



Meeting of the

Tower Hamlets Council

Agenda

Wednesday, 27 September 2023 at 7.00 p.m.

VENUE

Council Chamber,
Whitechapel Town Hall
160 Whitechapel Road,
London E1 1BJ

Meeting Webcast

The meeting is being webcast for viewing through the Council's webcast system.
<http://towerhamlets.public-i.tv/core/portal/home>. The press and public are encouraged to watch the meeting on line.

Democratic Services Contact:

Matthew Mannion, Head of Democratic Services

Tel: 020 7364 4651, E-mail: matthew.mannion@towerhamlets.gov.uk



Chief Executive's Office

Democratic Services
Tower Hamlets Town Hall
160 Whitechapel Road
London E1 1BJ

Tel **020 7364 4651**

www.towerhamlets.gov.uk

To the Mayor and Councillors of the London Borough of Tower Hamlets

You are summoned to attend a meeting of the Council of the London Borough of Tower Hamlets to be held in **COUNCIL CHAMBER - TOWN HALL, WHITECHAPEL** at **7.00 p.m.** on **WEDNESDAY, 27 SEPTEMBER 2023**

Stephen Halsey
Chief Executive



Tower Hamlets Council
Tower Hamlets Town Hall
160 Whitechapel Road
London E1 1BJ

Public Information

Viewing Council Meetings

Except where any exempt/restricted documents are being discussed, the public are welcome to view this meeting through the Council's webcast system.

Meeting Webcast and Public attendance

The meeting is being webcast for viewing through the Council's webcast system.
<http://towerhamlets.public-i.tv/core/portal/home> The press and public are encouraged to watch this meeting on line

Please note: It is also possible to attend meetings in person. Places in the public gallery are allocated on a first come, first served basis from the reception at the Town Hall on the day of the meeting.

Electronic agendas reports and minutes.

Copies of agendas, reports and minutes for council meetings can also be found on our website from day of publication.

To access this, click www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/committee and search for the relevant committee and meeting date.

Agendas are available on the Modern.Gov, Windows, iPad and Android apps.



QR code for
smart phone
users

Public Information

The meeting is being held at the Council's Town Hall.

Full Council is made up of the Mayor and the 45 Councillors. It's responsibilities include: deciding the Council's overall policies and setting the budget for the year. It also appoints the Council's Committees at the Annual Meeting. In addition, the Council provides opportunities to discuss local issues and is a means by which the Mayor and Cabinet can be held to account in public

The agenda for this ordinary Council meetings comprises:

- Apologies for absence from Members
- Declarations of Interests.
- Minutes of the previous meeting.
- Announcements from the Speaker or the Chief Executive of the Council.
- Petitions for presentation (over 30 signatures) or for debate (over 2000 signatures). A maximum of 4 Petitions that meet the criteria may be discussed taken in the order of receipt.
- Mayor's report followed by Opposition Leader's response. Written report (if any) to be published shortly before the meeting.
- Main Motion debates (including any amendments received)
- Reports requiring Full Council approval
- Member Questions (30 minutes). Questions not put to receive a written response.
- Motions from Members received on notice (including any amendments received). Consideration of these subject to time constraints.
- Any Urgent motions from Members.

Further details on the process for considering these items is set out on the covering reports in the agenda.

How can I watch the meeting?

Except when an exempt item is under discussion, the meeting will be broadcast live for public viewing via our Webcasting portal <https://towerhamlets.public-i.tv/core/portal/home>. Details of the broadcasting arrangements will be published on the agenda front sheet.

Public Attendance and Conduct at Meetings

The public may also watch the Council meeting in the public gallery. To attend please collect a ticket from reception at the town hall. We request that you show courtesy to all present and do not interrupt the meeting. The intention is not to specifically webcast members of the public, however, it is possible that you may be filmed in the background. By attending the meeting you are agreeing to this condition.

Please also switch off mobile phones or turn them on silent.

If you are scheduled to present a petition in person at the meeting, please sit in the reserved seating in the front row. You will be called to address the meeting at the appropriate time.

If the fire alarm rings please follow the instructions of the Facilities Staff who will direct you to the exits.



Procedure at the meeting.

Just before the start of the meeting, the macebearer will ask everyone to be upstanding for the Speaker. The Speaker of the Council is the Chair of the meeting and is in charge of the debate. Their role is to control the meeting, including the order of speakers, and to ensure that the business is carried out properly. The Speaker will confirm the expected meeting etiquette for Council meeting, including the following:

- The Speaker will determine the order of speakers - usually from a list of speakers.
- That any online participants must mute their microphones when not speaking.
- Such participants should also switch off their cameras when not speaking.
- All Members may contribute to the discussions, but only the Members physically present in the chamber may vote on items requiring a decision.

Order of business

The Speaker may agree to change the order of business at the meeting. In addition, the Speaker may adjourn the meeting for a period of time or agree an extension to the time limit for the meeting (by up to half hour beyond the three-hour limit). To change the order of business, a Member will need to formally move a motion seeking approval for the requested change. Any such motions will be put to the vote.

Voting

The items requiring a decision will normally be determined by a show of hands or an electronic vote (by Members present in the meeting room). If there are an equal number of votes for and against an item of business, the Speaker will have a second or casting vote.

Decisions and Minutes

The decisions will be published on the website 2 days after the meeting. The draft minutes will be published around 10 working days after the meeting.

Publication of Agenda papers.

Electronic copies of the Council agenda will be published on the Council's Website on the relevant Committee pages at least five clear working days before the meeting.

To view meeting papers and to be alerted when agendas have been published visit: www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/committee. Council documents are also available on 'Mod.Gov' iPad, Android and Windows tablet apps downloadable for free from their respective app stores.

Publication of tabled papers

Any additional documents (such as the Mayor's report, amendments to motions and urgent motions) will normally be published on the Council meeting website either shortly before or during the meeting.



London Borough of Tower Hamlets

Council

Wednesday, 27 September 2023

7.00 p.m.

PAGE NUMBER

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

To receive any apologies for absence.

2. DECLARATIONS OF DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS AND OTHER INTERESTS

9 - 10

Members are reminded to consider the categories of interest, identified in the Code of Conduct for Members to determine; whether they have an interest in any agenda item and any action they should take. For further details, see the attached note from the Monitoring Officer.

Members are also reminded to declare the nature of the interest at the earliest opportunity and the agenda item it relates to. Please note that ultimately it is the Members' responsibility to identify any interests and also update their register of interests form as required by the Code.

If in doubt as to the nature of an interest, you are advised to seek advice prior to the meeting by contacting the Monitoring Officer or Democratic Services.

3. MINUTES

11 - 58

To confirm as a correct record of the proceedings the unrestricted minutes of the Extraordinary and Ordinary Meeting of the Council held on 19th July 2023.

4. TO RECEIVE ANNOUNCEMENTS (IF ANY) FROM THE SPEAKER OF THE COUNCIL OR THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE

5. TO RECEIVE PETITIONS

59 - 62

The Council Procedure Rules provide for a maximum of four petitions to be discussed at an Ordinary Meeting of the Council.

The attached report presents the received petitions to be discussed. Should any additional petitions be received they will be listed to be noted



but not discussed.

6. MAYOR'S REPORT

The Council's Constitution provides for the Elected Mayor to give a report at each Ordinary Council Meeting.

A maximum of six minutes is allowed for the Elected Mayor's report, following which the Speaker of the Council will invite the leaders of the opposition groups to respond for up to two minutes each should they so wish. Following those contributions, the Mayor may reply for up to two minutes.

7. ADMINISTRATION MOTION DEBATE

63 - 66

To debate a Motion submitted by the Administration in accordance with Rules 11 and 13 of the Council's Constitution. The debate will last for a maximum of 30 minutes.

8. OPPOSITION MOTION DEBATE

67 - 68

To debate a Motion submitted by the Opposition Group in accordance with Rules 11 and 13 of the Council's Constitution. The debate will last for a maximum of 30 minutes.

9. REPORTS FROM THE EXECUTIVE AND THE COUNCIL'S COMMITTEES

9.1 Report of Cabinet: Statement of Licensing Policy 2023

69 - 282

To consider the report of the Cabinet on the review of the Statement of Licensing Policy 2023.

10. OTHER BUSINESS

10.1 Annual Report of the Standards Advisory Committee

283 - 298

To consider the Annual Report of the Standards Advisory Committee for 2022-23.

10.2 Appointment of a Co-Opted Member to the Standards Advisory Committee

299 - 302

To consider the report of the Monitoring Officer seeking approval for a new Co-opted Member of the Standards Advisory Committee.



11. TO RECEIVE WRITTEN QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL **303 - 308**

The questions which have been received from Councillors to be put at this Council meeting are set out in the attached report. A maximum period of 30 minutes is allocated to this agenda item.

12. TO CONSIDER MOTIONS SUBMITTED BY MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL **309 - 314**

The motions submitted by Councillors for debate at this meeting are set out in the attached report.



Agenda Item 2

DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS AT MEETINGS– NOTE FROM THE MONITORING OFFICER

This note is for guidance only. For further details please consult the Code of Conduct for Members at Part C, Section 31 of the Council's Constitution

(i) Disclosable Pecuniary Interests (DPI)

You have a DPI in any item of business on the agenda where it relates to the categories listed in **Appendix A** to this guidance. Please note that a DPI includes: (i) Your own relevant interests; (ii) Those of your spouse or civil partner; (iii) A person with whom the Member is living as husband/wife/civil partners. Other individuals, e.g. Children, siblings and flatmates do not need to be considered. Failure to disclose or register a DPI (within 28 days) is a criminal offence.

Members with a DPI, (unless granted a dispensation) must not seek to improperly influence the decision, must declare the nature of the interest and leave the meeting room (including the public gallery) during the consideration and decision on the item – unless exercising their right to address the Committee.

DPI Dispensations and Sensitive Interests. In certain circumstances, Members may make a request to the Monitoring Officer for a dispensation or for an interest to be treated as sensitive.

(ii) Non - DPI Interests that the Council has decided should be registered – (Non - DPIs)

You will have 'Non DPI Interest' in any item on the agenda, where it relates to (i) the offer of gifts or hospitality, (with an estimated value of at least £25) (ii) Council Appointments or nominations to bodies (iii) Membership of any body exercising a function of a public nature, a charitable purpose or aimed at influencing public opinion.

Members must declare the nature of the interest, but may stay in the meeting room and participate in the consideration of the matter and vote on it **unless:**

- A reasonable person would think that your interest is so significant that it would be likely to impair your judgement of the public interest. **If so, you must withdraw and take no part in the consideration or discussion of the matter.**

(iii) Declarations of Interests not included in the Register of Members' Interest.

Occasions may arise where a matter under consideration would, or would be likely to, **affect the wellbeing of you, your family, or close associate(s) more than it would anyone else living in the local area** but which is not required to be included in the Register of Members' Interests. In such matters, Members must consider the information set out in paragraph (ii) above regarding Non DPI - interests and apply the test, set out in this paragraph.

Guidance on Predetermination and Bias

Member's attention is drawn to the guidance on predetermination and bias, particularly the need to consider the merits of the case with an open mind, as set out in the Planning and Licensing Codes of Conduct, (Part C, Section 34 and 35 of the Constitution). For further advice on the possibility of bias or predetermination, you are advised to seek advice prior to the meeting.

Section 106 of the Local Government Finance Act, 1992 - Declarations which restrict Members in Council Tax arrears, for at least a two months from voting

In such circumstances the member may not vote on any reports and motions with respect to the matter.

Further Advice contact: Janet Fasan, Director of Legal and Monitoring Officer, Tel: 0207 364 4348.

APPENDIX A: Definition of a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest

(Relevant Authorities (Disclosable Pecuniary Interests) Regulations 2012, Reg 2 and Schedule)

Subject	Prescribed description
Employment, office, trade, profession or vacation	Any employment, office, trade, profession or vocation carried on for profit or gain.
Sponsorship	Any payment or provision of any other financial benefit (other than from the relevant authority) made or provided within the relevant period in respect of any expenses incurred by the Member in carrying out duties as a member, or towards the election expenses of the Member. This includes any payment or financial benefit from a trade union within the meaning of the Trade Union and Labour Relations (Consolidation) Act 1992.
Contracts	Any contract which is made between the relevant person (or a body in which the relevant person has a beneficial interest) and the relevant authority— (a) under which goods or services are to be provided or works are to be executed; and (b) which has not been fully discharged.
Land	Any beneficial interest in land which is within the area of the relevant authority.
Licences	Any licence (alone or jointly with others) to occupy land in the area of the relevant authority for a month or longer.
Corporate tenancies	Any tenancy where (to the Member's knowledge)— (a) the landlord is the relevant authority; and (b) the tenant is a body in which the relevant person has a beneficial interest.
Securities	Any beneficial interest in securities of a body where— (a) that body (to the Member's knowledge) has a place of business or land in the area of the relevant authority; and (b) either— (i) the total nominal value of the securities exceeds £25,000 or one hundredth of the total issued share capital of that body; or (ii) if the share capital of that body is of more than one class, the total nominal value of the shares of any one class in which the relevant person has a beneficial interest exceeds one hundredth of the total issued share capital of that class.

LONDON BOROUGH OF TOWER HAMLETS

MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL

HELD AT 6.31 P.M. ON WEDNESDAY, 19 JULY 2023

COUNCIL CHAMBER - TOWN HALL, WHITECHAPEL

Members Present:

Mayor Lutfur Rahman (Member)	Councillor Kabir Hussain (Member)
Councillor Faroque Ahmed (Member)	Councillor Kamrul Hussain (Member)
Councillor Kabir Ahmed (Member)	Councillor Asma Islam (Member)
Councillor Leelu Ahmed (Member)	Councillor Sirajul Islam (Member)
Councillor Musthak Ahmed (Member)	Councillor Ahmodul Kabir (Member)
Councillor Saied Ahmed (Member)	Councillor Saif Uddin Khaled (Member)
Councillor Shafi Ahmed (Member)	Councillor Ahmodur Khan (Member)
Councillor Suluk Ahmed (Member)	Councillor Sabina Khan (Member)
Councillor Sabina Akhtar (Member)	Councillor James King (Member)
Councillor Amina Ali (Member)	Councillor Amy Lee (Member)
Councillor Asma Begum (Member)	Councillor Abdul Malik (Member)
Councillor Maisha Begum (Member)	Councillor Abdul Mannan (Member)
Councillor Nathalie Bienfait (Member)	Councillor Ana Miah (Member)
Councillor Bodrul Choudhury (Member)	Councillor Ayas Miah (Member)
Councillor Gulam Kibria Choudhury (Member)	Councillor Harun Miah (Member)
Councillor Jahed Choudhury (Member)	Councillor Amin Rahman (Member)
Councillor Abu Chowdhury (Member)	Councillor Rebaka Sultana (Member)
Councillor Mohammad Chowdhury (Member)	Councillor Maium Talukdar (Member)
Councillor Marc Francis (Member)	Councillor Bellal Uddin (Member)
Councillor Peter Golds (Member)	Councillor Abdal Ullah (Member)
Councillor Iqbal Hossain (Member)	Councillor Abdul Wahid (Member)

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received on behalf of:

- Councillor Ohid Ahmed
- Councillor Rachel Blake
- Councillor Mufeedah Bustin
- Councillor Shubo Hussain

2. DECLARATIONS OF DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS AND OTHER INTERESTS

There were no declarations of disclosable pecuniary interests. The Monitoring Officer confirmed that Members only needed to declare close personal connections with the candidates and not any professional relations.

3. EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

The Speaker **MOVED** and Councillor Talukdar **seconded** the motion to exclude the press and public for the remaining part of the meeting.

Council

RESOLVED:

1. In view of the contents of the remaining items on the agenda to agree: "That, under the provisions of Section 100A of the Local Government Act 1972, as amended by the Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985, the press and public be excluded from the remainder of the meeting for the consideration of the Section Two business on the grounds that it contains information defined as Exempt in Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act, 1972."

4. APPOINTMENT OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE

The Council considered the report of the Director of Workforce, OH and Business Support proposing the appointment of a permanent Chief Executive and Head of Paid Service. Following debate, the Council agreed to the recommendation to appoint Stephen (Steve) Halsey as the Chief Executive and Head of Paid Service and it was:

RESOLVED

1. To confirm the appointment of Stephen (Steve) Halsey as Chief Executive of the Authority and Head of Paid Service on a permanent basis, with the job description for the post as attached at Appendix A to the report.

5. APPOINTMENT OF THE CORPORATE DIRECTOR, RESOURCES

Council considered the report of the Interim Corporate Director, Resources proposing the appointment of a permanent Corporate Director, Resources and Section 151/Chief Finance Officer.

Following discussion, Council agreed to appoint Julie Lorraine as the permanent Corporate Director, Resources and Section 151/Chief Finance Officer and it was:

RESOLVED

1. To confirm the appointment of Julie Lorraine as Corporate Director, Resources of the Authority and Section 151 Officer/Chief Finance Officer on a permanent basis, with the job description for the post as attached at Appendix A of the report.

The meeting ended at 6.54 p.m.

