unless the applicant can demonstrate in the operating schedule that there will be no negative cumulative impact on one or more of the licensing objectives. Applicants should give consideration to potential cumulative impact issues when setting out the steps they will take to promote the licensing objectives in their application.
- 4.15 This policy does not relieve responsible authorities (or any other persons) of the need to make relevant representations about the cumulative impact on the licensing objectives that an area is saturated with licensed premises and the granting of any more would undermine one or more of the licensing objectives.

5 Policy Consultation & Review

- 5.1 The Council will consult with all the Responsible Authorities and such other persons that it considers to be representative of holders of the current licences, businesses and local residents before publishing this Statement of Licensing Policy.
- 5.2 Appropriate weight will be given to the views of all consulted before this Statement of Licensing Policy takes effect in March 2014.
- 5.3 The Council may also consult with neighbouring local authorities, Community Safety Partnerships, the British Transport Police, St Helier Hospital Accident & Emergency Department, local bodies representing consumers and promoting tourism, local performers, performers trades unions, and entertainers involved in the cultural life of the community.
- 5.4 Consultation will be undertaken with a minimum period of six weeks for comments to be received.
- 5.5 Before publishing any subsequent amendments, the Council will consult with all the Responsible Authorities and persons/bodies representative of local holders of premises licences, club premises certificates, personal licences, businesses and residents in the Borough.
- 5.6 This policy will remain in force for a period of not more than 5 years

from March 2013 and will be subject to review and further consultation before March 2018.

6 Information Exchange

6.1 The Council will, on request, divulge certain information (subject to the Data Protection Act 1998 and any Memoranda of Understanding) to the relevant responsible authorities as defined in the 2003 Act and others that have a statutory duty to demand such information, e.g. HMRC.

7 Committee Structure and Delegation of Functions

- 7.1 The Council has established a Licensing Committee to administer the wide range of licensing functions under the 2003 Act. It is also constituted to deal with applications not delegated to officers under other licensing legislation.
- 7.2 The Licensing Committee is made up of a maximum of 15 Councillors.
- 7.3 Sub Committees consisting of 3 members of the Licensing Committee will be formed to hear contested applications.
- 7.4 The Licensing Committee will meet as often as required, and not less than once a year.
- 7.5 The Sub-Committees, will meet as often as necessary to complete business within the statutory time limits for determination of opposed licence applications.
- 7.6 Appendix A sets out the agreed delegation of decisions and functions to the Licensing Committee, Sub-Committees, and officers.
- 7.7 This form of delegations is without prejudice to officers referring an application to a Sub-Committee, or a Sub-Committee to Committee, if considered appropriate in the circumstances of any particular case.
- 7.8 Many decisions and functions are purely administrative in nature and will not be dealt with by Committee. For example, the Councils Licensing Manager will deal with the grant of non-contentious applications. These will include those licences and certificates where no representations have been made, or where representations have been made and it is agreed by all parties involved that a hearing is not necessary.

- 7.9 The Licensing Manager, in consultation with Police and other Responsible Authorities, will also be responsible for drafting appropriate conditions for premises licences and club registration certificates in accordance with operating schedules. Where there is not agreement between the Responsible Authorities the matter will be referred to the Licensing Sub-Committee.
- 7.10 Officers will work in a manner that will ensure compliance with the 2003 Act and all associated legislation.
- 7.11 Where a councillor, as a member of the Licensing Committee or a Licensing Sub-Committee, is making or has made representations on behalf of an interested party or in their own right or has had a direct, or indirect involvement in the affairs of an application before them, they will disqualify themselves from any involvement in the decision-making process.
- 7.12 The Licensing Sub-Committee will usually defer to the next Sub-Committee meeting or exceptionally refer to the Licensing Committee any matter it is unable to deal with because of the number of its members who are unable to take part in the consideration or discussion of any matter or vote on any question with respect to it.
- 7.13 The Licensing Committee will refer to the licensing authority any matter it is unable to deal with because of the number of its members who are unable to take part in the consideration or discussion of any matter or vote on any question with respect to it.
- 7.14 A clear statement of reasons for the decision will accompany every determination of a licensing decision by the Licensing Committee or a Licensing Sub-Committee.
- 7.15 The Council will make sure that Members and officers are appropriately trained to carry out their duties under the 2003 Act and a record of this will be kept by the Licensing Manager.

8 Hearings Process

- 8.1 The hearings will be conducted in accordance with the relevant regulations and the approved hearing procedure.
- 8.2 The hearings will usually be held at the Civic Offices, St Nicholas Way, Sutton during normal office hours unless there are exceptional circumstances that require a different location or time.
- 8.3 All meetings are open to the public subject to the restrictions laid down in regulations made under the Licensing Act 2003.
- 8.4 Agendas will be published according to the regulations made under the Licensing Act 2003.

