

# Appendix 7



## **Section 182 Advice by the DCMS**

### **RELEVANT, VEXATIOUS AND FRIVOLOUS REPRESENTATIONS**

- 9.8 A representation would only be “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 businessman which argued that his business would be commercially damaged by a new licensed premises would not be relevant. On the other hand, a representation that nuisance caused by the new premises would deter customers from entering the local area and the steps proposed by the applicant to control that nuisance were inadequate would be relevant. There is no requirement for an interested party or responsible authority to produce a recorded history of problems at a premises to support their representations, and in fact this would not be possible for new premises. Further information for interested parties about the process for making representations is available in “Guidance for interested parties: Making representations” which can be found on the DCMS website.
- 9.9 The “cumulative impact” on the licensing objectives of a concentration of multiple licensed premises may also give rise to a relevant representation when an application for the grant or variation of a premises licence is being considered, but not in relation to an application for review which must relate to an individual premises.
- 9.10 It is for the licensing authority to determine whether any representation by an interested party is frivolous or vexatious on the basis of what might ordinarily be considered to be vexatious or frivolous. Vexation may arise because of disputes between rival businesses and local knowledge will therefore be invaluable in considering such matters. Frivolous representations would be essentially categorised by a lack of seriousness. An interested party who is aggrieved by a rejection of their representations on these grounds may challenge the authority’s decision by way of judicial review.

- 9.11 Licensing authorities should not take decisions on whether representations are relevant on the basis of any political judgement. This may be difficult for ward councillors receiving complaints from residents within their own wards. If consideration is not to be delegated, contrary to the recommendation in this Guidance, an assessment should be prepared by officials for consideration by the subcommittee before any decision is taken that necessitates a hearing. Any ward councillor who considers that their own interests are such that they are unable to consider the matter independently should disqualify themselves.
- 9.12 The Secretary of State recommends that in borderline cases, the benefit of the doubt should be given to the interested party making the representation. The subsequent hearing would then provide an opportunity for the person or body making the representation to amplify and clarify it. If it then emerged, for example, that the representation should not be supported, the licensing authority could decide not to take any action in respect of the application.
- 9.13 Licensing authorities should consider providing advice on their websites about how any interested party can make representations to them.

# Appendix 8



## **Anti-Social Behaviour From Patrons Leaving The Premises**

### General Advice

Members need to bear in mind that once patrons have left a premises they are no longer under direct control. Members will need to be satisfied that there is a link between the way the premises is operating and the behaviour that is complained of. An example of this would be that irresponsible drinking is being encouraged. Before deciding that any particular licensing conditions are proportionate, Members will also need to be satisfied that other legislation is not a more effective route. For example, if the problem is drinking in the street it may be that the Council should designate the area as a place where alcohol cannot be consumed in public.

Members may also wish to consider whether the hours of opening relate to any problems of anti-social behaviour.

If Members believe that there is a substantial problem of anti-social behaviour and it cannot be proportionately addressed by licensing conditions they should refuse the application.

### Licensing Policy

The policy recognises that other legislation or measures may be more appropriate but also states that licensing laws are “a key aspect of such control and will always be part of an overall approach to the management of the evening and night time economy.” **(See Section 4.10 and 4.11 of the Licensing Policy).**

The Licensing Authority expects the applicant to have addressed all crime and disorder issues relating to the premises in their operating schedule and to have sought appropriate advice. **(See Sections 5.2 of the Licensing Policy)**

The Licensing Authority will consider attaching conditions to deter crime and disorder and these may include Conditions drawn from the Model Poll of Conditions relating to Crime and Disorder. **(See Appendix 2 Annex D of the Licensing Policy).** In particular Members may wish to consider (this list is not exhaustive):

- Bottle Bans
- Plastic containers
- CCTV (outside the premises)
- Restrictions on open containers for “off sales”
- Proof of Age scheme
- Crime prevention notices
- Drinks promotions-aimed at stopping irresponsible promotions

- Signage

### Cumulative Impact

There is a process by which the Licensing Authority can determine that an area is saturated following representations. However, the process for this involves wide consultation and cannot come from representations about a particular application. **(See Section 6 of the Licensing Policy).**

### Police Powers

The Licensing Act 2003, Part 8 gives a senior police officer the power to close a premises for up to 24 hours where the officer believes there is, or is likely to be disorder on or in the vicinity and closure is necessary in the interests of public.

### Guidance Issued under Section 182 of the Licensing Act 2003.

The pool of conditions, adopted by the council is recommended (13.20).

The key role of the police is acknowledged (2.2).

Conditions attached to licences cannot seek to manage the behaviour of customers once they are beyond the direct management of the licence holder, but can relate to the immediate vicinity of the premises as they seek entry or leave (2.4).

Conditions are best targeted on deterrence and preventing crime and disorder (S.2.6) communication, police liaison, no glasses are all relevant (s.2.7-2.11).

*There is also guidance issued around the heading of “public nuisance as follows*

The pool of conditions, adopted by the council is recommended (Annexe D).