Speaker of the Council

This page is intentionally left blank

LONDON BOROUGH OF TOWER HAMLETS**MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL****HELD AT 7.11 P.M. ON WEDNESDAY, 19 JULY 2023****COUNCIL CHAMBER - TOWN HALL, WHITECHAPEL****Members Present:**

Mayor Lutfur Rahman (Member)
Councillor Faroque Ahmed (Member)
Councillor Kabir Ahmed (Member)
Councillor Leelu Ahmed (Member)
Councillor Musthak Ahmed (Member)
Councillor Saied Ahmed (Member)
Councillor Shafi Ahmed (Member)
Councillor Suluk Ahmed (Member)
Councillor Sabina Akhtar (Member)
Councillor Amina Ali (Member)
Councillor Asma Begum (Member)
Councillor Maisha Begum (Member)
Councillor Nathalie Bienfait (Member)
Councillor Mufeedah Bustin (Member)
Councillor Bodrul Choudhury (Member)
Councillor Gulam Kibria Choudhury (Member)
Councillor Jahed Choudhury (Member)
Councillor Abu Chowdhury (Member)
Councillor Mohammad Chowdhury (Member)
Councillor Marc Francis (Member)
Councillor Peter Golds (Member)
Councillor Iqbal Hossain (Member)
Councillor Kabir Hussain (Member)
Councillor Kamrul Hussain (Member)
Councillor Asma Islam (Member)
Councillor Sirajul Islam (Member)
Councillor Ahmodul Kabir (Member)
Councillor Saif Uddin Khaled (Member)
Councillor Ahmodur Khan (Member)
Councillor Sabina Khan (Member)
Councillor James King (Member)
Councillor Amy Lee (Member)
Councillor Abdul Malik (Member)
Councillor Abdul Mannan (Member)
Councillor Ana Miah (Member)
Councillor Ayas Miah (Member)
Councillor Harun Miah (Member)
Councillor Amin Rahman (Member)
Councillor Rebaka Sultana (Member)
Councillor Maium Talukdar (Member)
Councillor Bellal Uddin (Member)
Councillor Abdal Ullah (Member)
Councillor Abdul Wahid (Member)

The Speaker of the Council, Councillor Jahed Choudhury in the Chair

The Speaker of the Council provided his update to the Council. He noted that he had a lot to learn in his new role however was enjoying the role of first citizen of the Council. He said he had met his fellow civic colleagues from across London at the induction day hosted by the London Mayors' Association. Other highlights included:

- The Lord Mayor's reception and Civic Service at St Paul's Cathedral.

- Meeting with the charities that he is supporting this year - St Joseph's Hospice and Eden Care UK, with a Fundraising dinner later in the year.
- Attending celebration and achievement ceremonies as well as citizenship ceremonies.
- Welcoming and hosting three courtesy calls from commanding officers of ships visiting the docks, with two ships from Mexico and one from France.

The Speaker was saddened to announce the death of Beatty Orwell, who passed away aged 105. Beatty had been a former Tower Hamlets Councillor and served as a Mayoress when her husband John Orwell was Mayor. The Speaker said she was a long-standing activist and was in the frontlines in the Battle of Cable Street. He said that she had spent her lifetime working for the benefit of other and would be sorely missed.

Members of the Chamber observed a minute's silence in memory of Beatty Orwell.

Finally, the Speaker congratulated the Tower Hamlets Hockey club for their recent achievement, for they were not only winners of the national championship but also picked up the England hockey team of the year award. He said they were a shining example to youngsters in the borough.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from:

- Councillor Ohid Ahmed
- Councillor Shubo Hussain
- Councillor Rachel Blake

2. DECLARATIONS OF DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS AND OTHER INTERESTS

Councillor Amin Rahman and Councillor Mushtak Ahmed declared a non-pecuniary interest in item 12.3, and declared they were Board Members of Tower Hamlets Community Housing.

3. MINUTES

Council **RESOLVED** to:

1. Agree the minutes of the extraordinary and ordinary Council meeting of 17th May 2023 be approved as a correct record of the proceedings and the Speaker was authorised to sign them accordingly.

4. TO RECEIVE ANNOUNCEMENTS (IF ANY) FROM THE SPEAKER OF THE COUNCIL OR THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE

Announcements from the Chief Executive

The Chief Executive, Stephen Halsey provided his regular update to the Council meeting, highlighting the following issues:

- Covid and Flu rates remain stable. The Autumn vaccine programme offering a booster is expected nationally for people who are in high-risk groups.
- Young Tower Hamlets launched on Monday 17th July, which aims to offer a facility in every ward. Its part of the wider programme of supporting young people including the expansion of free school meals, education maintenance allowance and university bursaries.
- Tower Hamlets Council had won awards at the Local Government Chronicle awards – including the innovation category by the Crime Reduction Team.
- The Staff conference held at the Troxy was well attended and was an opportunity to share the aspirations and ambitions of the Council, as it begins its transformation programme.

5. TO RECEIVE PETITIONS

Petition regarding curbs to infrastructure Projects

Adam Allnutt, Lauma Kalns-Timans and Yesmin Begum presented a petition asking the Council to reserve its decision to cut NCIL funding for infrastructure projects. Especially projects on the Isle of Dogs. Mr Allnutt said it was vital funding for projects that had already been approved were implemented. He asked why funding had been halted.

Members asked questions of the petitioners before Councillor Kabir Ahmed, Cabinet Member for Regeneration, Inclusive Development and Housebuilding responded to matters raised in the petition. He said that some of the projects that had been approved had been nominated by less than twenty people and as such the administration was reviewing the projects to which NCIL money had been allocated.

RESOLVED

That the petition be referred to the Chief Executive for a written response within 28 days.

6. MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Lutfur Rahman presented his report to the Council.

The Opposition Group Leader, Councillor Sirajul Islam then responded briefly to the Mayor's report.

Mayor Rahman provided concluding remarks

7. ADMINISTRATION MOTION DEBATE

YOUNG TOWER HAMLETS

Council considered a motion as printed in the agenda on the Young Tower Hamlets initiative that had been moved by Councillor Maium Miah Talukdar and seconded by Councillor Bodrul Choudhury.

Council also considered the amendment proposed by Councillor Sabina Akhtar and seconded by Councillor Mohammad Chowdhury as set out in the supplementary agenda.

Addition in Bold

Deletions ~~struckthrough~~

This Council notes:

- That Mayor Lutfur Rahman, in his previous term as Mayor, oversaw a huge investment of resources into the borough's youth services – taking young people off the street, giving them educational, cultural, recreational, wellbeing and employment opportunities, and preparing them for adult life.
- ~~The chronic cuts to, neglect and underfunding of, Tower Hamlets' youth services during the terms of the previous administration, which resulted in the closure of 70% of all youth centres and attendant services in the borough.~~ And Insert:
- **The previous administration built wealth, knowledge and skills in the community by partnering with the voluntary and community sector to deliver youth services. As they have a track record of delivering high quality youth provision.**
- **Insert: That this council's own studies demonstrated that when communities are empowered, they provide efficient, effective and economical youth services.**

Tower Hamlets Youth Service (Commissioned Provision) 3 Year Performance									
	2017/18			2018/2019			2019/2020		
	Target	Achieved		Target	Achieved		Target	Achieved	
		No.	%		No.	%		No.	%
Contacts	2779	3914	140.84%	4180	4723	112.99%	2505	5108	203.91%
Participants	1646	1676	101.82%	2598	2277	87.64%	1503	2394	159.28%
Recorded Outcome	991	1092	110.19%	1600	1462	91.38%	902	1416	156.98%
Accredited Outcome	494	499	101.05%	847	546	64.46%	451	519	115.08%

Tower Hamlets Youth Service (In-house Provision) 3 Year Performance									
	2017/18			2018/2019			2019/2020		
	Target	Achieved		Target	Achieved		Target	Achieved	
		No.	%		No.	%		No.	%
Contacts	6,040	2,564	42.45%	5740	2948	51.36%	3835	2648	69.05%
Participants	3624	1119	30.88%	3444	1355	39.34%	2301	1579	68.62%
Recorded Outcome	2174	417	19.18%	2066	350	16.94%	1381	1008	73.01%
Accredited Outcome	1087	322	29.62%	1033	401	38.82%	690	621	89.96%

- That various studies – (set out below) – outline the correlation between access (or lack thereof) to youth services for young people and increased levels of crime and ASB, as well as low educational attainment and decreased job opportunities.

Links to External Reports/Websites

Social Mobility Commission 2019:
https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/818679/An_Unequal_Playing_Field_report.pdf

APPG on Knife Crime and Violence Reduction: *Securing a brighter future: The role of youth services in tackling knife crime*, 2020
<http://www.preventknife-crime.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/Securing-a-brighter-future-the-role-of-youth-services-in-tackling-knife-crime-v.2.pdf>

ONS 2021 – Child Poverty and Education Outcomes by Ethnicity
<https://www.ons.gov.uk/economy/nationalaccounts/uksectoraccount>

- That this latter point is particularly true in the youngest and most densely-populated borough in the country, where green space is scarce for many communities.

- That children from lower income households often have worse educational outcomes. A 2021 report found that those children from poorer households and without access to a decent education and extra-curricular activities end up with significant gaps in academic achievement – especially those from BAME backgrounds.
- ~~That young people in Tower Hamlets have suffered because of the previous administration's cuts.~~ **Insert: Under the previous administration Tower Hamlets had one of the best funded youth services in London and managed to secure more than £1m of funding from the GLA's *MyEnds* programme to combat youth violence on the Isle of Dogs.**

This Council believes:

- That the young people of Tower Hamlets deserve the best opportunities to excel, both inside and outside of the classroom.
- ~~That every ward in Tower Hamlets should have a dedicated youth centre, where children and young people can access services to help them develop skills, as well as their interests and aspirations.~~
- ~~That a serious (re-)investment in capital, personnel, and infrastructure is required to deliver these ambitions.~~
- **And Insert: Modern youth services are most effective when they are delivered through strategically located centres equipped with state-of-the-art facilities to engage and support young people.**
- **That you work is essential and under recognised profession. Professionally trained youth worker are experts in their field and know what's best when it comes to delivering youth services.**
- That the launch of the Mayor's *Young Tower Hamlets (YTH)* scheme earlier this week (Monday 17th July) – in which a £13.7million per annum investment in the borough's redesigned youth service and a guaranteed youth centre in every ward were showcased – represents a drastic change in the Council's approach, and a firm commitment to the future of the borough's young people.
- That this investment will provide jobs, intern and apprenticeship opportunities for young people across the borough.

- That this investment will also help tackle inequalities faced by disabled and SEN young people in the borough; it will also provide women and girls with increased safe access to sporting, educational, and cultural services previously cut.
- That the work of the Deputy Mayor and Council Officers should be particularly recognised in helping to deliver this key Mayoral priority.
- That this scheme represents the insourcing of another key service in the borough, enhancing democratic accountability and control, and symbolising a key step in accelerating education and attainment in Tower Hamlets.
- **That an overcentralised youth service is an inefficient way of delivering youth services and has previously led to poor governance and malpractice occurring in the borough.**

This Council resolves:

- To approve and endorse the Mayor and Council's newly launched service, *Young Tower Hamlets*, and recognise the huge benefits it will have on the borough's young people and families.
- To commend Officers and the Lead Member for their work in delivering this project.
- To support officers in the delivery of this key service moving forward.
- **That every youth worker employed by the borough undergoes a full DBS check before being employed by the borough.**
- **To only recruit professional youth workers to staff our service.**
- **To request that the lead member explore the creation of a youth worker training fund to be delivered by our partners in the FE/HE sector.**

Following debate, the amendment moved by Councillor Sabina Akhtar was put to the vote and was **defeated**.

The motion as moved by Councillor Maium Miah Talukdar was put to the vote and was **agreed**.

RESOLVED

This Council notes:

- That Mayor Lutfur Rahman, in his previous term as Mayor, oversaw a huge investment of resources into the borough's youth services – taking young people off the street, giving them educational, cultural, recreational, wellbeing and employment opportunities, and preparing them for adult life.
- The chronic cuts to, neglect and underfunding of, Tower Hamlets' youth services during the terms of the previous administration, which resulted in the closure of 70% of all youth centres and attendant services in the borough.
- That various studies – (set out below) – outline the correlation between access (or lack thereof) to youth services for young people and increased levels of crime and ASB, as well as low educational attainment and decreased job opportunities.

Links to External Reports/Websites

Social Mobility Commission 2019:
https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/818679/An_Unequal_Playing_Field_report.pdf

APPG on Knife Crime and Violence Reduction: *Securing a brighter future: The role of youth services in tackling knife crime*, 2020
<http://www.preventknifecrime.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/Securing-a-brighter-future-the-role-of-youth-services-in-tackling-knife-crime-v.2.pdf>

ONS 2021 – Child Poverty and Education Outcomes by Ethnicity
<https://www.ons.gov.uk/economy/nationalaccounts/uksectoraccount>

- That this latter point is particularly true in the youngest and most densely-populated borough in the country, where green space is scarce for many communities.
- That children from lower income households often have worse educational outcomes. A 2021 report found that those children from poorer households and without access to a decent education and extra-curricular activities end up with significant gaps in academic achievement – especially those from BAME backgrounds.
- That young people in Tower Hamlets have suffered because of the previous administration's cuts.

This Council believes:

- That the young people of Tower Hamlets deserve the best opportunities to excel, both inside and outside of the classroom.
- That every ward in Tower Hamlets should have a dedicated youth centre, where children and young people can access services to help them develop skills, as well as their interests and aspirations.
- That a serious (re-)investment in capital, personnel, and infrastructure is required to deliver these ambitions.
- That the launch of the Mayor's *Young Tower Hamlets (YTH)* scheme earlier this week (Monday 17th July) – in which a £13.7million per annum investment in the borough's redesigned youth service and a guaranteed youth centre in every ward were showcased – represents a drastic change in the Council's approach, and a firm commitment to the future of the borough's young people.
- That this investment will provide jobs, intern and apprenticeship opportunities for young people across the borough.
- That this investment will also help tackle inequalities faced by disabled and SEN young people in the borough; it will also provide women and girls with increased safe access to sporting, educational, and cultural services previously cut.
- That the work of the Deputy Mayor and Council Officers should be particularly recognised in helping to deliver this key Mayoral priority.
- That this scheme represents the insourcing of another key service in the borough, enhancing democratic accountability and control, and symbolising a key step in accelerating education and attainment in Tower Hamlets.

This Council resolves:

- To approve and endorse the Mayor and Council's newly launched service, *Young Tower Hamlets*, and recognise the huge benefits it will have on the borough's young people and families.
- To commend Officers and the Lead Member for their work in delivering this project.
- To support officers in the delivery of this key service moving forward.

8. OPPOSITION MOTION DEBATE

WOMEN'S SAFETY

Council considered a motion as printed in the agenda on Women's safety that had been moved by Councillor Sabina Khan and seconded by Councillor Rebeka Sultana.

Council also considered the amendment proposed by Councillor Abu Chowdhury and seconded by Councillor Kabir Ahmed as set out in the supplementary agenda.

Additions – Bold

Deletions – ~~Struckthrough~~

This Council notes:

- That many women and girls in Tower Hamlets face harassment, assault and violence in public and private spaces, which affects their freedom, dignity and wellbeing.
- That Tower Hamlets has very high levels of domestic abuse and sexual offences reported to the police, as well as 14 domestic homicides since 2011.
- In Tower Hamlets on average 6000 Domestic abuse incidents reported to the police each year.
- Last year 2,082 sexual offences were reported, of that 1348 were non rape offences and 734 rape offences.
- That improving women's safety is the responsibility of everyone, especially men, and requires more action from the Council and its partners.
- **That for some time now the council's service offer around women's safety has been far too limited, and that this lack has only been exacerbated by austerity measures occurring over the last 7 years such as the closing of the Jagonari centre.**
- **That the mayor Lutfur Rahman acknowledges these historic failings and has already demonstrated a commitment to reversing trends of service cutting by identifying new funding options for crucial VAWG services such as our women's criminal justice pathway coordinator role and investing community safety resources in a new series of ground-breaking digital women's safety walks.**
- **That the mayor has taken personal responsibility for the development of a new VAWG strategy being produced for 2024,**

which under the direct oversight of the newly hired Women and Equalities Officer, is intended to set a new standard for direct government intervention in issues of violence against women and girls.

This Council resolves to:

- Launch a public advertising campaign to raise awareness and challenge violence against women and girls, and to communicate the Council's commitment to women's safety using council communications and the public relations departments of partner agencies. The campaign should also promote positive messages about consent, respect and healthy relationships, and encourage bystander intervention. **This campaign will also focus on intersectionality in women's safety, prioritising the needs of LGBTQI women, BAME women, and women involved in sex work and/or sexual exploitation in line with the mayor's equalities priorities.**
- Strengthen the enforcement partnership between the Council, the Police and other agencies, and use innovative anti-social behaviour legislation to fine individuals who harass and cat-call women on our streets. The partnership should also work to improve the reporting, investigation and prosecution of domestic abuse and sexual offences, and provide specialist training for frontline staff.
- **Support the work being done to build a mayor's anti-crime task force that will strive to build specialisation around VAWG and women's safety issues into our local enforcement service, while also increasing the capacity of our THEO service to respond to issues of street harassment and abuse more generally.**
- **Continue to** increase the visibility and effectiveness of CCTV cameras across the borough **following the massive upgrade of our CCTV cameras and control overseen by the mayor.**
- Ensure that CCTV operators monitor lone individuals, particularly women, during the night and early hours of the morning. The Council should also **continue and expand its** use of other technologies, such as street lighting, alarms and apps, to enhance women's safety in public spaces. **The council should also continue to build on the successes of the mayor's recently rolled out women's safety walks and expand the use of resident consultation in shaping street patrols and CCTV placement.**
- Organise women's safety community meetings to connect residents with the Council and the Police, and to address their concerns and suggestions on how to improve women's safety in Tower Hamlets.

These meeting will be built out of the digital women's safety walks that were rolled out this spring. The meetings should also provide opportunities for women and girls to share their experiences, access support services and participate in co-designing solutions.

- **Support the development of upcoming Violence Against Women and Girls Strategy and facilitate a wide-ranging consultation process that will ensure the new strategy is first and foremost based around the needs of women across the borough and from a wide variety of different racial, religious, economic, and sexual identity-based backgrounds.**
- **Reverse/mitigate the impact of the closure of the Jagonari centre by making the development of new BAME women's centre capable of providing a variety of resources around VAWG advocacy and support a top priority.**
- **Reassess the way that this borough supports women involved in sex work and victims of sexual exploitation. The council will begin this process by committing to the recommendations of the off-street sex work action plan and scoping the feasibility of both a sex workers hostel and a prostitution needs assessment.**
- **Ensure that transgender women in particular are properly served by our VAWG strategy and by the variety of VAWG women's safety services offered by the council. Trans women continue to be victims of sexual violence and hate crime at an alarmingly high rate, and yet Tower Hamlets has historically done almost nothing to support this marginalised. The council will therefore work to embed the needs of this community across the council and into our VAWG services in particular.**

Following debate, the amendment moved by Councillor Abu Chowdhury was put to the vote and was **agreed**.