- 8.5 Whilst contested applications are adversarial in nature the Sub Committee will try to keep the hearing proceedings as informal as possible; recognising that all parties must receive a full, fair and open hearing. It is preferable that the procedure is inquisitorial rather than adversarial, and whilst applicants, other persons, and responsible authorities, are entitled to have legal representation, this is not a requirement.
- 8.6 Applicants should be aware that members of the Licensing Sub Committee might wish to visit the premises in question and that this would normally be done during the hearing itself to enable all parties to the hearing to be present.
- 8.7 Applicants are advised to read the Guidance on Hearings, which are available on the Councils website www.sutton.gov.uk.

9 General principles of licensing decisions

Right to be considered on merit

9.1 Nothing in this Statement of Licensing Policy will undermine the rights of any person to apply under the 2003 Act for a variety of permissions and have each application considered on its individual merits.

Right to make representations

9.2 Nothing in this Statement of Licensing Policy will override the right of any person to make representations on any application or seek a review of a licence or certificate where they are permitted to do so under the 2003 Act.

Consideration of Representations

- 9.3 The Councils policy is to refuse to consider representations received outside of the period prescribed by regulations made under s17(5) of the 2003 Act.
- 9.4 The Council will only consider representations based on the impact on the promotion of the licensing objectives relevant to the particular application before it.

Focus of application

9.5 Licensing is about the control of licensed premises, qualifying clubs and temporary events, within the terms of the 2003 Act.

- 9.6 Conditions will only be attached to licences, certificates, and permissions to cover matters that are within the control of individual licensees and others in possession of relevant authorisations.
- 9.7 When considering these conditions, the Council will primarily focus on the direct impact of the licensable activities taking place at licensed premises on members of the public living, working, or engaged in normal activity in the area concerned.

Extent of licensees responsibilities - other controls

- 9.8 Licensing conditions cannot be used for the general control of antisocial behaviour by individuals or nuisance once they are beyond the direct control of the licensee of any premises concerned, however, the Council expects every holder of a licence or certificate to be responsible for minimising the impact of their activities and their patrons anti-social behaviour within the immediate vicinity of their premises, e.g. not serving alcohol to persons who are drunk. Conditions will be:
 - Appropriate for the promotion of the licensing objectives
 - Precise and enforceable
 - Unambiguous and clear in what they intend to achieve
 - Tailored to the individual type, location and characteristics of the premises and events concerned
 - Proportionate, justifiable and capable of being met
 - Written in a prescriptive format
- 9.9 Conditions will not:
 - Duplicate other statutory requirements or other duties placed on the employer by other legislation
 - Be standardised
 - Replicate offences set out in the 2003 Act or other legislation
 - Seek to manage the behaviour of customers once they are beyond the direct management of the licence holder and their staff, but may impact on the behaviour of customers in the immediate vicinity of the premises as they enter or leave.
- 9.10 The Council recognises that, apart from the licensing function, there are a number of other mechanisms available for addressing issues of unruly behaviour that can occur away from licensed premises including:
 - planning controls
 - positive measures to create a safe and clean environment in these areas in partnership with local businesses, transport operators and other departments of the council

- provision of CCTV surveillance in town centres, ample taxi ranks, public conveniences open late at night, street cleaning & litter patrols
- designating parts of the Borough as places where alcohol may not be consumed publicly
- police enforcement of the general law regarding disorder and anti-social behaviour including the issue of fixed penalty notices
- the prosecution of those selling alcohol to people who are drunk
- the confiscation of alcohol from adults and children in designated areas
- the use of police powers to instantly close down licensed premises or temporary events on the grounds of disorder, or likelihood of disorder or noise from the premises causing a nuisance
- the power of the police, other responsible authorities or a local resident or business to seek a review of the licence or certificate in question
- Early Morning Alcohol Restriction Orders

10 Application Process

- 10.1 All applications are to be made in accordance with the relevant regulations made under the 2003 Act.
- 10.2 Copies of applications must be sent to all responsible authorities at the addresses shown in Appendix C, unless the application is submitted electronically, in which case Responsible Authorities will be notified of such submissions by the Council.
- 10.3 It is the Authority's intention to contact applicants in the first instance to rectify any mistakes or omissions in any application made before rejecting it and returning it as incomplete.
- 10.4 A list of current applications can be viewed on the Council's website <u>www.sutton.gov.uk.</u>
- 10.5 Full applications can be viewed at the Council's Licensing Offices between the hours of 0900 hrs and 1700 hrs Monday to Friday.
- 10.6 The applicant must demonstrate that notice of application has been given to the responsible authorities by providing proof of service and a copy of the advertisement in the local newspaper.
- 10.7 All applications and notices must be advertised in accordance with the relevant regulations made under the 2003 Act.