Licence conditions should not duplicate other legislation (1.16).

Necessary and appropriate conditions should normally focus on the most sensitive periods and may address disturbance as customers enter or leave the premises (2.36) but it is essential that conditions are focused on measures “within the direct control of the licence holder” (2.38).

### Other Legislation

#### Crime and Disorder Act 1998

The Council has a duty under Section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 to do all it reasonably can to prevent crime and disorder.

The Act also introduced a wide range of measures designed to address anti-social behaviour committed by adults and young people. These include:

- Anti-Social Behaviour Orders
- Child Curfew Schemes
- Truancy
- Parenting Orders
- Reparation Orders
- Tackling Racism



# Appendix 9



## **Access and egress problems**

Such as:

Disturbance from patrons arriving/leaving the premises on foot

Disturbance from patrons arriving/leaving the premises by car

Lack of adequate car parking facilities

Close proximity to residential properties

### Comment

The above have been grouped together as egress problems. Of course the particular facts will be different for each alleged problem.

### General Advice

In considering concerns relating to disturbance from egress, Members need to be satisfied that the premises under consideration has been identified as the source of the actual or potential disturbance. If they are satisfied that this is a problem, then proportionate conditions should be considered.

The hours of operation also need to be considered.

If Members believe that there is a substantial problem concerning egress and it cannot be proportionately addressed by licensing conditions, they should refuse the application.

### Licensing Policy

The policy recognises that noise nuisance can be an issue, especially if a premises is open late at night. (**See Sections 8.1 of the Licensing Policy**).

The Licensing Authority expects the applicant to have addressed all nuisance issues relating to the premises in their operating schedule and to have sought appropriate advice from the Council's Environmental Health Officers. (**See Sections 8.2 of the Licensing Policy, and also Section 12.5**).

The policy also recognises that staggered closing can help prevent problems at closure time (**See Section 12.1**).

However, while all applications will be considered on their merits, consideration will be given to imposing stricter conditions in respect of noise control where premises are situated close to local residents. (**See Section 12.4**)

The Licensing Authority will consider attaching conditions to prevent nuisance and these may include Conditions drawn from the Model Poll of

Conditions relating to the prevention of Public Nuisance. (**See Appendix 2 Annex G of the Licensing Policy**). In particular Members may wish to consider (this list is not exhaustive):

- hours of opening (this needs to be balanced against potential disorder caused by artificially early closing times)
- Whether certain parts should close earlier than the rest (for example a “beer garden”, or restricted in their use)
- Whether or not certain activities should have to close at an early hour, for example live music
- Conditions controlling noise or vibration (for example, noise limiters, keeping doors and windows closed).
- Prominent clear and legible notices at all exits requesting the public to respect the needs of local residents and leave the premises and area quietly

#### Guidance Issued under Section 182 of the Licensing Act 2003

The pool of conditions, adopted by the council is recommended (13.20 and Annex D).

The prevention of public nuisance could include low-level nuisance, perhaps affecting a few people living locally as well as major disturbance affecting the whole community. (2.33).

Licence conditions should not duplicate other legislation (1.16).

Necessary and appropriate conditions should normally focus on the most sensitive periods and may address disturbance as customers enter or leave the premises (2.36) but it is essential that conditions are focused on measures within the direct control of the licence holder” (2.38).

In certain circumstances conditions relating to noise in the immediate vicinity of the premises may also prove necessary to address any disturbance anticipated as customers enter and leave (2.36).

However, it is essential that conditions are focused on measures within the direct control of the licence holder. Conditions relating to behaviour once they are beyond the control of the licence holder cannot be justified. (2.38)

# Appendix 10



## **Planning**

An application for a Premises Licence can be made in respect of a premises even where the premises does not have relevant Planning Permission. That application has to be considered and Members can only refuse the application where the application itself does not promote one or more of the Licensing Objectives. Members cannot refuse just because there is no planning permission. Where a Premises Licence is granted and which exceeds what is allowed by the Planning Permission and that Premises then operates in breach of planning then the operator would be liable to enforcement by Planning.





# Appendix 11



## **Licensing Policy relating to hours of trading**

All applications have to be considered on their own merits.

The Council has however adopted a set of framework hours as follows

Sunday to Thursday      06 00 hrs to 23 30 hrs

Friday and Saturday      06 00 hrs to midnight

(see 12.8 Of the licensing policy)

In considering the applicability of frame work hours to any particular application regard should be had to the following

- Location
- Proposed hours of regulated activities, and the proposed hours the premises are open to the public
- The adequacy of the applicants proposals to deal with issues of crime and disorder and public nuisance
- Previous history
- Access to public transport
- Proximity to other licensed premises, and their hours

(see 12.8 of the licensing policy)

Subject to any representations to the contrary in individual cases the following premises are not generally considered to contribute to late night anti-social behaviour and will therefore generally have greater freedom

- Theatres
- Cinemas
- Premises with club premises certificates
- Premises licensed for off sales only