The motion as amended by Councillor Abu Chowdhury was put to the vote and was **agreed**.

RESOLVED

This Council notes:

- That many women and girls in Tower Hamlets face harassment, assault and violence in public and private spaces, which affects their freedom, dignity and wellbeing.
- That Tower Hamlets has very high levels of domestic abuse and sexual

offences reported to the police, as well as 14 domestic homicides since 2011.

- In Tower Hamlets on average 6000 Domestic abuse incidents reported to the police each year.
- Last year 2,082 sexual offences were reported, of that 1348 were non rape offences and 734 rape offences.
- That improving women's safety is the responsibility of everyone, especially men, and requires more action from the Council and its partners.
- That for some time now the council's service offer around women's safety has been far too limited, and that this lack has only been exacerbated by austerity measures occurring over the last 7 years such as the closing of the Jagonari centre.
- That the mayor Lutfur Rahman acknowledges these historic failings and has already demonstrated a commitment to reversing trends of service cutting by identifying new funding options for crucial VAWG services such as our women's criminal justice pathway coordinator role and investing community safety resources in a new series of ground-breaking digital women's safety walks.
- That the mayor has taken personal responsibility for the development of a new VAWG strategy being produced for 2024, which under the direct oversight of the newly hired Women and Equalities Officer, is intended to set a new standard for direct government intervention in issues of violence against women and girls.

This Council resolves to:

- Launch a public advertising campaign to raise awareness and challenge violence against women and girls, and to communicate the Council's commitment to women's safety using council communications and the public relations departments of partner agencies. The campaign should also promote positive messages about consent, respect and healthy relationships, and encourage bystander intervention. This campaign will also focus on intersectionality in women's safety, prioritising the needs of LGBTQI women, BAME women, and women involved in sex work and/or sexual exploitation in line with the mayor's equalities priorities.
- Strengthen the enforcement partnership between the Council, the Police and other agencies, and use innovative anti-social behaviour legislation to fine individuals who harass and cat-call women on our

streets. The partnership should also work to improve the reporting, investigation and prosecution of domestic abuse and sexual offences, and provide specialist training for frontline staff.

- Support the work being done to build a mayor's anti-crime task force that will strive to build specialisation around VAWG and women's safety issues into our local enforcement service, while also increasing the capacity of our THEO service to respond to issues of street harassment and abuse more generally.
- Continue to increase the visibility and effectiveness of CCTV cameras across the borough following the massive upgrade of our CCTV cameras and control overseen by the mayor.
- Ensure that CCTV operators monitor lone individuals, particularly women, during the night and early hours of the morning. The Council should also continue and expand its use of other technologies, such as street lighting, alarms and apps, to enhance women's safety in public spaces. The council should also continue to build on the successes of the mayor's recently rolled out women's safety walks and expand the use of resident consultation in shaping street patrols and CCTV placement.
- Organise women's safety community meetings to connect residents with the Council and the Police, and to address their concerns and suggestions on how to improve women's safety in Tower Hamlets. These meeting will be built out of the digital women's safety walks that were rolled out this spring. The meetings should also provide opportunities for women and girls to share their experiences, access support services and participate in co-designing solutions.
- Support the development of upcoming Violence Against Women and Girls Strategy and facilitate a wide-ranging consultation process that will ensure the new strategy is first and foremost based around the needs of women across the borough and from a wide variety of different racial, religious, economic, and sexual identity-based backgrounds.
- Reverse/mitigate the impact of the closure of the Jagonari centre by making the development of new BAME women's centre capable of providing a variety of resources around VAWG advocacy and support a top priority.
- Reassess the way that this borough supports women involved in sex work and victims of sexual exploitation. The council will begin this process by committing to the recommendations of the off-street sex

work action plan and scoping the feasibility of both a sex workers hostel and a prostitution needs assessment.

- Ensure that transgender women in particular are properly served by our VAWG strategy and by the variety of VAWG women's safety services offered by the council. Trans women continue to be victims of sexual violence and hate crime at an alarmingly high rate, and yet Tower Hamlets has historically done almost nothing to support this marginalised. The council will therefore work to embed the needs of this community across the council and into our VAWG services in particular.

9. REPORTS FROM THE EXECUTIVE AND THE COUNCIL'S COMMITTEES

9.1 Report of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee: Annual Report to Council

Councillor Mushtak Ahmed, Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee presented the annual report. He outlined the achievements of the Committee before members added their comments.

RESOLVED

Council **AGREED** to:

1. Note the annual report of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

9.2 Report of the Corporate Parenting Board: Annual Report 2022-23

Councillor Maium Miah Talukdar, Deputy Mayor and Cabinet Member for Education, Youth and Lifelong Learning introduced the report. He stated the report highlighted the achievements of the Corporate Parenting Board. Members of the Council commented on the report.

RESOLVED

Council **AGREED** to:

1. Note the content of the Corporate Parenting Board Annual Report.

10. OTHER BUSINESS

Nil Items.

11. TO RECEIVE WRITTEN QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL

The following questions and in each case supplementary questions were put (except where indicated) and were responded to by the Mayor or relevant Executive Member.

11.1 Question from Councillor Kamrul Hussain.

Can the Lead Member provide an update on the ongoing costs accrued by the council in redressing the failure to sign off the council accounts under the last administration?

Response of Councillor Saied Ahmed, Cabinet Member for Resources and the Cost of Living

Thank you for your question. You won't be surprised to learn that the costs incurred on the financial statements from 2016/17 through to 2019/20 (4-years) accrued amount to £3.1m. This money could be invested to resolve the Borough's overcrowding issue and other worthy causes. The previous administration has admitted a considerable expense has been accrued because of the mismanagement of the accounts.

Supplementary question from Councillor Kamrul Hussain.

How soon will the accounts be signed off?

Response of Councillor Saied Ahmed, Cabinet Member for Resources and the Cost of Living

The 2016/17 and 2017/18 accounts have been signed off however the following three years accounts – 2018/19, 2019/20 and 2020/21 are yet to be signed off. Officers are working with Deloitte to address one final issue and it's hoped that these can be signed off shortly.

11.2 Question from Councillor Mohammad Chowdhury.

We are facing an unprecedented housing crisis in the borough. I have been contacted by many private tenants that their landlord is turning their rented accommodation into Airbnb accommodation for more profit. Some of these private tenants will be homeless soon, which, in turn, enhances the current crisis. Could the lead member for Housing tell us their plan to regulate the increase of Airbnb or similar holiday accommodations in the borough?

Response from Councillor Kabir Ahmed, Cabinet Member for Regeneration, Inclusive Development and Housebuilding

Tackling the housing crisis is a clear priority for the council, as set out in the Mayor's manifesto and the Strategic Plan.

Regarding the regulation of Airbnb and other holiday lettings, unfortunately there are limitations on what we can do. Currently in London it is possible to let out a residential (use class C3) property as a short term let for up to 90 days a year without planning permission and it is extremely difficult to monitor and enforce against those who let out their properties for longer than that 90-day limit.

The Government have recently consulted on the possibility of introducing a new use class for short term lets, although it is not clear that any of the measures consulted on will help the situation in London. But we are proactively looking at that and will continue to explore the powers we can utilise as a council to make the best use of the borough's housing stock.

11.3 Question from Councillor Shafi Ahmed.

Can the Mayor or Lead Member please update on the progress of the LBTH Local Plan refresh, and what he hopes to see achieved in the outcomes of this process?

Response from Councillor Kabir Ahmed, Cabinet Member for Regeneration, Inclusive Development and Housebuilding

The 2020 Adopted Local Plan is currently under a full review, which includes assessing the effectiveness of all policies, and drafting new policies where required. The direction of policies will be underpinned and informed by, national and regional policy requirements, local objectives, new evidence base and consultation and engagement with all Tower Hamlets' communities.

Key milestones for the review of a Local Plan are:

- early engagement on issues and policy proposals – which took place between Wednesday 25 January to Wednesday March 8 2023
- Regulation 18 – statutory consultation on the draft Local Plan
- Regulation 19 – final representations and comments on the Local Plan being submitted to the Secretary of State
- Examination in Public with an Independent Inspector – which The Plan Making team are currently preparing for Regulation 18 and intend to take this to Cabinet in October 2023, to consult in November 2023.

11.4 Question from Councillor Marc Francis.

Can the Mayor and Lead Member explain why they have stopped plans to introduce a raised table zebra crossing on Parnell Road to make it safer for

older residents and families with children crossing from Lefevre estate to cross to Roman Road market?

Response from Councillor Kabir Hussain, Cabinet Member for Environment and the Climate Emergency

The proposal for a raised zebra crossing at Parnell Road formed part of a wider package of measures put forward for the area, initially as part of the Liveable Streets programme, which encompassed changes to pedestrian crossings in addition to the traffic restriction schemes. This scheme remains under review.

Supplementary question from Councillor Marc Francis.

It's disappointing to hear the scheme is under review. Elderly residents are not protected at all. I was given an assurance back in February 2022 that the Parnell Road scheme was going to be implemented. However, having chased the Highway's manager I am informed that following the election, funding for all liveable street schemes including the introduction of speed tables have been cut. Can the Lead member explain why these necessary measures are not being implemented?

Response from Councillor Kabir Hussain, Cabinet Member for Environment and the Climate Emergency

The previous Mayor and administration failed to properly consult residents about their Liveable streets programme. This administration has a better plan which we will implement once we have reviewed the scheme.

11.5 Question from Councillor Amin Rahman.

Can the Lead Member feedback on the recent peer review that looked at our early help service which took place in February and March and the Care Leavers which happened in May?

Response from Councillor Maium Miah Talukdar, Deputy Mayor and Cabinet Member for Education, Youth and Lifelong Learning.

The Early Help Peer Review was conducted by three experienced Early Help leaders and a Department of Education lead, including from highly rated local authorities, over three days. The Review Team met with staff and visited our Children and Family Centres, undertook case audits and discussions with practitioners, and met with key partners to get full sense of our Early Help offer.

Key findings were:

- Leaders, managers and staff talked passionately about this new direction and the benefits for families. This is well articulated in the new ambitious Early Help Strategy - 'Leaving no families behind – supporting access for all'
- The locality model of delivery is well embedded and supports bespoke early support to each of these 4 communities.
- The visible diversity of the workforce is commendable, particularly in terms of ethnicity, culture, age and gender. There is a real sense that staff can be their authentic selves at work.

Supplementary question from Councillor Amin Rahman.

How confident are you that the Council will achieve a better Ofsted review?

Response from Councillor Maium Miah Talukdar, Deputy Mayor and Cabinet Member for Education, Youth and Lifelong Learning.

The review team made some recommendations which are currently being considered and implemented.

Our Care Leavers Peer Review was carried out by Mark Riddell MBE, the National Implementation Adviser for Care Leavers, who concluded:

“I was very impressed by the leadership and management approach that was ambitious, aspirational and I got a real sense of passion and commitment to have a better offer for care leavers across the whole service area. What I also saw and heard was many examples where I felt the service was ‘pitching’ above good and that the corporate approach, and in particular the team approach stood out with workers who were highly responsive to the needs of care leavers. The local authority are in a good position to get to being great for care leavers in that I could see some outstanding features.”

11.6 Question from Councillor Mufedah Bustin.

With the removal of funding for George Green’s school and the cancelling of NCIL projects in the most population-dense area of the UK, what investment is the mayor making on the Isle of Dogs?

Response from Councillor Kabir Ahmed, Cabinet Member for Regeneration, Inclusive Development and Housebuilding

I didn’t get to finish my answer earlier when this was raised under item 4. The previous Labour administration invested 1.99M in LIF Area 4. However, this administration will be investing 2.1M which is an increase in real and actual terms. Some of the Public Realm investments made by the previous administration should have come from the Council’s own budget and not LIF

and NCIL monies. We are going to manage our budgets better and will allow for full probity of them.

Supplementary question from Councillor Mufeedah Bustin

Can the Lead Member confirm what infrastructure projects they will be spending on, in the Isle of Dogs?

Response from Councillor Kabir Ahmed, Cabinet Member for Regeneration, Inclusive Development and Housebuilding

We will be spending circa 18m on capital and housing projects. Circa 12M on grant funding. What the administration will not be spending on are scheme such as improvements to walking and cycling which was awarded £250,000 and was nominated by one person. Improvements to cycle route 1, awarded £270,000 and again nominated by one person.

11.7 Question from Councillor Bodrul Choudhury

Can the Lead Member update the council on progress with the external independent investigation of our housing management department? Can the Lead Member tell us who has been appointed and set out a timeline for delivery?

Response from Councillor Kabir Ahmed, Cabinet Member for Regeneration, Inclusive Development and Housebuilding

There has been a separate commission of BDO to complete an external review of the governance, systems, and processes regarding the engagement, monitoring, and enforcement of regulations and occupancy of HMO properties. They are due to report in August.

Supplementary question from Councillor Bodrul Choudhury

Is there a timeline after August, as to when the recommendations from the review will be implemented?

Response from Councillor Kabir Ahmed, Cabinet Member for Regeneration, Inclusive Development and Housebuilding

Once the report has been finalised, Officers will review the recommendations and this will be presented to Council, if recommended by the Monitoring Officer and Chief Executive. We are aware we need to strengthen our governance, processes and systems relating to HMO properties and that we need to protect vulnerable residents, from seizure and tenant abuse.

11.8 Question from Councillor Asma Islam

How many homeless residents were supported into suitable accommodation for the council year 22-23 and how did that compare against the target set for the year?

Response from Councillor Kabir Ahmed, Cabinet Member for Regeneration, Inclusive Development and Housebuilding

In 2022/23, the number of homeless households who were supported to move into affordable, sustainable housing was 317 (under our target of 470).

Of the 317 homeless households, 148 moved on to private rent sector accommodation and a further 169 to social housing.

Supplementary question from Councillor Asma Islam.

Can you please find out how many residents apply for homelessness support, who are rejected and then apply for the 2nd or 3rd time. This would be a good indicator to understand the issues and the barriers faced by residents.

Response from Councillor Kabir Ahmed, Cabinet Member for Regeneration, Inclusive Development and Housebuilding

We do have targets and some of the targets are from Government. We are reviewing our policies and processes and take this issue seriously. If you could let me have the details of cases alluded to, I will speak with the Housing Director.

Questions 11.9 to 11.31 were not put due to lack of time. The written responses are attached at **Appendix A**.

12. TO CONSIDER MOTIONS SUBMITTED BY MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL

Motions 12.1 to 12.4 were not considered due to lack of time.

The meeting ended at 10.13 p.m.

Speaker of the Council

This page is intentionally left blank

Item 11: Member Questions and Answers

11.1	Question from Councillor Kamrul Hussain	<p>Can the Lead Member provide an update on the ongoing costs accrued by the council in redressing the failure to sign off the council accounts under the last administration?</p> <p>Response</p> <p>The costs incurred on the financial statements from 2016/17 through to 2019/20 (4-years) accrued amount to £3.1m. This includes Interim Staff who were not all involved in addressing audit queries per se, but all contributed towards the overarching Finance Improvement Plan previously reported to Audit committee.</p>
11.2	Question from Councillor Mohammed Chowdhury	<p>We are facing an unprecedented housing crisis in the borough. I have been contacted by many private tenants that their landlord is turning their rented accommodation into Airbnb accommodation for more profit. Some of these private tenants will be homeless soon, which, in turn, enhances the current crisis. Could the lead member for Housing tell us their plan to regulate the increase of Airbnb or similar holiday accommodations in the borough?</p> <p>Response</p> <p>Tackling the housing crisis is a clear priority for the council, as set out in the Mayor’s manifesto and the Strategic Plan.</p> <p>Regarding the regulation of Airbnb and other holiday lettings, unfortunately there are limitations on what we can do. Currently in London it is possible to let out a residential (use class C3) property as a short term let for up to 90 days a year without planning permission and it is extremely difficult to monitor and enforce against those who let out their properties for longer than that 90 day limit.</p> <p>The Government have recently consulted on the possibility of introducing a new use class for short term lets, although it is not clear that any of the measures consulted on will help the situation in London.</p> <p>Local authorities are soon expected to have the discretion to double council tax on second homes through the Levelling Up and Regeneration Bill, which is anticipated to pass later this year. This</p>

		<p>measure, once available, can be used to enforce upon owners of Airbnb and similar holiday accommodations in the borough.</p> <p>The government have also committed to introducing a registration scheme for short-term lets in England through the Levelling Up and Regeneration Bill, and details of how a scheme will operate was explored through a consultation on a registration scheme for short-term lets in England which closed on 7 June 2023. Whilst Scotland and Northern Island already have a short-term let licensing scheme in operation, 60% of respondents favoured a light-touch registration scheme in England, in response to the governments call for evidence. It's anticipated that the scheme will be operational in 2024.</p> <p>We will continue to explore the powers we can utilise as a council to make the best use of the borough's housing stock.</p>
11.3	<p>Question from Councillor Shafi Ahmed</p>	<p>Can the Mayor or Lead Member please update on the progress of the LBTH Local Plan refresh, and what he hopes to see achieved in the outcomes of this process?</p> <p>Response</p> <p>The 2020 Adopted Local Plan is currently under a full review, which includes assessing the effectiveness of all policies, and drafting new policies where required. The direction of policies will be underpinned and informed by, national and regional policy requirements, local objectives, new evidence base and consultation and engagement with all Tower Hamlets' communities.</p> <p>Key milestones for the review of a Local Plan are,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - early engagement on issues and policy proposals – which took place between Wednesday 25 January to Wednesday March 8 2023 - Regulation 18 – statutory consultation on the draft Local Plan - Regulation 19 – final representations and comments on the Local Plan being submitted to the Secretary of State - Examination in Public with an Independent Inspector – which <p>The Plan Making team are currently preparing for Regulation 18 and intend to take this to Cabinet in October 2023, to consult in November 2023.</p> <p>The outcomes of the Local Plan review process are to ensure the Council meets all relevant statutory requirements of the Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 and Town and Country Planning Act 2012 as well as effectively engagement with all stakeholders to ensure that</p>