11 Premises Licence & Club Premises Certificate applications

Licensing Hours

- 11.1 The Council recognises that differentiated licensing hours for the sale or supply of alcohol is likely to avoid large numbers of people leaving on-licence premises simultaneously. This may, in turn, reduce the friction that can lead to disorder and disturbance at late night fast food outlets, taxi ranks, minicab offices and other sources of transport. Equally late night off-sales of alcohol can impact on the local community and the quiet amenity that residents can expect to enjoy.
- 11.2 Fixed trading hours within designated areas will not be set as this could lead to significant movements of people across boundaries at particular times seeking premises opening later, with the attendant concentration of disturbance and noise that the 2003 Act is trying to avoid.
- 11.3 Such fixed hours may cause the peaks of disorder and disturbance that the 2003 Act is trying to avoid and minimise any potential improvement in the prevention of crime and disorder or public nuisance and would not be necessary to promote the licensing objectives.
- 11.4 The Council will deal with the issue of licensing hours having due regard to the individual merits of each application, including its particular location, considering the potential for nuisance associated with the style, characteristics, and activities of the business, and examining any steps that might reduce the risk of nuisance.
- 11.5 The Council considers that it is clear that the risk of disturbance to residents is greater when licensable activities carry on later and into the early morning.
- 11.6 Premises opening times and licensable activities are separate entities. Licences and certificates issued will specify the authorised period for licensable activities e.g. the sale of alcohol. The opening hours of premises/events may be different from this to allow, for example, "drinking up time" for previously purchased alcohol, or when a store opens early but does not sell alcohol until later.
- 11.7 Within residential areas and saturation zones there is an expectation that licensed activities and their hours of operation will not impact on the quiet amenity that can reasonably be enjoyed by residents.

Operating Schedules

- 11.8 The Council expects that operating schedules will comply with the requirements laid out in s17 of the 2003 Act, and the Secretary of States' guidance.
- 11.9 Applicants should be aware that responsible authorities may consider,

amongst other things, the matters listed in Appendix B when examining operating schedules.

- 11.10 Applicants for regulated entertainment involving live music or other cultural activities may wish to consult with local representatives of the Musicians Union, before completing their operating schedule. They may also wish to consider the provisions of the Live Music Act 2012 to identify whether live music needs to be included in the application or not.
- 11.11 It is recommended that applicants, having completed their operating schedules, should seek the views of the responsible authorities, before submitting their application. Contact details are in Appendix C. Applicants can expect to be invited to meet with the Council and Police or other Responsible Authorities to discuss their application in the light of their responsibilities under the Licensing Act and the Section 182 Guidance.

Risk Assessments

- 11.12 Applicants should ensure that risk assessments are undertaken where necessary to assist in producing a comprehensive operating schedule and fully address the four licensing objectives.
- 11.13 The Council would expect capacity / accommodation levels to be addressed in operating schedules where risk assessments show this to be appropriate to promote the licensing objectives.

Disability Discrimination Act 1995

11.14 The Disability Discrimination Act 1995 introduced measures to tackle discrimination encountered against disabled people in the areas of employment, access to goods, facilities and services, and the management, buying or renting of land or property. Service providers, such as licensees will, from October 2004, have to make reasonable adjustments to any physical features that make it impossible, or unreasonably difficult, for disabled persons to access a service, or they will have to provide the service by a reasonable alternative means.

Premises Licences for Temporary Events

- 11.15 Applications must follow the same procedures and form as for a Premises Licence, but applicants are advised that the Council expects early notice of such events to allow the responsible authorities' time to discuss the operating schedules and draft risk assessments well before a formal application is submitted.
- 11.16 The authority requests that applications for premises licences should be made not less than two calendar months before the event for

events up to 1000 persons; and not less than three calendar months for events in excess of 1000 persons.

12 Temporary Event Notice

- 12.1 Temporary Event Notices, commonly referred to as 'TENs', can be used to authorise licensable activities for temporary periods or specific occasions.
- 12.2 There are two types of TEN; a standard TEN and a late TEN. These are subject to different processes.
- 12.3 A standard TEN is given no later than 10 working days before the event to which it relates.
- 12.4 A late TEN is given not before 9 and not later than 5 working days before the event.
- 12.5 Standard Temporary Event Notices must be submitted to the licensing authority no less than ten working days before the first day of the event. The 10 working days runs from the day after the notice is received by the Licensing Authority, and does not include the first day of the event
- 12.6 It is recommended that the TEN is submitted well in advance of the planned event to ensure any issues can be resolved.
- 12.7 Only the Environmental Health and Police are able to object against a TEN within 3 working days of receipt. If an objection is against a late TEN a counter notice will be issued and the event will not be permitted to go ahead.
- 12.8 If the objection relates to a standard TEN a licensing sub committee will be held to determine the application.
- 12.9 The licensing subcommittee may decide to allow the licensable activities to go ahead as stated in the notice
- 12.10 Where the notice is in connection with licensable activities at a premises which already holds a premises licence or club premises certificate, the licensing authority may impose one or more of the conditions from that authorisation on the Temporary Event Notice if they are relevant and it is appropriate to do so.
- 12.11 Where, following any representations at the hearing, the licensing authority is not satisfied the event will ensure the promotion of the licensing objectives it may determine to issue a counter notice to prevent the event taking place

13 Personal Licence applications

13.1 All applicants can usefully discuss their intended application with the police before submitting it to the Council, however those with unspent criminal convictions for relevant offences set out in the 2003 Act are expected to do so.

14 Crime and Disorder Objective

- 14.1 Licensed premises, especially those offering late night/early morning entertainment, alcohol, and refreshment for large numbers of people, can be a source of crime and disorder problems.
- 14.2 The Council will expect Operating Schedules to satisfactorily address crime and disorder issues arising from the design of the premises through to the daily operation of the business.
- 14.3 The Police and local Community Safety Partnership are the main source of advice on crime and disorder. Applicants are recommended to seek advice on crime prevention procedures in their premises from Sutton Police before making a formal application. Contact details are provided in Appendix C. The Council will cooperate with the Security Industry Authority to ensure door supervisors are SIA accredited. CCTV within and without premises can deter crime and disorder and public nuisance. Radio links and ring-round 'phone systems can assist in managing communications between premises and with Police in areas of higher density. Premises Licence Holders should ensure the competence of managers and shop staff appointed at the premises.
- 14.4 In addition to the requirements for the Council to promote the licensing objectives, it also has a duty under Section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 to do all it reasonably can to prevent crime and disorder in the Borough.
- 14.5 The Council may attach conditions to licences and certificates to deter and prevent crime and disorder, both inside and immediately outside the premises.
- 14.6 These conditions may, for example, include items relating to management systems, training, drugs policies, search procedures, entry policies, physical security, door supervisors, bottle bans, drinks containers, smoking area capacity limits, CCTV, restricting drinking areas, premises capacity limits, age verification systems such as challenge 25, crime prevention notices, and signage.
- 14.7 The Council will keep under review the effectiveness of any orders made under the Local Authority (Alcohol Consumption in Designated Public Places) Regulations 2001 as a measure to control crime and disorder.

14.8 The Council supports local Pubwatch schemes and similar initiatives. Such schemes are demonstrations of good practice by the licensed trade. Licence holders are encouraged to participate in local groups to help promote the licensing objectives. Where appropriate the Council will offer advice and assistance to such initiatives and where invited to participate will endeavour to do so.

15 Public Safety Objective

- 15.1 A wide range of premises including cafes/restaurants, cinemas, concert halls, nightclubs, public houses, theatres, fast food outlets, and takeaways, require licensing under the 2003 Act.
- 15.2 Each presents a mixture of risks, with many common to most premises, and others unique to specific operations. It is essential that premises are constructed or adapted and operated so as to acknowledge and safeguard occupants against these risks.
- 15.3 The Council will expect operating schedules to satisfactorily address these issues and applicants are advised to seek advice from Council officers and the London Fire and Emergency Planning Authority before preparing their plans, risk assessments and operating schedules. Contact details are provided in Appendix C.
- 15.4 Licence holders have a responsibility to ensure the safety of those using their premises as part of their duties under the 2003 Act. These include but are not restricted to fire safety, access for emergency services, appropriate and frequent waste disposal, use of CCTV etc. Licence holders should make provision to ensure their users safely leave their premises. Physical safety includes the prevention of accidents and injuries and other immediate harms that can result from alcohol consumption such as unconsciousness and alcohol poisoning. There must be no doubt that it remains an offence under the 2003 Act to sell or supply alcohol to a person who is drunk.
- 15.5 The Council may attach conditions to licences to promote public safety if it is appropriate to do so following representations.

16 Prevention of Public Nuisance Objective

16.1 The Council will seek to protect the amenity of residents and businesses in the vicinity of licensed premises. At the same time it is aware that the licensed trade is important to the local economy and the cultural and leisure facilities of an area. Those premises operating late at night and in the early hours of the morning can cause a range of nuisances affecting people living, working or sleeping in the vicinity.