		<p>policies reflect and address the issues and needs of the borough and its communities.</p> <p>The outcomes of the new Local Plan can be defined as those which closely align with the Mayor's 8 objectives in the Strategic Plan, and specifically that of addressing overcrowding with the focus on delivering homes.</p>
11.4	<p>Question from Councillor Marc Francis</p>	<p>Can the Mayor and Lead Member explain why they have stopped plans to introduce a raised table zebra crossing on Parnell Road to make it safer for older residents and families with children crossing from Lefevre estate to cross to Roman Road market?</p> <p>Response</p> <p>The proposal for a raised zebra crossing at Parnell Road formed part of a wider package of measures put forward for the area, initially as part of the Liveable Streets programme, which encompassed changes to pedestrian crossings in addition to the traffic restriction schemes. This scheme remains under review.</p>
11.5	<p>Question from Councillor Amin Rahman</p>	<p>Can the Lead Member feedback on the recent peer review that looked at our early help service which took place in February and March and the Care Leavers which happened in May?</p> <p>Response</p> <p>The Early Help Peer Review was Conducted by three experienced Early Help leaders and a Department of Education lead, including from highly rated local authorities, over three days. The Review Team met with staff and visited our Children and Family Centres, undertook case audits and discussions with practitioners, and met with key partners to get full sense of our Early Help offer.</p> <p>Key findings were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leaders, managers and staff talked passionately about this new direction and the benefits for families. This is well articulated in the new ambitious Early Help Strategy - 'Leaving no families behind – supporting access for all' • The locality model of delivery is well embedded and supports bespoke early support to each of these 4 communities.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The visible diversity of the workforce is commendable, particularly in terms of ethnicity, culture, age and gender. There is a real sense that staff can be their authentic selves at work • The 12 children and family centres are an excellent resource for families in Tower Hamlets and demonstrate an integration with health that other Local Authorities could learn from. • There has been considerable investment in upskilling the internal early help teams, as part of a wider children’s services investment. This is impressive and, as mentioned above, staff referenced their restorative approach in many conversations as well as examples of how it is impacting on outcomes for children and families. • The review team made some recommendations which are currently being considered and implemented. <p>Our Care Leavers Peer Review was carried out by Mark Riddell MBE, the National Implementation Adviser for Care Leavers, who concluded:</p> <p>“I was very impressed by the leadership and management approach that was ambitious, aspirational and I got a real sense of passion and commitment to have a better offer for care leavers across the whole service area. What I also saw and heard was many examples where I felt the service was ‘pitching’ above good and that the corporate approach, and in particular the team approach stood out with workers who were highly responsive to the needs of care leavers. The local authority are in a good position to get to being great for care leavers in that I could see some outstanding features.”</p>
11.6	<p>Question from Councillor Mufeedah Bustin</p>	<p>With the removal of funding for George Green’s school and the cancelling of NCIL projects in the most population-dense area of the UK, what investment is the mayor making on the Isle of Dogs?</p> <p>Response</p> <p>The Council has spent and committed to spend considerable levels of funding in the Isle of Dogs. The Council’s current Capital Programme has allocated £18.5m to projects that are geographically specific only to the Isle of Dogs area. These projects include improvements to parks, schools and the public realm, as well as the delivery of South Dock Bridge, a transformative project for the area.</p> <p>Additionally, the benefits of infrastructure cannot always be viewed along rigid boundaries. For example, the Council views Secondary Schools on a boroughwide basis, recognising that delivering a new school in one area, has a ripple effect that provides capacity in</p>

existing schools in other areas. The Council also spends significant resources on boroughwide initiatives such as park and public realm improvements that benefit all areas of Tower Hamlets. The current Capital Programme includes over £40m towards such programmes.

In addition, the Council uses the planning process to require developers to provide new facilities as part of their developments. The Local Plan includes requirements for developers to deliver a range of infrastructure to meet the needs of both new and existing residents on the Isle of Dogs and adjacent areas over the Local Plan period, including 10 schools, 6 health centres, 12 new open spaces and a number of community facilities.

To date, potential schools have been secured through existing planning permissions on the Isle of Dogs at Wood Wharf, 3 Millharbour and Westferry Printworks. The same process has secured, through planning permissions a range of health and community facilities, and open spaces to be delivered by developers on-site. By delivering this infrastructure directly, developers are awarded an equivalent reduction in the funding they pay the Council through the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL). Therefore, the cost of delivering these projects can reasonably be seen as 'spend' by the Council and amounts to many tens of millions of pounds. It should be noted that these new facilities will serve not just the development where they are being delivered, but also the wider community. The Council will fund the fit out of these new facilities and ensure they can be occupied as they are required. This also amounts to tens of millions of pounds.

The Council approved its new approach to Neighbourhood CIL (subject to call-in) at the June 2023 Cabinet meeting. This approach will ensure that residents where development is taking place benefit from the funding secured in that location. With its status of having a Neighbourhood Plan, the Isle of Dogs will benefit from 25% of CIL secured. The new NCIL approach will deliver local improvements through the Council's Grant Programme, putting spend directly in the hands of local people. Remaining funding will support the delivery of infrastructure and affordable housing projects on the Isle of Dogs in accordance with local priorities.

The Council is also undertaking work to ensure that functional infrastructure, such as utilities are well planned for on the Isle of Dogs, recognising the need for enhancements to these systems in order to accommodate new housing. Council officers have worked in partnership with the Greater London Authority, utility providers, transport providers and developers on projects with a focus on the Isle of Dogs. This work, utilising CIL funding alongside £500k

		<p>secured from the GLA has developed plans for necessary utility infrastructure, ensuring future supplies of water, electricity and digital connectivity are well planned for.</p> <p>The Council recognises the high levels of construction work and development taking place on the Isle of Dogs and the difficulties residents face living in this area during these works. The Council has therefore recently adopted its new Code of Construction Practice and continues to work closely with developers to mitigate the impacts of construction activity on local residents on the Isle of Dogs. This work is funded using S106 secured from developments.</p>
11.7	<p>Question from Councillor Bodrul Choudhury</p>	<p>Can the Lead Member update the council on progress with the external independent investigation of our housing management department? Can the Lead Member tell us who has been appointed and set out a timeline for delivery?</p> <p>Response</p> <p>There has been a separate commission of BDO to complete an external review of the governance, systems, and processes regarding the engagement, monitoring, and enforcement of regulations and occupancy of HMO properties. They are due to report in August.</p>
11.8	<p>Question from Councillor Asma Islam</p>	<p>How many homeless residents were supported into suitable accommodation for the council year 22-23 and how did that compare against the target set for the year?</p> <p>Response</p> <p>In 2022/23, the number of homeless households who were supported to move into affordable, sustainable housing was 317 (under our target of 470).</p> <p>Of the 317 homeless households, 148 moved on to private rent sector accommodation and a further 169 to social housing.</p> <p>The target has not been met primarily due to the economic climate which is having a considerable adverse impact on the private rental market. There is a significant shortage of affordable PRS supply available to rehouse homeless households. The acute shortage of PRS supply has been experienced during each quarter of the last financial year. All London boroughs are reporting a sudden shrinking of the affordable PRS, so this is not a problem unique to Tower Hamlets.</p>

11.9	<p>Question from Councillor Ahmodul Kabir</p>	<p>Many residents have complained about the cleanliness of Tower Hamlets' streets. Can the Lead Member or the Mayor provide Council with an update on measures being taken to ensure our residents don't have to walk through dirty streets?</p> <p>Response</p> <p>Several initiatives to improve street cleanliness in the borough will be included in the upcoming Waste Improvement Plan, which will be rolled out from August 2023. These include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rebranding of street cleansing vehicles, including Find It, Fix It (FiFi) signage, to make vehicles more visible. • New barrow sweeper-cards introduced to improve clarity for sweepers. • More regular grading of streets to help proactivity of street cleansing. • A refresh of QR codes on litter bins to enable better resident reporting through FiFi. • Increased awareness of FiFi app through an awareness campaign • Conduct a service-wide job skills audit to better organise street cleansing workforce. • Rollout of 39 big belly smart bins across the borough, focusing on high-footfall areas. • Rollout of duo recycling/refuse litter bins across the borough to encourage visitors and residents to recycle litter.
11.10	<p>Question from Councillor Leelu Ahmed</p>	<p>How many affordable homes were delivered by the council for the council year 22-23?</p> <p>Response</p> <p>The tackling of overcrowding and its negative consequences on the residents of Tower Hamlets is a top priority for the Council. Nearly 14,000 Tower Hamlets residents are living in acute overcrowding, and the subsequent health, financial and wellbeing impacts are real issues that the council is acutely aware of. Delivering new affordable and council homes for local residents is a key solution to redressing this problem, and it is an area where we are making significant investments and working closely with housing partners across the borough.</p>

		<p>For the year 2022/23, looking at both RPs and the council, a total of 623 affordable homes have been delivered in the borough. The Council remains committed to exceeding the Mayor’s pledge to deliver 4,000 social homes for rent in Tower Hamlets, and feel that this is a good start in meeting this target.</p> <p>These figures are for affordable homes completed in 22/23 for both RPs and the council, and do not include new starts on site.”</p>
11.11	<p>Question from Councillor Ahmodur Khan</p>	<p>Can the Lead Member explain the number of red and ambers in the Council’s Strategic delivery and performance report: Year One Delivery Plan 2022 – 2023, and what measures are being taken to urgently address them?</p> <p>Response</p> <p>Thank you for your question. We are aware there are several areas with red and amber status in the annual performance report that is going to Cabinet on 26th July.</p> <p>This is disappointing however the report does outline corrective action is in place and when performance is expected to improve. It also highlights that in some areas external factors i.e. the housing market are having an impact and this is a common issue for all inner London boroughs which we continue to benchmark against.</p> <p>The investment agreed in my budget earlier this year will now start to be felt by frontline services and a plan is in place to move forward in a way that focuses in on improving performance with a focus on the indicators currently below target.</p> <p>We will continue to do all we can to deliver on our ambitious Strategic Plan and improve the lives of our residents.</p>
11.12	<p>Question from Councillor Rachel Blake</p>	<p>How many complaints has the council received about landlords in the private rented sector and how many of these complaints have been investigated by the council?</p> <p>Response</p> <p>The Council does not have the remit to accept complaints about all landlords within the private rented sector. For those where we do have remit, these are logged on icasework.</p>

		<p>If the complaint is against THH which is an RSL, the complaints are logged, responded to and iCasework stats available.</p> <p>If the complaint is against a TMO, as these are ultimately council stock, and the complaints are logged, responded to and iCasework stats available.</p> <p>If the complaint is against an RSL, these are normally taken up by the resident with the relevant RSL and they process as a complaint with recourse to the Housing Ombudsman Service or legal redress.</p> <p>For TMO and RSL complaints, in practice there will be very few on iCasework purely because residents will raise these directly with the TMO or RSL and not the Council.</p> <p>Given the above, the clearest and most complete picture we have of complaints made will be concerning THH complaints As such, stats can be provided in writing on the above basis if it would be helpful to the councillor.</p>
11.13	<p>Question from Councillor Musthak Ahmed</p>	<p>This Cost-of-Living crisis has seen the poorest and most vulnerable in Tower Hamlets hit hardest. Can the Lead Member tell us what measures have been put in place to support affected residents?</p> <p>Response</p> <p>As a priority both of the Mayor’s manifesto and the Council’s strategic plan, tackling the cost of living crisis has been a focal point of LBTH’s work towards supporting low income residents and tackling poverty in the borough. This has meant the delivery of a range of initiatives including the allocation of more than 53,000 cash first payments to residents in the last year, a programme of support that has provided more than £6m to residents identified by council data as being the most in need of support. This work has helped us to utilise funding both from Tower Hamlets and from the UK government’s Household Support Fund to support groups including pensioners, FSM eligible children, young carers, low income people with disabilities, those with high energy medical equipment and those experiencing in-work poverty. More funds are due to be allocated to additional cohorts throughout the remainder of the year.</p> <p>In addition we have continued to make sure everyone in our borough who needs it can access support by putting funding into our Residents Support Scheme, which is available to any resident</p>

		<p>regardless of benefit status. In using the scheme as the by-application route for HSF support, and by expanding the criteria of the scheme to include difficulties with heating and eating, the RSS has paid out more than £420,000 towards energy bills and food for residents in the last year and over a million pounds in overall grants.</p> <p>This work continues alongside projects designed to tackle poverty in the medium and the long term – including the FOOD Store programme, the Council’s Food Hub, the Holiday Activities and Food programme, the income maximisation work of the LBTH outreach team, and the ongoing expansion of universal free school meals to all secondary school aged children.</p> <p>In order to help residents to seek help and advice the cost of living campaign was launched last year to communicate the wide range of support they can access - and this is continually revised and revisited by council officers to make sure we are getting the best possible information out to our residents.</p>
11.14	<p>Question from Councillor Amy Lee</p>	<p>NHS Northeast London have approved cuts of £82 million this year but have not revealed which services will be affected. What questions have you asked of NHS NEL on this, to ensure that Tower Hamlets residents are not hit by these cuts?</p> <p>Response</p> <p>Briefing from NHS North East London:</p> <p>The 2023/24 Operating Plan for NHS North East London has been prepared on the basis of delivering NHS priorities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recovering our core services and productivity • Delivering the key NHS Long Term Plan ambitions and transforming the NHS • Continue to transform the NHS for the future • Local empowerment and accountability <p>The Operating Plan is underpinned by a suite of national priorities and key targets to be delivered working with our system partners. This includes delivering a balanced financial plan for the North East London system which consists of North East London Integrated Care Board (ICB), The East London NHS Foundation Trust (ELFT), North East London NHS Foundation Trust (NELFT), Homerton Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust, Barts Health NHS Trust and Barking, Havering & Redbridge University Hospitals NHS Trust (BHRUT).</p>

		<p>North East London finance submitted a finance plan to deliver a break-even position for the system.</p> <p>Within the overall breakeven plan, Bart's have a deficit, BHRUT and Homerton are close to breakeven and the ICB, ELFT and NELFT are all delivering a surplus to offset the deficit.</p> <p>The North East London ICB plan includes £82.6m planned efficiency savings. These are not cuts to services but planned efficiency savings and the overall service offer remains the same. The total £82.6m represents 2% which is the standard required level of "Cost Improvement Programmes" (CIP). We are working with place partnerships and our providers to ensure that impact on outcomes is minimal.</p> <p>All system partners are facing financial challenges and pressures. The planned efficiency savings are required to deliver the financial plan and support/underpin financial resilience. This is not too dissimilar to the planning protocols used by our system partners.</p>
11.15	<p>Question from Councillor Bellal Uddin</p>	<p>Can the Lead Member update the council on progress with implementation of council's new youth service - Young Tower Hamlets?</p> <p>Response</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There has been good progress and the expanded Young Tower Hamlets service will be launched by the Mayor at an event being delivered on 17 July 2023 alongside the launch of our full youth work summer programme. • There has been rapid recruitment of interim staff in order to be able to move at pace with the first steps of delivering new youth provision. • Refurbishment and fit out of Columbia Road and Goulston Street is on track to open in August. • The Young Tower Hamlets logo and branding is being designed. • Consultation with young people has been extensive, including x 4 Hackathon events across the borough with over 400 young people in attendance and young peoples survey with over 900 completions.
11.16	<p>Question from Councillor Ayas Miah</p>	<p>How many waste collections have been missed for the council year 22-23 and how does this compare against its target?</p> <p>Response</p>

		<p>The number of total reported missed collections for the year 2022-2023 was 13,717.</p> <p>The breakdown of this total is as follows</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Residual missed collections 5998 • Recycling missed collections 6258 • Organic missed collections 1461 <p>The target was 10,000 missed collections and we received 13,717 reports. This is the total number of reported missed collections before the data was processed in order to remove</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Multiple reports from the same property which would equate to one missed collection. • Access issues- parked cars blocking access, roadworks, building works blocking bin access. • Waste not present at time of collection • contamination • Keys/fobs- collections crews carry more than 1000 keys/fobs to access these properties. <p>The service makes over 10 million collections per year.</p>
11.17	<p>Question from Councillor Harun Miah</p>	<p>Could the Mayor or Lead Member provide us with an update on the decision taken to bring all of the Borough’s leisure services in-house?</p> <p>Response</p> <p>The decision to insource the leisure services, when the current contract with GLL expires at the end of April 2024, was made in August 2022. Subsequent to the decision a project board was established to scope the project. Activities included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identifying and securing project resources (primarily responsible officers from across the Council to lead on specific workstreams). • Agreeing governance for the project and establishing a high-level strategic Board to oversee the creation of work packages for each workstream. • Agreeing a revenue budget to deliver the project. • Drawing together a range of recent analysis to better understand the current condition of the estate and customer usage. • Initial meetings with GLL to agree the transition process. • Ensuring connection as a dependency to the Capital Delivery Team led project to rebuild a facility at St. Georges

		<p>Since mid-March, we have successfully moved into the delivery phase and recent months have prioritised:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Resourcing the project team and recruiting to service management posts. • Finalising the transition plan with incumbent provider. • Procurement of a Leisure Management System. • Internal engagement week with LBTH staff. • Initial engagement with community groups, schools and key partners/funders. • Specialist engaged to support Corporate Communications team with branding, business development, website & app development and sales strategy. • Market testing progressing (equipment/operations/specialised servicing etc) and a number of procurements out to tender to deliver a Leisure Needs Assessment, Facilities Planning Modelling, Service Design, Quality Assurance and a Swim Latent Demand & Programming assessment), many of which will inform a 10-year investment strategy for leisure and wellbeing facilities across Tower Hamlets. • Task & Finish group to identify commissioning opportunities within the local health economy. With a specific post out to advert for a Public Health Manager to support the T&F group. • Contracts pipeline established. • Health & Safety audits completed. • Lessons learned discussions across key thematic areas (Finance, HR, IT etc). • Draft business plan developed and being validated. • Latent demand analysis for St Georges completed and engagement around St. Georges underway. <p>The coming months will see the emergence of a new brand and business development pipeline, using public engagement that is meaningful and helps generate enthusiasm for the project. At the same time, the team need to provide the structure and processes that will enable the management team to deliver both a safe transition from GLL and some new services and products ahead of the new service launching.</p> <p>We remain on track to bring the service back in-house in May 2024.</p>
11.18	Question from Councillor Maisha Begum	<p>How many children are receiving EHC assessment decisions within the statutory 6 weeks? How many parents are receiving communication on the outcome within the statutory 16 weeks? How many children are receiving a plan within the statutory 20 weeks?</p>