- 16.2 It is expected that, where appropriate, applicants will have regard to the "Good Practice Guide on the Control of Noise from Pubs and Clubs" published by the Institute of Acoustics.
- 16.3 The Council will consider the measures proposed in the operating schedule to deal with the potential for nuisance and anti-social behaviour. In particular the Council will consider the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the applicant to prevent or control annoyance or nuisance from;
 - noise and vibration escaping from the premises including music, noise from ventilation equipment and human voices. Such measures may include installing soundproofing, air conditioning, acoustic lobbies and sound limiting devices, requirements to keep doors and windows closed.
 - customers arriving at or leaving the premises this will be of greater importance between 2200 hrs and 0700 hrs than at other times of the day
 - the queuing of either vehicular or pedestrian traffic
 - staff leaving the premises
 - the use of gardens and other open areas
 - delivery and collection times
 - positioning of external lighting including inappropriately installed security lighting
 - increased refuse storage or disposal problems or additional litter including fly posting and illegal placards in the vicinity of the premises.
- 16.4 The Council will expect Operating Schedules to satisfactorily address these issues and have regard to the impact these may have. Applicants are advised to seek advice from the Council's licensing, environmental health and planning officers before preparing their Operating Schedules. Contact details are provided in Appendix C.
- 16.5 The Health Act 2006 prevents people smoking inside licensed premises, and consequently may lead to patrons going outside to smoke. Applicants and existing licence holders are encouraged to assess whether the noise from such patrons could potentially disturb nearby residents and whether there is potential for smoke to drift to nearby residential properties. As the licence holder can only be responsible for matters within their control, it is recommended that licence holders focus on the effects of smoking in beer gardens, patios and any areas directly outside the premises.
- 16.6 The Council may attach conditions to licences and permissions to prevent public nuisance if it is appropriate to do so following representations.

17 Prevention of Harm to Children Objective

17.1 The Council expects the submitted Operating Schedules to address the following issues.

Access to licensed premises

- 17.2 This Policy does not seek to prohibit children from having free access to any licensed premises subject to any restrictions within the 2003 Act but the Council recognises that limitations may have to be considered where it appears appropriate to protect children from physical, emotional and sexual, harm and neglect.
- 17.3 The following are examples of premises that the Council considers may raise concern:
 - Where adult entertainment is provided
 - where there have been convictions of, or penalty notice has been issued to, members of the current management for serving alcohol to minors or premises with a reputation for allowing underage drinking or sales
 - where requirements for proof of age cards or other age identification to combat the purchase of alcohol by minors is not the norm
 - with a known association with drug taking or dealing
 - where there is a strong element of gambling on the premises (but not small numbers of cash prize gaming machines)
 - where the supply of alcohol for consumption on the premises is the exclusive or primary purpose of the services provided at the premises.
- 17.4 Where applicants wish to allow access for children to premises where these associations may be relevant, they should, when preparing operating schedules, explain their reasons and outline in detail the steps that they intend to take to protect children from harm on such premises.
- 17.5 The Council will consider the following options for limiting the access of children where that is necessary for the prevention of harm to children:
 - limitations on the hours when children may be present
 - limitations on ages below 18
 - limitations on the presence of children under certain ages when specified activities are taking place
 - limitations on the parts of premises to which children might be given access
 - requirements for an accompanying adult (including, for example, a combination of requirements which provide that

children under a particular age must be accompanied by an adult) and

- full exclusion of people under 18 from the premises when any licensable activities are taking place
- 17.6 There will be a strong presumption against permitting any access at all for children under 18 years where a responsible authority has made a valid representation in respect of premises licensed for on-sales on any of the concerns listed in paragraph 17.3 of this policy.
- 17.7 The Council commends the Portman Group Code of Practice on the Naming, Packaging and Promotion of Alcoholic Drinks as good practice for licensees.
- 17.8 Conditions will not be imposed requiring children to be admitted to any premises and, where no limitation is imposed, this will be left to the discretion of the individual licensee or club.
- 17.9 The licensing authority will work closely with trading standards and the police to ensure the appropriate enforcement of the law, especially relating to the sale and supply of alcohol to children
- 17.10 Representations made by child protection bodies and the police will be closely scrutinised by the Licensing Committee. An operator will be expected to provide a considered response to such representations.

Access to cinemas

- 17.11 Films may cover issues of violence, horror or items of an adult or sexual nature, some or all of which may be considered unsuitable for children within certain age groups.
- 17.12 To prevent children from seeing such films, the Council will expect applicants to include suitable arrangements in their operating schedules to restrict children from viewing age-restricted films classified according to the recommendations of the British Board of Film Classification (BBFC).

Children and public entertainment

- 17.13 There are many entertainment activities arranged especially for children, both as audience and performers, (for example, children's film shows and dance or drama school productions), which require additional arrangements to safeguard children whilst on the premises.
- 17.14 Where a regulated entertainment is specially presented for children, the Council will expect an adult member of staff to be stationed in the vicinity of each of the exits from any level, in order to control their access and egress and to assure their safety.

- 17.15 Where children are taking part in any regulated entertainment the Council will expect compliance with the provisions of the Children & Young Persons Act 1968 for performance licences and the Council Bylaws dated October 1998 for work permits.
- 17.16 The Council may attach conditions to licences to prevent harm to children if it is appropriate to do so following representations.

Advice

- 17.17 Applicants are advised to seek advice from the Sutton Local Safeguarding Children Board on protecting children from harm before submitting their application. Contact details are given in Appendix C.
- 17.18 Applicants are encouraged to consider the "Child Protection Policy For Licensed Premises" issued by the Sutton Local Safeguarding Children Board when preparing their operating schedules.