		<p>Response</p> <p>Currently, 98% of requests are considered within the statutory 6 weeks: the only reason for delay is where further information has been sought rather than issue an outright decline to assess. Approx. 75% of requests have a decision made within 4 weeks of the request into the LA.</p> <p>All parents receive information on the 16- and 20-week timescales of the assessment process when informed of the decision to assess or not.</p> <p>Cumulatively for this year, 50% of all EHCPs have been delivered in-timescale, which is at the national average. However, month-by-month, our performance is higher still, and over the last 3 months, we have issued 75% of EHCPs within the statutory 20 weeks.</p>
11.19	<p>Question from Councillor Abdul Mannan</p>	<p>Could the Lead Member update Council on action taken to address the concerns raised by some Somali residents about the lack of support from the housing options service?</p> <p>Response</p> <p>A series of actions and steps have been taken over the previous months following the Town Hall meeting of 20th March 2023.</p> <p>Many Somali residents attended the Town Hall meeting at the Council on 20th March 2023. Appropriate Council staff were at this meeting including the Director of Housing and the Head of Complaints to listen and offer support to the families who attended.</p> <p>The Head of Complaints and Director of Housing offered support to all the families to have their individual cases and concerns investigated via the council's formal complaints procedure. The Head of Complaints committed to creating some guidance for the attending families covering how to easily navigate the complaints procedure and to specifically create custom simple complaints form to make it easier for families to submit information and evidence. These documents were completed and were distributed at the end of March 2023 via their representative (these can be shared). This guidance and custom form made an easy and supportive way to raise complaints. It has also been offered for these documents to be translated.</p>

		<p>Since this offer of support to help families through the complaints process, the council has successfully received several formal complaints from some of the Somali women and these have been going through the procedure correctly. For those who have not yet submitted a formal complaint and evidence, they have been re-invited to do so, and the Head of Complaints has continued to offer the residents support and guidance to raise their complaint.</p> <p>At the time of writing, no evidence has been submitted that demonstrates Council employees either racially discriminated against the women in the bidding process, or that offers were made to fast-track bids in exchange for money.</p> <p>However, the number of complaints received vs the amount of residents that attended shows that many have not come forward. (The Head of Complaints personally worked on progressing approx. 30 cases as far as residents would engage). Due to this, continuing and further engagement strategies have been sought such as working to meet again with the residents.</p> <p>An in-person meeting had also been offered with the Chief Executive and relevant council officers to the residents on 30th June, however this meeting was declined shortly the day before it was due to take place. Another meeting has since been offered and the council is working encourage residents to attend so that they can engage productively with the council.</p>
11.20	<p>Question from Councillor Sabina Akhtar</p>	<p>How many students have been successful in applying for the EMA/bursary fund and how many applied? How much funding remains in both yearly budgets?</p> <p>Response</p> <p>University Bursary</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Funding available for 400 successful applicants. • 1751 applications received. • 1398 met criteria. • 400 successful applicants paid. • Oversubscribed by 998 <p>EMA</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Funding available for 1250 successful applicants. • 1931 applications received. • Currently undersubscribed by 456

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 794 successful applicants. Threshold revised due to challenges with applicants meeting attendance threshold – Original threshold was 95% attendance, reduced to 85%. • The remaining funding has covered the staffing and administration costs which were not factored in the growth approved for 23/24.
11.21	<p>Question from Councillor Shubo Hussain</p>	<p>How many payments to date have been made from the SME Energy Efficiency Grants programme? Is there a register of successful applicants?</p> <p>Response</p> <p>Funded through the carbon offsetting funds, the Council delivered two phases of the SME Energy Improvements Grants.</p> <p>The grant provided 50% match funding up to a maximum of £5,000 to SMEs to carry out energy retrofit projects that will reduce their carbon emissions. The scheme closed in November 2020 where we allocated £401,807 to 84 SME businesses.</p> <p>Due to the success of the project, we ran a further phase of funding providing 50% grant funding up to a maximum of £5,000 to SMEs to carry out energy retrofit projects that will reduce their carbon emissions and 50% grant funding up to a maximum of £10,000 for projects that installed renewable energy or electric heating. This programme closed in July 2021 where we allocated £274,139 to 49 organisations.</p> <p>The Council keeps a register of all successful applicants and the amount of grant given to each organisation.</p>
11.22	<p>Question from Councillor Asma Begum</p>	<p>How many meetings have there been of the Mayor’s Advisory Board for Climate Change (MABCC) and what is the current membership of the board?</p> <p>Response</p> <p>The Mayors Advisory Board for Climate Change meetings takes place quarterly, two meeting have taken place so far with the next one scheduled for September 2023. In addition to this the launch of the ‘A cleaner greener future for Tower Hamlets’ launch took place in February 2023.</p> <p>Current membership of MABCC is as follows.</p>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Lutfur Rahman – Executive Mayor - Kabir Hussain – Cabinet Member for Environment and the Climate Emergency - Mohammed Maium Miah Talukdar – Statutory Deputy Mayor - Sam Harney- Political Advisor to the Executive Mayor - Kieran Andrieu - Head of External Relations - Corporate Director - Place Directorate - Simon Baxter – Director of Public Realm - Karen Swift – Director of Housing - Abdul Khan – Head of Sustainability - David Tolley – Head of Environmental Health - Mark Bagnall Barts Health NHS Trust - Paul Brickell – London Legacy Development Corporation - Katharina Winbeck – London Councils - Deivi Norberg - Queen Mary University of London - Hira Islam - Secretary General of <i>Council of Mosques</i> - Sufia Alam – Tower Hamlets Interfaith Forum <p>Two co-opted members to be recruited.</p>
11.23	Question from Councillor Rebekah Sultana	<p>How many meetings of The Mayor’s Keep our Borough Moving forum have taken place and who currently sits on the forum/board?</p> <p>Response</p> <p>The board has not yet been set up. The new interim Director of Public Realm is currently in discussion with Mayor’s Office about a number of priorities, including this board, and will report back in due course.</p>
11.24	Question from Councillor Amina Ali	<p>Could the KC advice on the Grant’s determination process be published and/or provided to members?</p> <p>Response</p> <p>The information requested is subject to legal professional privilege and is therefore considered to be exempt from disclosure at the present time.</p>
11.25	Question from Councillor James King	<p>How many new cycle parking hangers/racks have been completed by the LBTH this year and what is the completion target for 23-24?</p> <p>Response</p>

		<p>During 2022-23 a total of 82 secure cycle parking spaces were installed. This figure comprises 10 bike hangars and 22 individual lockers. We are looking at arrangements, including delivery targets, for the cycle parking programme in 2023-24 and beyond.</p>
11.26	<p>Question from Councillor Abdal Ullah</p>	<p>Can the Mayor explain why the Council has chosen to retain basketball hoops in Wapping Gardens, despite their commitment to remove these if there was misuse of the MUGA during the trial period, and despite a large amount of evidence from residents that shows there was misuse?</p> <p>Response</p> <p>During the trial we received direct feedback from park users and residents and also via questionnaires with park users, which were conducted by Park Rangers.</p> <p>A minority (20 out of 57) of the respondents were specifically opposed to basketball at Wapping Gardens. Given this, and the need to provide sports provision in the borough to help tackle obesity and promote health and wellbeing, a decision has been taken to keep the hoops in-situ. It should be noted that some of the respondents also complained about wider noise disturbances, including the noise of people playing football and from dogs in the park.</p> <p>We will continue to investigate ways to further reduce the impact of noise disturbance in terms of the basketball installation and will be arranging for signage to be placed up around the site to remind people of the Park Rules and to be considerate of residents and other park users.</p>
11.27	<p>Question from Councillor Faroque Ahmed</p>	<p>Could we be provided with a progress update on the refurbishment of the mayor's office and the associated costs with the work?</p> <p>Response</p> <p>The configuration of office accommodation in the new Town hall is currently being considered as part of the ongoing review of the utilisation of the building. Works associated with changes in the Grade II listed Town Hall will need to be approved via listed building consent, planning permission has been submitted and we are awaiting this to be determined in the coming weeks.</p> <p>We are finalising the costs for the changes which have been budgeted for within the existing Town Hall budget, this was approved</p>


		at Cabinet in January 2023, subsequently agreed at full council on 01.03.2023.
11.28	Question from Councillor Sabina Khan	<p>Could the lead member provide me the number of students that were excluded from school for the 22-23 year and a breakdown of how long it took before those students found a new school placement?</p> <p>Response</p> <p>There have been seven permanent exclusions this academic year. Three from schools in Tower Hamlets and four from out -borough schools, where the pupil is a resident of Tower Hamlets. All permanently excluded pupils are provided with education provision from the 6th day of exclusion at the Tower Hamlets London East Alternative Provision. They are then allocated to the Local Authority's Fair Access Panel to assess whether they should move to a new mainstream school or whether, with parental consent, they transfer to an alternative education programme for Year 10/11.</p> <p>Of the seven permanently excluded pupils this year:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • four successfully moved on to new schools, following an 8–12-week intensive intervention programme aimed at reducing the risk of further exclusion. • three moved to a full-time alternative education setting, agreed by professionals and parents as the best provision for their continuing education.
11.29	Question from Councillor Sirajul Islam	<p>Will the Mayor be able to update me on whether the borough will be accepting £1m LIP funding that is being held by TfL? I have received an inquiry on behalf of a resident who requested an upgrade to a bus stop and to have a bench installed – he was informed that funding was restricted and that negotiations were ongoing with the mayor.</p> <p>Response</p> <p>TfL have not released the 2023-24 LIP allocation funding to London Borough of Tower Hamlets. The TfL position is that the release of this funding is subject to discussions between the Mayor and TfL.</p>
11.30	Question from Councillor Peter Golds	Island Gardens ward residents on Manchester Road and Eastferry Road have concerns regarding the damage done to their homes caused by increased commercial and public traffic

		<p>on the roads. The decision by the Mayor to cancel the feasibility study and traffic measures on these roads in his revisions to the NCIL scheme could potentially cause serious problems to houses in this area. Will the Mayor reconsider this decision and meet with residents to see personally the current situation?</p> <p>Response</p> <p>The focus of NCIL is to help deliver local infrastructure and address the demands and pressures that development places on an area. Adopting a new approach to NCIL (subject to call in) has meant that a number of projects have had their NCIL funding withdrawn, including some highways projects. Although the NCIL funding for these projects have been cancelled, NCIL is just one of the funding sources that the Council uses to deliver infrastructure and local improvements to support development. Notably, the NCIL funding collected from developments on the Isle of Dogs (NCIL area 3) will continue to be spent to support the development of that area in accordance with the priorities set out in the Annual Residents Survey (ARS).</p> <p>Officers are happy to meet the residents to listen to and understand their concerns. However, for a study to take place a funding source would need to be identified.</p>
11.31	<p>Question from Councillor Nathalie Bienfait</p>	<p>I along with all other councillors hear countless stories from constituents that they have had confusing or unexplained contact with the housing team and lettings team at the council. For example: paperwork is lost or not filed, viewings are recorded which never actually happened, viewings which happened aren't recorded, letters are reportedly sent but are never received.</p> <p>Could the administration please outline what work they are doing to improve the Council's housing service?</p> <p>Response:</p> <p>We are sorry to hear about these incidents that you are hearing about. When Cllrs hear about these sort of matters then please encourage residents to raise these with the service. We value feedback from residents. Our IT systems and processes are being consolidated and improved to make the customer journey better and avoid duplication and better document handling.</p>

		<p>Applicants who are requested to attend viewings of permanent offers will always be written to advising them of the offer and viewing date. The results of the viewings are recorded on the our letting IT system if the offers are refused, the reason is stated. To ensure offer letters are received and to speed up the viewing process, where possible the council and its Registered Provider partners will email applicants. If the letter can't be emailed, it will be posted. If for any reason applicants don't receive the letter or receive it late, applicants may make representations to the council or its partner Registered Providers seeking a review, which will be considered diligently. The council and its Registered Provider landlords welcome any feedback on customer experiences and would encourage those with concerns to raise these directly with the relevant landlord.</p>
--	--	---

This page is intentionally left blank

Agenda Item 5

Non-Executive Report of the: Council 27 th September 2023	 TOWER HAMLETS
Report of: Janet Fasan, Director of Legal and Monitoring Officer	Classification: Unrestricted
Petitions to Council	

Originating Officer(s)	Matthew Mannion, Head of Democratic Services
Wards affected	All wards

SUMMARY

1. This report sets out details of the valid petitions submitted for presentation and debate at this Council meeting. The text of the petitions received are set out in the attached report.
2. The Council's Constitution provides for up to four petitions to be heard at each ordinary Council meeting. These are taken in order of receipt, except that petitions for debate (those in excess of 2,000 signatures) will take precedence. Should more than four petitions be received, all remaining petitions will be listed to be formally noted by Council.
 - a. There is one petition to be heard
 - i. Asking to reconsider cuts to certain infrastructure projects
 - b. There are no petitions to be debated or noted.

PETITIONS TO BE HEARD

3. For Petitions listed as to be heard:
 - a. Petitioners may address the meeting for no more than 3 minutes.
 - b. Members may then question the petitioners for a further 4 minutes.
 - c. Finally, the speaker will invite the Mayor or (at the Mayor's discretion) the relevant Lead Member or Committee Chair to respond to the petition for up to 2 minutes. The petition will then be referred to the relevant Corporate Director for attention who will provide a written response within 28 days of the date of the meeting.
4. Members, other than a Cabinet Member or Committee Chair responding at the end of the item, should confine their contributions to questions and not make statements or attempt to debate.
5. Responses to all petitions will be sent to the lead petitioner and displayed on the Council's website.

5.1 Petition requesting Compulsory purchase Westferry Printworks for a school

We the undersigned petition the council to compulsorily purchase the land with planning permission for a new secondary school at Westferry Printworks. This will allow the construction of a new 1,200 pupil school providing a permanent home for Canary Wharf College. And would also deliver the community new sports facilities and four outdoor sports pitches to replace the football pitches to be lost at Crossharbour if the Selsdon Way site is redeveloped.

Dear Mayor, in 2014 you started the process to compulsory purchase the right to light at the City Pride site in order to help with the delivery of new affordable homes at Island Point.

We would ask that you start that process again but this time to compulsory purchase the Westferry Printworks school site. The landowner has since April 2016 not signed the lease agreement to allow the Council or the Department of Education to build a new school on that site. Your Management Development Document adopted in 2013 made clear that area could only be used as a school.

A compulsory purchase would deliver land for a new 1,200 pupil secondary school as well as a new school sports facility with three outdoor pitches available for the community to use out of school hours. This land was previously used as car parks and most of it has not been used for over a decade. So the financial impact on the Council would be limited and we note the government is changing the rules to make this process simpler and cheaper. This would also save the government a lot of money as LocatEd are looking to buy a new secondary school site in the E14 area for Canary Wharf College and perhaps they may be willing to pay for any compulsory purchase costs. The government has also committed to paying to build the new school.

Meanwhile, a developer is proposing to knock down a site at Selsdon Way, Crossharbour which is used as a car park. But it also has offices now used by Canary Wharf College Secondary as their school has grown while they wait for a permanent site at Westferry Printworks. There are also external football pitches on the roof (originally managed by Powerleague but now run by the school both for their pupils and for others out of school hours).

The developers want to build a new 38-storey residential tower with 40% affordable homes. But construction would mean the loss of the football pitches and part of the school. That would create a conflict with policies in the Local and Neighbourhood Plan which protect community assets.

But if Canary Wharf College is able to move to a new site with outdoor pitches that would minimise any planning conflict.

A compulsory purchase would deliver a new secondary school, new community sports facilities and open up another site for redevelopment at a minimal cost to the Council.


This Petition ran from 24/05/2023 to 31/07/2023 and has now finished.

728 people signed this Petition.

305 people signed a hardcopy of the petition

1,033 in total

Agenda Item 7

Non-Executive Report of the: COUNCIL 27 th September 2023	 TOWER HAMLETS
Report of: Janet Fasan, Director of Legal and Monitoring Officer	Classification: Unrestricted
Motion for debate submitted by the Administration	

Originating Officer(s)	Matthew Mannion, Head of Democratic Services
Wards affected	All wards

SUMMARY

1. Council Procedure Rule 11 allows for time at each Ordinary Council meeting for the discussion of one specific Motion submitted by the Administration. The debate will follow the rules of debate at Council Procedure Rule 13 and will last no more than 30 minutes.
2. The motion submitted is listed overleaf. The Administration Motion is submitted by the Aspire Group.
3. Motions must be about matters for which the Council or its partners has a direct responsibility. A motion may not be moved which is substantially the same as a motion which has been put at a meeting of the Council in the previous six months; or which proposes that a decision of the Council taken in the previous six months be rescinded; unless notice of the motion is given signed by at least twenty Members.
4. Notice of any proposed amendments to the Motions must be given to the Monitoring Officer by Noon the day before the meeting.

MOTION

Set out overleaf is the motion that has been submitted.

Administration Motion on the Management of Council Assets

Proposer: Cllr Saied Ahmed

Seconder: Cllr Kabir Ahmed

This Council notes:

- That overcrowding in the borough has increased from years 2015 to 2022, with over 14,000 residents now classified as living in acutely overcrowded conditions.
- That the development of new, affordable homes for rent has not kept pace with the rapid population growth and concomitant rise in said overcrowding during the same period.
- That in the same period, millions of pounds worth of council assets were disposed of – assets that could have been developed and prioritised for tackling this growing issue and dearth of affordable housing.
- Indeed, for the period 2015-2022, twenty sites owned by the council were disposed of, to the tune of £92.9million, little of which was reinvested into affordable homes for rent.
- That Tower Hamlets possess some of the most valuable parcels of land in the country, due to its proximity to the city and location in the heart of London.
- That despite this fact, one such property, 34 Mount Terrace, E1 2BB in Whitechapel ward, saw the freehold granted to the NHS for £1 – way below the market value.
- That the previous administration also overspent on the construction of the new Town Hall by at least £40million.

This Council believes:

- That there could have been instances where disposals of council-owned assets have been disposed of way below their market value.
- That many of these disposals may not have represented best value for the council.
- That the proceeds of these disposal were not properly reinvested into frontline services and the reprovisioning and development of affordable homes for rent.
- That the residents in this borough have suffered due to the poor financial and political decisions of the last Labour administration.


This Council resolves:

- To call on the Chief Executive to launch an investigation into all disposals of Council-owned assets made during the period 2015-2022, with an evaluation on whether best value was achieved for each disposal.

- That this should include all freeholds granted after the disposal of leasehold interests – for example, 34 Mount Terrace saw its freehold sold for £1 *after* the initial leasehold disposal.
- That where this best value was not achieved, that an explanation be provided as to why.
- To identify what the lands were used for once the disposal had taken place.
- To call on the CEO to prepare a report on the Town Hall overspend, focusing on specific areas that saw costs increase the most.
- That Council proposes the Mayor is provided with a report to the next available meeting of the Council's cabinet and – if deemed necessary – to be brought to a meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee and the next full meeting of the Council for discussion.

This page is intentionally left blank

Agenda Item 8

Non-Executive Report of the: COUNCIL 27 th September 2023	 TOWER HAMLETS
Report of: Janet Fasan, Director of Legal and Monitoring Officer	Classification: Unrestricted
Motion for debate submitted by an Opposition Group	

Originating Officer(s)	Matthew Mannion, Head of Democratic Services
Wards affected	All wards

SUMMARY

1. Council Procedure Rule 11 allows for time at each Ordinary Council meeting for the discussion of one Motion submitted by an Opposition Group. The debate will follow the rules of debate at Council Procedure Rule 13 and will last no more than 30 minutes.
2. The motion submitted is listed overleaf. In accordance with Council Procedure Rule 11, submission of the Opposition Motion for Debate will alternate in sequence between the opposition groups. This Opposition Motion is submitted by the Labour Group.
3. Motions must be about matters for which the Council or its partners has a direct responsibility. A motion may not be moved which is substantially the same as a motion which has been put at a meeting of the Council in the previous six months; or which proposes that a decision of the Council taken in the previous six months be rescinded; unless notice of the motion is given signed by at least twenty Members.
4. Notice of any proposed amendments to the Motions must be given to the Monitoring Officer by Noon the day before the meeting.

MOTION

Set out overleaf is the motion that has been submitted.

Motion on Tower Hamlets Community Housing

Proposed by: Cllr Marc Francis

Seconded by: Cllr Asma Islam

This Council notes:


- THCH was founded by stock transfers from LBTH and for many years delivered high-quality housing management as well as the regeneration of estates and community development;
- THCH was recently downgraded to a G3 and V3-rating by the Regulator for Social Housing (RSH) for both governance and financial viability;
- The RSH has encouraged THCH to be taken over by another housing association and THCH has subsequently begun a consultation on a merger with Poplar HARCA;
- The RSH has a very poor track record in enforcing mergers between housing associations in Tower Hamlets and doesn't proactively take any account of residents' views.

This Council believes:

- THCH tenants and leaseholders deserve a much better service than they have been getting from their landlord for several years;
- LBTH has an ongoing obligation to residents living on those estates transferred to ensure the promises made by are delivered consistently;
- Enforced mergers of local stock transfer housing associations have sometimes resulted in residents receiving an even worse service from the social landlord they join;
- The views of tenants and leaseholders in the future of their housing association should be paramount in any decision by the Board of THCH and the RSH.

This Council resolves:

- To call on the Mayor to make representations to the RSH calling for the views of residents of THCH to be fully taken into account prior to a decision on any merger;
- To call on the Mayor to instruct council officers to urgently undertake a feasibility on the financial and practical implications of requesting a return of THCH stock to LBTH;
- To call on the Mayor to arrange a public meeting with residents of THCH to hear to listen directly to their experience of its services and thoughts what should happen.

Decision Report Council 27 September 2023	
Report of: (Cover report of Matthew Mannion, Head of Democratic Services) Main Report of Raj Mistry, Interim Head of Communities	Classification: Unrestricted
Review of Statement of Licensing Policy 2023	

Wards affected	All Wards
-----------------------	-----------

1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY


- 1.1 At its meeting on 20 September 2023 (the day after this agenda is published), Cabinet will consider a report proposing a Statement of Licensing Policy to take effect from 1 November 2023. The full Cabinet report and appendices are presented with this cover report.
- 1.2 Should Cabinet agree the report, Council will be asked to agree the adoption of the policy.
- 1.3 Any amendments made at Cabinet will be tabled as a supplementary appendix to this report.
- 1.4 If Cabinet do not agree the report then it will be withdrawn from the Council agenda.

Recommendations:

Subject to the consideration of Cabinet, the Council is recommended to:

- 1. Agree the adoption of the Statement of Licensing Policy to take effect from 1 November 2023.

This page is intentionally left blank

<p>Cabinet</p> <p>20th September 2023</p>	 <p>TOWER HAMLETS</p>
<p>Report of: Communities Directorate</p>	<p>Classification: Unrestricted</p>
<p>Statement of Licensing Policy 2023 - 2028</p>	

Lead Member	Cllr Kabir Hussain – Lead Member Environment and the Climate Emergency
Originating Officer(s)	David Tolley, Head of Environmental Health and Trading Standards
Wards affected	All wards
Key Decision?	No
Forward Plan Notice Published	11/07/2023
Reason for Key Decision	Approval of the Statement of Licensing Policy is a decision reserved to full Council.
Strategic Plan Priority / Outcome	Boost culture, business, jobs and leisure

Executive Summary

As a Licensing Authority the Council must prepare and publish a Statement of Licensing Policy at least every 5 years. The Statement of Licensing Policy is required to be agreed at full and adopted by the end of November 2023. The purpose of the policy is to define how the responsibilities under the Licensing Act 2003 are going to be exercised and administered.

A statutory consultation process has taken place between the 19th January 2023 and 13th April 2023.

Subject to agreement the Policy will be presented to Full Council for adoption under the provisions set out by the Council’s Constitution

Recommendations:

The Mayor in Cabinet is recommended to:

1. Recommend to Full Council the adoption of the Statement of Licensing Policy at full Council which will take effect from 1st November 2023.

1 REASONS FOR THE DECISIONS

- 1.1 All relevant local authorities are required under the Licensing Act 2003 (“the Act”) to prepare and publish a statement of licensing policy at least every 5 years.
- 1.2 The purpose of the policy is to define how the responsibilities under the Act are going to be exercised and administered.

2 ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

- 2.1 The Licensing Act 2003 places a statutory obligation upon the Council, as Licensing Authority, to determine and publish a statement of Licensing Policy. If the Council did not have a policy, it would likely be acting ultra vires with regards to any decisions it makes determining applications and notices under the Act.
- 2.2 The Secretary of State has issued guidance under section 182 of the Act. This details how licensing authorities discharge their functions under the Act. The Council must have regard to this guidance in carrying out its functions under the Act, including setting the Licensing Policy. Departure from the guidance without good reason could leave the Council at risk of judicial challenge.

3 DETAILS OF THE REPORT

- 3.1 The Council’s current Statement of Licensing Policy was adopted by Full Council in September 2018 and came into force on 1st November 2018.
- 3.2 The London Borough of Tower Hamlets is a Licensing Authority under the Act. We must determine and publish a statement of our licensing policy at least every five years.
- 3.3 In doing so, the Council must carry out the statutory consultation laid down in the Act. It is open to the Council to consult more widely.
- 3.4 Following consultation, Cabinet must consider the revised Statement of Licensing Policy and full Council must adopt the Statement of Licensing Policy.
- 3.5 The Licensing Act 2003 gives local authorities a range of responsibilities relating to premises licensing. The Statement of Licensing Policy states how the Council will exercise its authority.
- 3.6 This policy covers the following:
 - How the Licensing Authority will use its regulatory powers in relation to applications and reviews of the activities it regulates, to the extent it is allowed by statute.
 - The licensing objectives for the authority, which are set by legislative requirements.

- The Licensing Authority approach to regulation
 - The scheme of delegation
- 3.7 The Statement of Licensing Policy is prescribed by central government in its guidance to local Authorities, which is issued by the Secretary of State under section 182 of the Act. The current policy is compatible with this guidance.
- 3.8 The Statement of Licensing Policy 2023 – 2028 has been updated to take account of changes to relevant legislation and guidance over the last 5 years.
- 3.9 The statutory consultation requirements consists of :-
- The Chief Officer of Police for the Licensing Authority’s area.
 - The Fire and rescue authority for the Licensing Authority’s area.
 - Each Local Authority’s Director of Public Health (England).
 - Persons/bodies representative of local premises licence holders.
 - Persons/bodies representative of local club premises certificate holders.
 - Persons/bodies representative of local personal licence holders; and
 - Persons/bodies representative of businesses and residents in its area.

The full list of consultees is detailed in **Appendix One**. Letters were sent to all Premises, Club Premises Certificate and Personal Licence Holders.

- 3.10 A table of changes can be found in **Appendix Two** and the revised policy for adoption is detailed in **Appendix Three**.
- 3.11 A printout of the consultation document and survey questions can be found in **Appendix Four**. A report of the consultation survey can be found in **Appendix Five**.
- 3.12 The consultation survey was completed by 101 people, although there were 198 visits to the consultation site page. Most consultees agreed with the revised policy. However, this was not the case with respect to restrictions on the use of beer gardens or similar areas after a certain time and where the use of such area could result in public nuisance. The consultation sought views on the addition of conditions to cease the use of any outside areas after 9pm, where that was appropriate and proportionate to promote the licensing objective of prevention of public nuisance. The result from the online survey shows only 10% in favour of this time. The majority were in favour of a 10pm (29%) or 11pm (34%) cut-off time for the use of outside areas.

The 9pm restriction for outside areas is the same restriction placed upon Pavement Licences within the borough. The later was decided in consultation with the Council’s Environmental Health – Noise Team in the interest of preventing public nuisance. They also support the draft policy’s view of a 9pm restriction for outside areas. The draft policy has not been amended in respect of the proposed time for use of outside areas notwithstanding the above survey results. It should be noted that each premises licence or variation application will be considered on its individual merits.

3.13 The main changes to the policy are detailed below. These were considered during the consultation process:

- a) Addition of "Equality and Inclusion in Licensed Venues" section.
- b) Addition of Representations by Other Persons section to cover disclosure of personal details.
- c) Nitrous Oxide (NOx) - addition of conditions to be considered, where appropriate, to require refusal of entry/service to those using NOx.
- d) Drinks Spiking - guidance for applicants and licence and additional conditions to be consider, where appropriate, to prevent drinks spiking.
- e) Welfare and Vulnerability and Engagement (WAVE) - expectation that licences for alcohol for consumption on premises train staff in WAVE.
- f) Sexual Harassment in the Night Time Economy - encourage licence holders to sign up to Women's Night Safety Charter and refuse entry/service in the event of an act of misogyny, encourage applicants to discuss applications with the Councils VAWGs Team.
- g) Beer Gardens/outside areas - where issues are known, or suspected areas may be restricted after 9pm.
- h) Party Boats - addition of conditions applicants for party boats are expected to adopt.
- i) Online deliveries - conditions to be added where appropriate in relation to applications that include online alcohol sales.
- j) Clear expectation for applicants for early engagement with Environmental Health Noise and Police for Temporary Event Notices (TENs).
- k) Request that Risk Assessment be supplied with a Temporary Event Notice.
- l) Addition of expectation for applicants to add correct address for licence holder(s) including emails, and for licenced holder to notify Licensing where details change.

3.14 Some further changes were made to the draft Policy as a result of the consultation responses. These are summarised below:

- Encouragement for licence holders to sign up to the Tower Hamlets No Place for Hate (NPFH) Campaign.
- Paragraph added in reference to Martyn's Law and the ACT e-learning.
- Update to Prevention of Public Nuisance section, in view of providing what applicants should consider in their application to reduce any impact on residents.
- Creation of a Model Conditions Appendix,
- Changes to risk assessments wording as requested by the Metropolitan Police.

Copies of the written responses received can be found in **Appendix Six**.

3.15 An Equalities checklist has been undertaken as is at **Appendix Seven**.

4 EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 The Equalities Impact Assessment has been reviewed in respect of this policy and no specific impacts have been identified. An additional section “Equality & Inclusion in Licensed Premises has been added to address the Public Sector Equality Duty and to link to the Council’s Equality Policy.
- 4.2 The policy states the types of criminal activity that may arise with licensed premises which the Licensing Authority will treat particularly seriously that relate to children and young people. This includes illegal purchase and consumption of alcohol by minors which impacts health, educational attainment, employment prospects and propensity for crime of young people; relating to grooming children; and relating to criminal activity particularly relating to gangs.
- 4.3 More females than men are prone to sexual harassment in the night-time economy. The policy sets out our expectations of licence holders relating to sexual harassment in the Night Time Economy by encouraging licensed venues to sign up to the Mayor of London’s Women’s Night Safety Charter. As well as the Women’s Night Safety Charter we encourage applicants and license holders to discuss applications with the Council’s Violence Against Women and Girls Service, who can provide advice and training to venues on preventing misogyny within licensed premises. In addition, license holders are expected to take a zero-tolerance approach misogyny within their venues where this is towards customers or employees. In practice this means that they are expected to refuse to serve persons who commit acts of sexual harassment, even in the first instance, and report the matter to the Metropolitan Police. The policy states that it is expected that all licensed venues which sell alcohol for consumption on their premises should train their staff in WAVE and adopt Ask for Angela or similar initiatives aimed at assisting vulnerability within alcohol licensed venues.
- 4.4 Females and gay men are more prone to drinks spiking than other groups. A YouGov poll in 2022 identified that nationally 10% of females said they had their drink spiked compared to 5% of males. 48% of those aged between 18-24 said they have had a drink spiked or know someone who has. However, it is those aged between 25 and 49 who are the most likely to say they have personally had a drink spiked (11%).
- 4.5 The policy makes an expectation on licence holders and applicants to have a zero-tolerance policy towards drinks spiking. This involves as a minimum ensuring all reports of spiking are acted upon and that all incidents of alleged spiking are recorded and reported to the police. Applicants for new and variations of exiting licences as well as those submitting TENs are expected to work with the Metropolitan Police in order to consider actions needed to prevent drinks spiking in their venues/events.
- 4.6 Teenagers and young adults are more likely to use psychoactive substances such as nitrous oxide (NOx). Misuse of nitrous oxide is associated with increased antisocial behaviour including littering, noise nuisance and vandalism, all of which are detrimental to residents’ quality of life and feelings of safety. Use of nitrous oxide is also a health concern and has other associated harms. The

policy places an expectation on license holders to refuse entry to any person seen using or selling NOx as a psychoactive substance. Refusals should also be entered into license holder's refusals logs. Please note since this policy was drafted, the Government has announced its intention to bring NOx within the control of the Misuse of Drugs Act 1971.

5 OTHER STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 This section of the report is used to highlight further specific statutory implications that are either not covered in the main body of the report or are required to be highlighted to ensure decision makers give them proper consideration.
- 5.2 Best Value: The Licensing Policy details the regulatory approach to the Council's functions under the Licensing Act 2003. The fees imposed for the licence/notices are set by government. The fees cover the cost of regulating and administering the borough's functions under the Act.
- 5.3 Crime Reduction: One of the key licensing objectives is to prevent of crime and disorder. The policy supports and assists with crime and disorder reduction by controlling those who manage premises open to members of the public and imposing conditions on relevant premises licences.
- 5.4 Safeguarding: The Statement of Licensing policy takes into account of safeguarding children and violence against women and children.
- 5.5 Risk Management: There are no risk management issues with the revised policy or the consultation process.
- 5.6 Environmental and consultation implications: There are no negative environmental impacts about this policy or the consultation process.

6 COMMENTS OF THE CHIEF FINANCE OFFICER

- 6.1 This report is seeking approval to adopt the Statement of Licensing Policy to cover the period 1st November 2023 until 31st October 2028. There are potential financial implications emanating from this report with regards to the introduction of the changes highlighted in paragraphs 3.13 and 3.14. The full financial implications are not envisaged to be material. The Service is funded by the licence application fees and it is anticipated that this will be sufficient to cover the additional cost. The Service will utilise the annual budgeting process if required.

7 COMMENTS OF LEGAL SERVICES

- 7.1 The Council is a licensing authority by virtue of s.3 of the Act. S.5(1) requires the authority to determine and publish its Statement of Licensing Policy ("the Policy") in respect of each five-year period. During the period in which the

Policy is in force, the authority may review the Policy and make such revisions, if any, as it thinks appropriate.