18 Special Events

- 18.1 The Licensing Authority recommends that for special events a comprehensive risk assessment is undertaken by premises licence holders to ensure that crime and disorder and public safety matters are identified and addressed. Accordingly, for premises that wish to stage promotions, or events the Licensing Authority recommends that applicants address the Risk Assessment and debrief processes in their operating schedule.
- 18.2 If is recommended that risk assessments are provided to the police for consideration prior to the event.

19 Licence/Certificate Conditions

- 19.1 Conditions may only be attached in response to matters raised in the applicants operating schedule, or by way of a relevant objection in response to an application.
- 19.2 Conditions attached to licences or certificates will be tailored to the point(s) at issue, and have regard to the size, style, characteristics and activities taking place at the premises concerned.
- 19.3 Any conditions
 - will only be applied to ensure that the licensing objectives are promoted
 - will not replicate licensing offences set out within the 2003 Act
 - will not duplicate other existing legislation
 - will reflect the Councils strategies for example in relation to CCTV and crime and disorder
 - will not seek to deter live music, dancing and theatre

20 Enforcement

- 20.1 It is essential that licensed premises comply with the terms of their licence as well as other requirements of the Licensing Act. Equally important is ensuring that premises not licensed to provide licensable activities are prevented from doing so. The Licensing Authority and all responsible authorities under the 2003 Act are signed up to a Multi-Agency Enforcement Protocol. This commits the authorities to a stepped approach to support safe, sensible, social and responsible licensees in Sutton. Potential licencees are encouraged to discuss their applications informally beforehand. The expectations of the authority will be clear and the way in which the licence can contribute to the licensing objectives and thus provide overall benefit to the Borough will be set out. Should licencees struggle to deliver to these standards the responsible authorities will offer them support and guidance initially informally but if necessary through a formal review process. The Authority reserves the right where circumstances merit, to go straight to review. The responsible authorities will share information and intelligence between themselves to ensure effective support to licencees.
- 20.2 Regular meetings will be held for Responsible Authorities to discuss particular applications, enforcement and policy development.
- 20.3 The licensing authority shall continue to work with the licensed trade by providing advice and information on promoting the licensing objectives and establishing best practice.
- 20.4 The Council will work closely with all the responsible authorities and other relevant enforcement agencies to ensure the efficient enforcement of licensing law. Therefore, higher-risk and problem premises will be targeted for enforcement activity whereas a lighter touch approach will be adopted for low risk, well-run premises.
- 20.5 The Council will work actively with the police to enforce licensing legislation. It expects the police to share information about licensees and licensed premises under S.115 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 and its common law powers, and to consult closely with the Council when any enforcement action may be required. This will be reciprocated by the Council.
- 20.6 The Council will sign up to the relevant enforcement and exchange of information protocols with the Metropolitan Police, the London Fire Brigade, other responsible authorities and outside enforcement agencies (HMRC, UKBA etc.).
- 20.7 The licensing authority is required to suspend a premises licence or club premises certificate if the annual fee has not been paid when it is due. When a premises licence or certificate has been suspended, no

licensable activities can be lawfully carried out at the premises until the annual fee has been paid. The suspension shall be lifted immediately upon payment of the fee and licensable activities may be resumed

21 Live Music, Dancing and Theatre

- 21.1 The Council recognises the need to encourage and promote live music, dancing and theatre for the wider cultural benefit of the community, particularly for children.
- 21.2 When considering applications for such events and the imposition of conditions on licences or certificates, the Council will carefully balance the cultural needs with the necessity of promoting the licensing objectives.
- 21.3 Consideration will be given to the particular characteristics of any event, including the type, scale and duration of the proposed entertainment, especially where limited disturbance only may be caused.
- 21.4 The Council will seek to monitor the impact of licensing on regulated entertainment, particularly live music and dancing. Any evidence to show that such events are being deterred by licensing requirements will be considered in the review of this Policy with a view to reversing the situation.

22 Reviews

- 22.1 The Council recognises that the effective promotion of the licensing objectives relies heavily on partnership working. It will try to make sure that reviews are not used to drive a wedge between groups and, where appropriate, will give licence holders early warning of their concerns about problems identified at the premises and the need for improvement. It expects that a failure to respond to such a warning would lead to a decision to request a review as set out in the Home Office Stepped Approach.
- 22.2 The Council views particularly seriously reviews arising in connection with the use of premises for:
 - the sale and distribution of Class A drugs and the laundering of the proceeds of drugs crimes
 - the sale and distribution of illegal firearms
 - underage purchase and consumption of alcohol
 - prostitution or sale of unlawful pornography
 - grooming of children by paedophiles
 - unlawful gaming and gambling
 - organised criminal activity
 - the organisation of racist activity or promoting racist attacks
 - the sale of stolen or smuggled goods

- where the police are frequently called to attend incidents of disorder
- there are prolonged or repeated instances of public nuisance
- serious risks to public safety have been identified and the management is unable or unwilling to correct them
- serious risks to children have been identified .
- 22.3 It is the policy of this Council that where, on review, the Licensing Committee determines that the crime prevention objective is being undermined through the premises being used to further crimes, it will seriously consider revocation of the licence even in the first instance.
- 22.4 While it is recognised that evidence in support of a review application can be submitted prior to a hearing and with consent of all parties at the hearing, applicants are strongly advised to submit the supporting evidence at the same time as the review application is submitted.
- 22.5 This recognises that the evidence to support the application should already have been gathered before a decision is made to apply to review a licence. It also allows the 28 day consultation period for mediation to take place and for all parties to prepare for a hearing if necessary. Any additional evidence that subsequently comes to light before a hearing takes place can still be submitted.
- 22.6 Failure to submit supporting evidence in relation to a review in good time before a subcommittee hearing may result in that hearing having to be delayed in the public interest and to ensure a fair hearing can take place.

23 Relevant representations

- 23.1 It is for the licensing authority to determine whether a representation (other than representation from responsible authority) is frivolous or vexatious on the basis of what might ordinarily be considered to be vexatious or frivolous. A representation may be considered vexatious if it appears to be intended to cause aggravation or annoyance, whether to a competitor or other person, without reasonable cause or justification. Vexatious circumstances may arise because of disputes between rival businesses and local knowledge will therefore be invaluable in considering such matters. Licensing authorities can consider the main effect of the representation, and whether any inconvenience or expenses caused by it could reasonably be considered to be proportionate.
- 23.2 Frivolous representations would be essentially categorised by a lack of seriousness. Frivolous representations would concern issues which, at most, are minor and in relation to which no remedial steps would be warranted or proportionate.
- 23.3 In borderline cases the benefit of the doubt about any aspect of a representation will be given to the person making that representation.

The subsequent hearing would then provide an opportunity for the person or body making the representation to amplify and clarify it.

- 23.4 A representation from other persons will be considered irrelevant if it does not directly relate to the likely effect of the grant of the licence or certificate on the promotion of at least one of the licensing objectives in the context of that application.
- 23.5 A representation is "relevant" if it relates to the likely effect of the grant of the licence on the promotion of at least one of the licensing objectives. For example, a representation from a local businessperson about the commercial damage caused by competition from the new licensed premises would not be relevant. On the other hand, a representation from a businessperson that nuisance caused by new premises would deter customers from entering the local area, and the steps proposed by the applicant to prevent that nuisance were inadequate, would be relevant. In other words, representations should relate to the impact of licensable activities carried on from premises on the objectives. For representations in relation to variations to be relevant, they should be confined to the subject matter of the variation. There is no requirement for a responsible authority or other person to produce a recorded history of problems at premises to support their representations, and in fact this would not be possible for new premises.
- 23.6 Representations that consider nuisance caused by a new application and relate those to an inadequate set of control measures would be deemed to be relevant and would be heard.

Repetitious Representations

- 23.7 A repetitious representation is one that is identical or substantially similar to
 - a ground for review specified in an earlier review application for the same licence or certificate which has already been determined; or
 - representations considered by the licensing authority when the licence or certificate was first granted; or
 - representations which would have been made when the application for the licence or certificate was first made and which were excluded then by reason of the prior issue of a provisional statement; and
 - in addition to the above grounds, a reasonable interval has not elapsed since that earlier review or the grant of the licence or certificate.
- 23.8 Generally no more than one review originating from a person other than a responsible authority in relation to a particular premises will be permitted within a 12 month period on similar grounds save in compelling circumstances where it arises following a closure order.

24 Complaints against licensed premises

- 24.1 Whilst the Council is content to investigate complaints against licensed premises, complainants will usually be encouraged to raise the complaint directly with the licensee or business concerned.
- 24.2 Where other persons make a valid representation about a licensed premises or a valid application for a licence to be reviewed, the Council may arrange for a mediation meeting to try to confirm, clarify and resolve the issues of concern.
- 24.3 The process will not override the right of any other person to ask the Licensing Committee to consider their valid representations or for any licence holder to decline to participate in a mediation meeting.

25 Licensing Register

- 25.1 The Public Register, as required under section 8 of the 2003 Act, is kept in electronic format at the Councils Licensing Offices.
- 25.2 The Register can be viewed at the offices during normal opening hours of 0900 hrs to 1700 hrs, Monday to Friday, free of charge.
- 25.3 The fees for copies of the register entries requested will be charged at the current rate as determined under delegated authority or any regulations issued by the secretary of state.

26 Copyright & Royalties

26.1 Applicants are reminded of the need to obtain Performing Right Society Licences and Phonographic Performances Ltd Licences and to observe other copyright arrangements.