- 7.2 Prior to determining the Policy, the authority must consult the bodies or persons specified in s.5(3). This has been complied with, as specified in paragraph 3.9 (above) and Appendix 1.
- 7.3 The principles of effective consultation require that: consultation be carried out when proposals are at formative stage; the consultees must be given sufficient and accurate information and reasons so as to be allow for proper consideration; adequate time be given for responding; the fruits of the consultation must be conscientiously taken into account when making the decision.
- 7.4 All licensing authorities must carry out their functions with a view to promoting the four licensing objectives, namely: the prevention of crime and disorder; the prevention of public nuisance; public safety; the protection of children from harm. In carrying out those functions it must also have regard to any guidance issued by the Secretary of State under s.182 of the Act and to the Policy.
- 7.5 S.5(6D) provides that in determining or revising its policy, the authority must have regard to any cumulative impact assessments (CIAs) published by it under s.5A of the Act. Such assessments apply in respect of any area where the authority considers that the number of relevant authorisations in respect of premises in the area is such that it would be inconsistent with its duty to grant any further authorisations in respect of premises in that area. This then creates a rebuttable presumption in favour of refusal of any relevant applications unless the applicant shows that they will not adversely impact upon the licensing objectives. Any such CIA must be reviewed at least every three years.
- 7.6 The Council currently has two such CIAs, in respect of Brick Lane and Bethnal Green. These were approved by the Council on 17th November 2021 and took effect on 18th November 2021. The Policy contains those cumulative impact assessment statements.
- 7.7 Section 149 of the Equality Act 2010 requires the authority, in the exercise of its functions, to have due regard to the need to eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct prohibited by the 2010 Act, to advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and those who do not, and to foster good relations between those who share a relevant protected characteristic and those who do not. The relevant protected characteristics are age; disability gender reassignment; pregnancy and maternity; race; religion or belief; sex; sexual orientation. The duty must be complied with at the time that the decision under consideration, in this case the recommendation to adopt the Policy, is taken. It is not a duty to achieve a particular result.
- 7.8 The decision to approve the Policy is expressly stated in the Local Authorities (Functions and Responsibilities) (England) Regulations 2000 as being a function that cannot be the responsibility of the executive. The Full Council

must decide to approve the Statement. Cabinet only has power to recommend the Policy to full Council for a decision to be made on adoption.

Appendices

- Appendix One: List of Consultees
- Appendix Two: Statement of Licensing Policy review – Table of Proposed Changes
- Appendix Three: Proposed Statement of Licensing Policy 2023 - 2028
- Appendix Four: Printout of Consultation Document and Survey Questions
- Appendix Five: Online Consultation Report (redacted)
- Appendix Six: Written consultation responses (redacted)
- Appendix Seven: Equalities Impact Checklist

Background Documents – Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2012

None

Officer contact details for documents:

N/A

Appendix: One

Statement of Licensing Policy Review Consultation - List of Consultants

1. Met Police – Detective Chief Superintendent, Tower Hamlets
2. Director of Public Health, London Borough of Tower Hamlets
3. London Fire Brigade
4. All Licensees holding a Premises License or Club Premises Certificate
5. All Holders of Personal Licensed with the London Borough of Tower Hamlets
6. Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime (MOPAC)
7. Trading Standards, Environmental Health and Trading Standards, London Borough of Tower Hamlets
8. Environmental Protection, Environmental Health and Trading Standards, London Borough of Tower Hamlets
9. Licensing and Safety Team, Environmental Health and Trading Standards, London Borough of Tower Hamlets
10. Child Protection, London Borough of Tower Hamlets
11. Development Control, London Borough of Tower Hamlets
12. Tidal River Thames Port of London Authority
13. Navigation Authority Canal & River Trust
14. Health and Safety Executive (HSE)
15. London Legacy Development Corporation
16. Maritime & Coastguard Agency
17. Home Office Immigration Enforcement
18. Ezra Street Residents Association
19. Spitalfield Residents Association (SPIRE)
20. St Georges Residents Association
21. Arts Parks and Events, London Borough of Tower Hamlets
22. Community Safety, London Borough of Tower Hamlets
23. Growth & Economic Development, London Borough of Tower Hamlets
24. Safety Guarding, London Borough of Tower Hamlets
25. MASH (Child Safe Guarding), London Borough of Tower Hamlets
26. Children and Culture Services, London Borough of Tower Hamlets
27. Asset Management, London Borough of Tower Hamlets
28. Democratic Services, London Borough of Tower Hamlets
29. Legal Services, London Borough of Tower Hamlets
30. Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) Team, London Borough of Tower Hamlets
31. Adult Care, London Borough of Tower Hamlets
32. Institute of Licensing (IoL)
33. Council of Mosques
34. National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children (NSPCC)
35. NHS Tower Hamlets Clinical Commissioning Group
36. Young Mayor, London Borough of Tower Hamlets
37. The Environment Agency
38. London Borough of Hackney Licensing Team
39. London Borough of Southwark Licensing Team
40. City of London Licensing Team
41. London Borough of Lewisham Licensing Team
42. Royal Borough of Greenwich Licensing Team
43. London Borough of Newham Licensing Team
44. Maritime & Coastguard Agency
45. The Environment Agency
46. The Canal and River Trust, London

47. Antisocial Behaviour and Neighbourhoods Team, London Borough of Tower Hamlets
48. Licensing Committee Members, London Borough of Tower Hamlets

Media Consulted

1. Facebook
2. Twitter
3. Members Bulletin

Statement of Licensing Policy Review – Proposed Changes 2023 - 2028

Please note the changes to the Policy detailed below.

Section/Page	Addition/Deletion	Rationale
All	Amend all references to licensing authority: Licensing Authority	Licensing Authority should be in capitals at start of each word.
Page 1	Add: Front page with LBTH Logo and “ <i>Effective 1st November 2023</i> ” then “ <i>The London Borough of Tower Hamlets, STATEMENT OF LICENSING POLICY 2023 – 2028</i> ”	Current policy has now front page.
Page 2	New Contents Page Change para numbers where needed to reflect additions/deletions.	To reflect changes, note the numbers are added as if the deletions have been removed.
Page 3	Para 7: Replace “vision” with “ <i>Strategic Plan</i> ”	Update
Page 3	Para 8: Delete: “The four major themes that the Council has set out in the Tower Hamlets Partnership’s Community Plan by means of which the vision is delivered are: A Great Place to Live A Fair and Prosperous Community A Safe and Cohesive Community ”	Update for new Council Strategy.

	<p>A Healthy and Supportive Community</p> <p>You will find there is more detailed information about the four themes, and how they support One Tower Hamlets at: http://www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/lgnl/community_and_living/community_plan/strategic_plan.aspx”</p> <p>Replace with: <i>“The Plan has 8 priorities and is the council’s main plan, which details the most important priorities for the council between 2022 and 2026. These priorities are translated from the Mayor’s vision into the strategic Plan.</i></p> <p>You will find there is more detailed information about the eight priorities: https://www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/lgnl/community_and_living/community_plan/strategic_plan.aspx”</p>	
Page 4	Para 1.1, para 3 Replace “on the 6 th April 2017” with “ <i>in December 2022</i> ”	New Guidance
Page 5	<p>After para 3.5 Add: “4 <i>Equality and Inclusion in Licensed Venues</i></p> <p><i>4.1 As per Tower Hamlets Equality Policy, we want Tower Hamlets to be a place where people have equal access to opportunities and where inequality is actively tackled. Tower Hamlets Equality Policy recognises that this can only be done by working with our partners to advance equality, promote good community relations and tackle discrimination. The Council believes that diversity of our community is one of our greatest strengths and assets. We value the strength that comes with difference and the positive contribution that diversity brings to our community. This includes achieving equality and inclusion in all that we do, to improve the quality of life and</i></p>	Addition of Public Sector Equality, and links to Statement of Licensing Policy. Also, what the expectation of applicants and licence holders in regards to equality.

	<p><i>opportunities for all people who live, work, and visit the borough. The Equality Policy seeks to embed equality throughout the council's plans, services and activities to ensure it is a key driver for everything we do. As a Licensing Authority we want to do all that we can do to ensure our borough is open and accessible to all.</i></p> <p><i>4.2 It is unlawful for any venue to discriminate against anyone based on race, sex, sexual orientation, age, or any of the protected characteristics under the Equality Act 2010. In our view equality and inclusion extends beyond this definition within the 2010 Act. Any type of discrimination be it intentional or subconscious is inherently damaging for the individual, our wider community and our economy. Moreover, it actively harms the interests of licensed premises and the licensed industry.</i></p> <p><i>4.3 Tower Hamlets is a diverse and culturally rich borough. It is a microcosm of London and has the fastest population growth in the country because we are a very special place and people want to live and work here. We have always been a gateway for people of all backgrounds to come and better themselves. As part of London's east end, we are enriched by the significant contributions made by a diversity of communities and migrant groups and boast a proud history of collective action against racism and bigotry. Altab Ali Park is an iconic area in the borough that speaks to the richness of this history. Yet, it is only one of the many Parks that has historical importance within the borough, many of which are often used to host small community events to large music festivals. We want to celebrate and build on this, which means we need to hold ourselves, as well as the venues and businesses we licence to account to ensure that together we continue to promote and offer equal opportunities and inclusive experiences for everyone.</i></p> <p><i>4.4 Duties as a License Holder to Equality</i></p>	<p>Addition of Tower Hamlets Not Place for Hate Campaign as requested by Community Safety</p>
--	--	---

Applicants and licensees must make themselves familiar with the law and their responsibilities set out within the Equality Act 2010 and relevant guidance for businesses, which can be found on the Equality & Human Rights Commission website. The 2010 Act makes discrimination against any person (including employees and customers) unlawful. The 2010 Act defines the relevant protected characteristics as age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex, and sexual orientation. Any activity in breach of the 2010 Act may be considered an offence and will lead to enforcement by the Equality and Human Rights Commission.

As part of Tower Hamlets No Place for Hate (NPFH) Campaign we would encourage all licence holders and new applicants to sign our Organisational pledge against hate. Organisations who sign this pledge are published on the website. This helps promote equality within our borough.

https://www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/lgnl/community_and_living/community_safety_crime_preve/hate_crime/organisational_pledge.aspx

4.5 Public Sector Equality Duty

The Council must have regard to its public sector equality duty under the 2010 Act. In summary a Public Authority must, in the exercise of its functions, have due regard to the need to:

- eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation, and any other conduct that is prohibited by or under this Act.*
- advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it.*
- foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it.*

	<p>4.6 <i>Expectation on Licence holders and applicants to equality and inclusivity</i> <i>There is no one size fits all approach to making a venue inclusive, and each operator will need to make an assessment of its own practices and policies. However, the following are common and best practice examples that could be adopted:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Inclusive and transparent policies (for example, admittance policies may clearly stipulate adherence to a dress code and refusal if there are concerns about a customer; however, they must not prevent admittance based on any of the protected characteristics).</i> • <i>Robust complaints procedures that make it easy for customers who feel they have been discriminated against to raise their concerns and understand how this will be investigated or managed.</i> • <i>Accessible venue layouts that make venues welcoming.</i> • <i>Comprehensive training on equality and inclusion for all staff, which is regularly refreshed.</i> <p>4.7 <i>Using the Licensing Process to promote equality and inclusivity</i></p> <p><i>This Authority will use the Licensing Process to ensure both Operators and the Council are compliant in carrying out their legal obligations. This includes:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Providing pre-application advice to applicants.</i> • <i>Determining licensing applications and reviews.</i> • <i>Making representations as a responsible authority.</i> • <i>Applying for reviews in appropriate circumstances.</i> • <i>Defending appeal decisions</i> <p><i>In essence this means that the Council through this licensing process will identify applicants that do not provide sufficient information on how they are promoting equality and inclusivity and could make a representation to require that the</i></p>	
--	---	--

	<p><i>applicant address the issue or explain to members of the Licensing Sub-Committee why they have not done so.</i></p> <p>4.8 Tower Hamlets Commitment to Equality and Inclusivity</p> <p><i>Over the duration of this Statement of Licensing Policy Tower Hamlets as a Licensing Authority will:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>• Ensure that any strategy or policy affecting the licensed industry is always underpinned by the promotion of equality and inclusivity.</i> <i>• Provide where possible advice and support to Licence Holders and Applicants on promoting equality and inclusivity by signposting them to internal and external bodies that can provide expert guidance.”</i> 	
<p>Page 7 (10 on reviewed Policy)</p>	<p>Delete Paras 4.13 and 4.14 (now 5.13 and 5.14) and replace with below paras:</p> <p><i>“This Licensing Authority will ensure that any conditions added to a licence/authorisation are enforceable and proportionate and are consistent with the general principles for licence conditions detailed the Secretary of State’s Guidance. We encourage applicants’ responsible authorities and other persons to have regard to this Guidance when considering additional conditions. We also encourage the use of words such as “must”, “shall” and “will” when deciding the wording of any condition.</i></p> <p><i>Licensing laws are not the primary method of for general control of nuisance and anti-social behaviour by individuals once they are away from any licensed premises, thus being beyond the direct control of the Licensee/Certificate holder or holder of any other such authorisation (e.g. Temporary Event Notice). However, it is a key aspect of control and licensing laws will always be part of an overall approach to the management of the evening and night time economy.”</i></p>	<p>Update as per Home Office Guidance, and to give better clarity on wording of conditions.</p>

Page 8 (11 on reviewed Policy)	Delete para 4.16 and 4.17. Add: below para (to become para 5.16): <i>“Given the restrictions place upon the licensed trade during the pandemic we recognise the importance and positive benefits that the licensed trade brings to the Borough. This includes not just social benefits for customers, but jobs and associated regeneration, as well as the benefits to the arts in respect to music, dance and other entertainment, all of which celebrates the rich mixture of cultural diversity and creativity that exists within Tower Hamlets.”</i>	Paras redundant. Recognition of Licensed Trade’s benefit to Borough.
Page 8 (11 on reviewed Policy)	After para 4,18 (now 5.18) add new Para: A list of responsible authorities can be found in Appendix 1. However, an up-to-date list of Responsible Authorities with contact details can be found here: https://www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/lgnl/business/licences/alcohol_and_entertainment/Responsible-Authorities.aspx	Ensure Licence holders and applicants are directed to correct up to date information.
Page 8 (11 on reviewed policy)	Para 4.19 (now 5.19) consulting on whether this is still needed or if it should it be kept at 40 metres, or decreased to 30 metre, or increased to 50 metres Para 4.21 (now 5.21) amend paras detailed here to reflect change in para numbering	Consultation found 42.3% of 101 responses to the survey wanted to keep this voluntary consultation as it is – the para will therefore remain as 40 meters.
Page 10 (13/14 on reviewed Policy)	Para 6.2 (now 7.2) after the words “premises licences” Add: “(where the applicant is an individual)” Para 6.3 (now 7.3) Delete: “Those applying”. Add: “Applications”.	Changes as per Home Office Guidance December 2022

	After the word “premises” add: “(where they are an individual)”	
Page 11 (14 on reviewed Policy)	<p>Para 6.4 (now 7.4) after the words “Annex A” delete “the Secretary of State’s Guidance”. Add: “<i>the Home Office’s Employer right to work checks supporting guidance</i> (https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/right-to-work-checks-employers-guide)”</p> <p>After words “that they have” Delete “permission to be in”. Add: “<i>the right to work in</i>”</p> <p>At the end of the para Add: “<i>As an alternative to using one of the documents listed in the above guidance, applicants may choose to demonstrate their right to work by allowing this Licensing Authority to carry out a check with the Home Office online right to work checking service. As a result, we invite applicants to provide their shared code in their application. This code along with the applicant’s date of birth allows this Licensing Authority to check their immigration status via the online service</i> (https://www.gov.uk/view-right-to-work).”</p>	Changes as per Home Office Guidance December 2022
Page 11 (15 on reviewed Policy)	<p>After para 6.7 (no 7.7) Add:</p> <p>“</p> <p>8. <i>Representations by “Other Persons”</i></p> <p>8.1. <i>Other person includes any individual, body or business.</i></p> <p>8.2. <i>Representations against or for an application must be in writing, either by post or email. For it to be considered as a valid representation it must:</i></p> <p>a) <i>Be “relevant”, in that it states the reasons for making the representation, which must include how the proposed licence will have an effect or potential effect of the on one or more of the four licensing objectives (see section 5</i></p>	Give clarity to Other Persons making Representations

	<p>above),</p> <p>b) <i>Include name and full postal address of the person making the representation (Anonymous representations will not be accepted).</i></p> <p>c) <i>Not be frivolous or vexatious (i.e. concerns issues which, at most, are minor and in relation to which no remedial steps would be warranted or proportionate; or appears to be intended to cause aggravation or annoyance, whether to a competitor or other person, without reasonable cause or justification).</i></p> <p>8.3. <i>Other persons can also request a representative to make the representation on their behalf. A representative may include a legal representative, a friend, a Member of Parliament, or a local councillor who can all act in such a capacity. In such cases all dialogue and correspondence will be with the Representative.</i></p> <p>8.4. <u><i>Representations and Disclosure of personal details</i></u></p> <p><i>Once a valid representation is received unless it is withdrawn by the person/body etc. making the representation the decision on whether to grant the licence/authorisation must be referred to the Licensing Sub-Committee. The Licensing Authority when giving a notice of a hearing to an applicant, is required under the Licensing Act 2003 (Hearings) Regulations 2005 to provide the applicant with copies of the relevant representations that have been made.</i></p> <p><i>The Licensing Authority must provide all representations to the applicant unredacted as required by the above legislation. The only exception to this is where licensing authorities consider that the person who has made the</i></p>	
--	---	--

	<p><i>representation has a genuine and well-founded fear of intimidation. In such circumstances the Licensing Authority will follow the Secretary of State's Guidance and the House of Commons Briefing Paper, dated 6th July 2018: Alcohol: objecting to a licence. In these circumstances the Licensing Authority may decide to withhold some or all of the person's personal details from the applicant, giving only minimal details (such as street name or general location within a street). However, withholding such details will only be considered where the circumstances justify such action."</i></p>	
<p>Page 11/12 (16 on reviewed Policy)</p>	<p>Para 7.2 (now 9.2) after the sentence ending "licensing objective." Delete next sentence, which begins "Such steps as...". Replace with: <i>"The applicant should also list such steps that are required to deal with these identified issues. Both risks and mitigating steps should be included within the applications operating schedule."</i></p>	<p>Requested by Met Police in consultation response.</p>
<p>Page 12 (17 on reviewed Policy)</p>	<p>Para 7.7 (now 9.7) at the end of the second para after the "condition" Add and "s" to condition, and then Add "<i>from our model conditions in appendix 2, to</i>". Then Delete "that", and the "s" from "prohibits", and then delete "as follows" sub paras 1) and 2).</p>	<p>Move conditions to Appendix 3 – Model Conditions.</p>
<p>Page 13 (17 - 19 on reviewed Policy)</p>	<p>After para 7.8 (now 9.8) Delete "Model Pool Conditions can be found in the Secretary of States Guidance."</p>	<p>No longer contain in Home Office Guidance.</p>
<p>Page 13 (17 on reviewed Policy)</p>	<p>After para 7.8 (now 9.8) Add below Paras: <i>"Psychoactive Substances, e.g. Nitrous Oxide (NOx) – Misuse of nitrous oxide is associated with increased antisocial behaviour including littering, noise nuisance and vandalism, all of which are detrimental to residents' quality of life and feelings of</i></p>	<p>Updates as per LGA, and response to NOx use, Spiking, changes in public since lifting of</p>

	<p><i>safety. Use of nitrous oxide is also a health concern and has other associated harms.</i></p> <p><i>As a result, this Licensing Authority expects Licence Holders to refuse entry to any person seen use or selling NOx as a psychoactive Substance. Refusals should also be entered into Licence Holders refusals logs.</i></p> <p><i>Where its discretion is engaged this Licensing Authority impose conditions to formally require refusal of persons seen selling or using NOx as a psychoactive Substance.</i></p> <p>Drinks spiking – <i>in reference to the Local Governments Association (LGA) Guidance note on drink spiking prevention, this Licensing Authority expects licence holders and applicants to have a zero-tolerance policy towards drinks spiking. This involves as a minimum ensuring all reports of spiking are acted upon and that all incidents of alleged spiking are recorded and reported to the police. Licence holders and applicants should also be aware of the Metropolitan Police’s definition of drink spiking:</i></p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;"><i>“Spiking is where someone adds drugs or alcohol to another person’s drink without them knowing, it is illegal.”</i></p> <p><i>The LGA has set some recommendations for Licence holder, and we would expect our Licence holders to follow these where appropriate to their venues:</i></p> <p>https://www.local.gov.uk/publications/lga-guidance-note-drink-spiking-prevention#recommended-actions-for-licensed-premises-</p> <p><i>Applicants for new and variations of exiting licences as well as those submitting TENs are expected to work with the Metropolitan Police in order to consider actions needed to prevent drinks spiking in their venues/events</i></p>	<p>restrictions, and use of party boats. Gives our stance on these issues and what we expect from applicants/licensees.</p>
--	--	---

Where its discretion is engaged this Licensing Authority will impose conditions on licences aimed at preventing drinks spiking, specifically any recommended by the metropolitan police.