LIST OF APPENDICES

Appendix A	Table of delegations of Licensing Functions
Appendix B	Matters that may be considered when examining Applications and Operating Schedules
Appendix C	Responsible Authority contact details

APPENDIX A TABLE OF DELEGATIONS OF LICENSING FUNCTIONS

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

Determination of an Environmental Health objection to a temporary event notice	All cases	
Making a representation on behalf of the Licensing Authority		Licensing Manager
Initiating a Review on behalf of the Licensing Authority		Licensing Manager

MATTERS THAT MAY BE CONSIDERED WHEN EXAMINING APPLICATIONS AND OPERATING SCHEDULES

In considering all licence applications, the following may be taken into account:

- the nature and character of the operation
- the character of the surrounding area
- the impact of the licence on the surrounding area, both individually and cumulatively with existing licences

In considering operating schedules the responsible authorities may consider, the measures proposed to promote the licensing objectives. Depending on the type of premises and activities applied for the following measures may be appropriate:

- noise prevention, measures including music, noise from ventilation equipment and customers. Such measures may include the installation of soundproofing, air conditioning, acoustic lobbies and sound limitation devices.
- to prevent disturbance by patrons arriving at or leaving the premises
- to prevent queuing or, if queuing is inevitable, to divert queues away from neighbouring premises, or otherwise to manage the queue to prevent disturbance or obstruction
- to ensure staff leave the premises quietly
- to prevent the consumption or supply of illegal drugs, including by search procedures
- to highlight local public transport service links within their premises control of refuse, delivery times,,
- Regularly clearing additional litter in the vicinity of the premises
- CCTV systems operated and images recorded for a minimum period of 31 days
- Staff training on LA03, licence conditions and under age sales, including refresher training, and signed training records
- SIA Door Supervisors, number and deployment locations and recording duty registers
- Search policies and procedures
- Use of strengthened glass / polycarbonate drinking vessels, glass collection procedures
- Safe capacities
- Management of external areas such as smoking areas and beer gardens
- Challenge 21 or 25 under age sales policies
- Refusal registers for drunkenness and under age
- Use of radios or ring round schemes to notify police or other premises of incidents
- Last entry time to premises

- Drinking up / dispersal times and procedures
- Not allowing drinking vessels to be taken outside of the premises
- Regular and documented checks of the toilets to deter drug use
- Restricting the percentage of alcohol by volume to below 6.5%

APPENDIX C

RESPONSIBLE AUTHORITY CONTACT DETAILS

Licensing Authority

BRS Licensing Section Civic Offices St Nicholas Way Sutton Surrey SM1 1EA	Tel Fax Email Website	020 8770 5070 020 8770 5633 <u>licensing@sutton.gov.uk</u> <u>www.sutton.gov.uk</u>
Environmental Health		
24 Denmark Road Carshalton SM5 2JG	Tel (Noise) Fax Email	020 8770 5070 020 8770 5540 <u>E&LEHEnvironmentalHealthTeam@sutton</u> <u>ov.uk</u>
<u>Planning</u>		
24 Denmark Road Carshalton Surrey SM5 2JG	Tel Fax Email Website	020 8770 6200 020 8770 6201 Development.Control@sutton.gov.uk www.sutton.gov.uk
Sutton Local Safeguarding Children Board		
Protection of Children from Harm Children & Young People Learning Services The Lodge Honeywood Walk	Tel	020 8770 4532
Carshalton Surrey SM5 3NX	Email Website Out of hours tel:	francesca.hamilton@sutton.gov.uk www.sutton.gov.uk 020 8770 5000
Trading Standards		
Civic Offices St Nicholas Way Sutton Surrey SM1 1EA	Tel Fax Email Website	020 8770 5070 020 8770 5633 <u>Trading.standards@sutton.gov.uk</u> www.sutton.gov.uk
Police		
Licensing Office Sutton Police Station 6 Carshalton Road Sutton Surrey SM1 4RF	Tel Fax Email Website	020 8649 0793 020 8649 0797 zt-licensing@met.police.uk www.met.police.uk/sutton

Health & Safety

Commercial Premises Team, Business Regulation Services, Civic Offices, St Nicholas Way, Sutton, SM1 1AE

Public Health

Director of Public Health, London Borough of Sutton, St Nicholas Way, Sutton, SM1 3RA

Fire Authority

Fire Safety Regulation: London Fire Brigade, South East Area 3, 169 Union Street, London, SE1 0LL Tel: 020 8770 5070. Fax: 020 8770 5633 Email:<u>BRS@sutton.gov.uk</u>

Tel: 020 8770 4998 Email: <u>Ellis.Friedman@sutton.gov.uk</u>

Tel: 020 8555 1200 ext 37630 Email:<u>FireSafetyRegulationSE@london-</u> <u>fire.gov.uk</u>