Welfare and Vulnerability – *This Licensing Authority believes that all Licensed venues should train their staff in Welfare and Vulnerability Engagement (WAVE). As of 2023 this Licensing Authority in partnership with the Metropolitan Police and the London Borough of Hackney is delivering monthly WAVE training sessions for Licensed venues within both Tower Hamlets and Hackney. As a result, we expect that all Licensed venues who sell alcohol for consumption on their premises should train their staff in WAVE and adopt Ask for Angela or similar initiatives aimed at assisting vulnerability within alcohol licensed venues.*

Sexual Harassment in the Night Time Economy – *sadly this is still an issues for women working in and visiting licensed venues in London. As a result, this Licensing Authority encourages Licensed venues to sign up to the Mayor of London’s Women’s Night Safety Charter:*

<https://www.london.gov.uk/programmes-strategies/arts-and-culture/24-hour-london/womens-night-safety-charter>

As well as the Women’s Night Safety Charter we would encourage applicants and licence holders to discuss applications with the Council’s Violence Against Women and Girls Service, who can provide advice and training to venues on preventing misogyny within licensed premises.

Lastly, we expect Licence Holders to take a zero-tolerance approach to misogyny within their venues where this is towards customers or employees. We would expect refusal in the first instance of acts of misogyny and reporting to the metropolitan police.

	<p>Party Boats – <i>An increasing number of complaints have been received in London Boroughs that boarder the River Thames in relation to “Party Boats”, which use the River. In respect of this we would encourage applicants for Party Boats to consider adopting the conditions listed in our Model Conditions in Appendix 3, where appropriate to promote the Licensing Objective of Prevention of Crime and Disorder. Furthermore, where its discretion is engaged, this Licensing Authority may add one or more of the boat conditions from our Model Conditions.”</i></p>	
Page 14 (20 on reviewed Policy)	<p>Para 7.12 (now 9.17) Delete “a standard”. Add and “s” to “condition” and Add “<i>to licence where appropriate and proportionate to reduce the risk of receiving smuggled goods and encourage traceability</i>”. Then Delete “as follows” and sub paras 1 to 5.</p>	Move conditions to Appendix 3 – Model Conditions.
Page 15 (20 on reviewed Policy)	<p>Para 7.13 (now 9.18) Delete “in their application form the” and Add “<i>adding the</i>”, then Delete “following conditions:”. Then Add “<i>Olympic Park – Football Ground conditions in our Model Conditions in appendix 3.</i>” Then Delete sub para 1).</p>	Move conditions to Appendix 3 – Model Conditions.
Page 16 (20 on reviewed policy)	<p>After para 8.6 (now 10.6) insert new para: <i>“<u>Martyn’s Law</u> – This will place a requirement on those responsible for certain locations/premises to consider the threat from terrorism and implement appropriate and proportionate mitigation measures, see link below. Numerous licensed premises within the borough may fall within the scope of this legislation. The law is likely to come into force in 2024/25, or sooner. Thus, Licence holders and applicants should consider the threat from terrorism and implement appropriate and proportionate mitigation measures. In particular they should consider completing Police ACT Training: https://ct.protectuk.police.uk/ https://www.protectuk.police.uk/news-views/martyns-law-what-you-need-know”</i></p>	Added after consultation with Community Safety. Encourages licence holders to consider the threat from terrorism.

<p>Page 16 (22 on reviewed Policy)</p>	<p>Replace para 9.2 now (11.2) with the below: <i>“Like many London boroughs, Tower Hamlets has many areas of the borough where businesses and residents are “cheek by jowl” with each other. Thus, the correct balance needs to be adopted ensuring residents are not unduly disturbed by licensed premises, whilst ensuring this does not stifle growth in the licence trade.”</i></p>	<p>Changed following consultation with Environmental Health - Noise</p>
<p>Page 16 (22 on reviewed Policy)</p>	<p>After para 9.2 (now 11.2) Add the below paras.</p> <p><i>“Though all licensed premises must promote the licensing objectives, and thus actively try to prevent public nuisance being caused by their licensable activities, there are some factors that this Licensing Authority would expect to applicants to consider and where appropriate address in their operating schedule. These are:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>a) Music/performances Measures to reduce impact of noise on residents</i> <i>b) Queue management Measure to prevent obstruct access to properties, pavements. Measure to reduce the impact of people noise on residents</i> <i>c) Ingress and Egress Measure to prevent people noise during ingress and egress</i> <i>d) Use of outside areas (see 11.7 below)</i> <i>e) Deliveries, particularly pick-ups by vehicles Measures to prevent noise/fumes from engines, drivers (including smoking),</i> <i>f) Bottle disposal Done at reasonable time to prevent impact on residents e.g. between 8am and 8pm</i> <i>g) Litter Measures to prevent littering around the venue from patrons</i> 	<p>Changed following consultation with Environmental Health - Noise</p>

	<p><i>The Licensing Authority appreciates that it would not be necessary or appropriate for all applications to have measures to prevent the above issues. Nevertheless, we will take a strong view on applications for licences that are in close proximity to residential premises, and whose intended use has a higher likelihood of causing public nuisance. This also includes those applications in areas covered by a Cumulative Impact Assessment (CIA). Especially where the applications falls outside the scope of any exceptions to such CIAs.”</i></p>	
Page 16 (22 on reviewed Policy)	<p>Para 9.3 (no 11.4) after the word “identified” Delete the remainder of the sentence and Replace with: <i>“listed above, or any other conditions it considered appropriate and proportionate to promote the licensing condition of prevention of public nuisance.”</i></p>	<p>Better clarity considering para changes above, changed as part of Environmental Health – Nosie response to consultation.</p>
Page 17 (23/24 on reviewed Policy)	<p>After para 9.5 (now 11.8) Add the below Paras: <i>“Beer Gardens and outside areas – since the ending of the restrictions imposed during the Coronavirus pandemic, we have seen an increase the use of outside areas. This has also been encouraged by Government under the Business and Planning Act 2020. We want to strike the right balance between allowing businesses to thrive whilst still protecting residents of the borough being unduly disturbed by the night time economy. Hence, we would encourage applicants address this concern in their operating schedule by detailing what mitigating measures they intend adopt to reduce any disturbance the use of the outside area is likely to have on neighbouring residents. Such measures could include:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>limiting the amount of patrons permitted in the outside area, and/or,</i> 	<p>Addition of our expectation for applicants in relation to Beer Gardens and Outdoor Space, and Party Boats. This is in response to changing trends in recent years.</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>restricting the use of areas after a certain time,</i> • <i>ceasing its use after a certain time.</i> <p><i>Where disturbance of residence from outside areas is likely, and where its discretion is engaged, this Licensing Authority may add conditions limiting the numbers of person permitted to use any outside areas, and/or seek to cease the use of any outside areas after 21:00 hours.</i></p> <p>Party Boats – <i>An increasing number of complaints have been received in London Boroughs that boarder the River Thames in relation to “Party Boats”, which use the River. In respect of this we would encourage applicants for Party Boats to consider adopting the “Boat” conditions, listed in our Model Conditions in Appendix 3, where appropriate to promote the Licensing Objective of Prevention of Public Nuisance. Furthermore, where disturbance of residence from these party boats is likely, and where its discretion is engaged, this Licensing Authority may add one or more of the boat conditions from our Model Conditions.”</i></p>	<p>This has been slight amended by Environmental Health – Noise as part of the response to the consultation, this mainly relates to the bullet points, and first sentence of the Part Boats para.</p>
<p>Page 19 (26 on reviewed Policy)</p>	<p>Para 10.12 (now 12.12), after the word “appropriate” Delete “covert”.</p>	<p>Wrong use of language. Covert suggest surveillance, which this is not.</p>
<p>Page 19 (26 of reviewed Policy)</p>	<p>After para 10.12 (now 12.12) Add new para below: <i>“Where its discretion is engaged this Licensing Authority will consider refusal/revocation in the first instance where test purchases have found venues selling age restricted products to children.”</i></p>	<p>Clarification of Authority’s position in response to sales of age restricted products to children.</p>

Page 20 (27 on reviewed Policy)	Para 10.15 (now 12.16) after the word “impose” Delete the rest of the sentence and sub paras 1) to 4). The Add: “ <i>“Challenge 25” conditions from our model conditions in appendix 3.</i> ”	Move conditions to Appendix 3 – Model Conditions.
Page 20 (27 of reviewed Policy)	After para 10.15 (now 12.17) Add below para: “ <i>Where proportionate and appropriate, and its discretion is engaged, the Licensing Authority will impose the “Online Deliveries” conditions from model conditions in appendix 3 to ensure adequate age verification systems.</i> ”	Response to changes in deliver of alcohol. Provides Authorities expectation on how we expect applicants to promote the Prevention of Children from Harm Objective if intending to do delivery sales of alcohol. This also covers use of online platforms.
Page 20 (27 on reviewed Policy)	Para 11.2 (now 13.2 after “recommendations of the BBFC” Add full stop and delete the rest of the para. Delete para 11.3	The policy now refers applicants to the BBFC, which provides national consistency and allows the films to be shown anywhere within the UK.

<p>Page 25 (31 on reviewed Policy)</p>	<p>Delete para 15.2 (now 17.2) Replace with below para:</p> <p><i>“However, where the Licensing Authority’s discretion is engaged, it may consider restricting those hours in order to promote the licensing objectives. For example, where representations provide evidence of crime and disorder or public nuisance linked to the premises.”</i></p>	<p>Better clarity on the Authority’s view, i.e. stronger view on restricting hours in order to promote the licensing objectives.</p>
<p>Page 25 (31 on reviewed Policy)</p>	<p>After para 15.2 (now 17.2) Add below paras:</p> <p>“Psychoactive Substances, e.g. Nitrous Oxide (NOx) – Misuse of nitrous oxide is associated with increased antisocial behaviour including littering, noise nuisance and vandalism, all of which are detrimental to residents ‘quality of life and feelings of safety. Use of nitrous oxide is also a health concern and has other associated harms.</p> <p><i>Where its discretion is engaged this Licensing Authority will consider refusal/revocation in the first instance where there is evidence that a shop, supermarket, or store is or has been selling Psychoactive Substances.”</i></p>	<p>Provide clarity that where a review application or representation to an application is received relating to the premises has or is selling Psychoactive Substances refusal/revocation will be considered even in the first instance.</p>
<p>Page 28 (33 on reviewed Policy)</p>	<p>Para 17.5 (now 19.5) after “(00:00 to 06:00)” Add: <i>“must pay the levy”</i></p>	<p>Better clarity</p>
<p>Page 33/34 (40 on reviewed Policy)</p>	<p>Para 22.4 (now 24.4)</p> <p>Paras 22.6 and 22.7 change the “200 persons” to “500 persons”</p> <p>Change Paras 22.5 to 22.8 to sub bullets i to iv.</p>	<p>Better clarity and update to legislation (from 200 to 500 persons)</p>

Page 34 (41 on reviewed Policy)	<p>Para 23.1 (now 25.1) after the sentence ending “and addressed” Add: <i>“Completing of such a risk assessment should include checking previous venues where the artists / performers / promoters have performed recently to see if there have been any issues, and any social media sites to check for any potential problems such as a young audience. The risk assessment should consider the provision and numbers of SIA security, search, ejection policy and entry and egress plans. Such risk assessments should be written down, stored for a year, and made available to Responsible authorities upon request.”</i></p>	Added in response to Consultation response from Met Police.
Page 34 (41 on reviewed Policy)	<p>Delete para 23.2 to 23.4. Replace with below paras: <i>“Licence Holders should discuss their Risk assessments with Metropolitan Police at least 14 days prior to the proposed event.</i></p> <p><i>The additional event/promotion specific risk assessment is for where the venues have events/promotions with different artistes or DJs than their usual DJ/Artistes.”</i></p>	696 and 696A forms now withdrawn. Clarity on when a Risk Assessment is needed.
Page 34 (41 of reviewed Policy)	<p>Para 23.5 (no 25.4) Delete “standard conditions” and Replace with “<i>model conditions in appendix 3</i>”.</p> <p>After “as suggested in the..” Delete the rest of the sentence and Replace with “<i>applicants operating schedules, or the licensing authority is engaged, i.e., where relevant representations for any application are received.</i>”</p> <p>The Delete “by the Responsible Authorities” at the end of the para.</p>	Added in response to Consultation response from Met Police, and to refer to Model Conditions in Appendix 3.
Page 35 (41 on reviewed Policy)	Delete para 23.6 and 23.7	696 and 696A forms now withdrawn

Page 35 (41 on reviewed Policy)	Para 23.8 (now 25.5) Delete sentence below " <i>Significant Event</i> "	696 and 696A forms now withdrawn
Page 35 (41 on reviewed Policy)	Delete bullet number for para 23.9 and move para to sit under para 23.8	Define significant event.
Page 36 (42 on reviewed Policy)	Para 24.2(now 26.2) Delete: " <i>(these figures are inclusive of Late TENs)</i> " After bullet starting with "50 times" Add " <i>(inclusive of Late TENs subject to a maximum of 10)</i> " to the end of this bullet. After bullet starting with "5 times" Add " <i>(inclusive of Late TENs subject to a maximum of 2)</i> " to the end of this bullet	Correct to legislation/guidance changes
Page 36 (42 on reviewed Policy)	Para 24.2 (now 26.2), b) After the number "15" Add * After the number "21" Add ** After d) Add below para: " <i>The Alcohol Licensing (Coronavirus) (Regulatory Easements) (Amendment) Regulations 2021 has temporarily increased the limits detailed in b) above for 2022 to 2023 (calendar year). * increased to 20 days and ** increased to 26 days.</i> "	Correct to legislation change as to temporarily increase TEN limits to compensate for restrictions on the hospitality during the pandemic.
Page 37 (43 on reviewed Policy)	Para 24.5 (now 26.5) After the word "temporary event" Delete ", and that the event has been". Add ". <i>We also expect that events are</i> " After "Metropolitan Police" Add: " <i>and Environmental Health, Noise</i> ", Replace "before" with " <i>prior</i> "	Events should be discussed with both relevant persons i.e. Police and Environmental

		Health, Noise – this give this clarity.
Page 37 (43 on reviewed Policy)	Under para 24.5 (now 26.5) Add: new para 26.6 <i>“Risk Assessments: In order to assist the Metropolitan Police, we would strongly urge that Risk Assessments are either included with the TEN submission or sent to the Police via the details in Council’s Responsible Authority list on their website. Such risk assessments need to include a description of the event, any risks identified with the event such as increased possibility of intoxicated customers, underage attending the event, or perceived drug use, and any mitigating steps that have implemented to address the identified risks. Where promoted music events are taking place at the premises such a risk assessment should include checking previous venues where the artists / performers / promoters have performed recently to see if there have been any issues, and any social media sites to check for any potential problems such as a young audience. The risk assessment should also consider the provision and numbers of SIA security, search, ejection policy and entry and egress / dispersal plans.”</i>	Requested by Police Licensing and added to as in response to Consultation response from Met Police.
Page 37 (43 on reviewed Policy)	Para 24.5 (now 26.5) Change bullet “i” to para 26.7, and Delete “Organisers of outdoor events”, and Add: “TENs relating to outdoor events” Change bullet “ii” to para 26.8	Better clarity
Page 42/43 (50 of reviewed policy)	Under 27.4 (now 29.4) Add below para (29.5): <i>“The Coronavirus pandemic has demonstrated the need for good contact details, particularly digital ones with Licence Holders. Throughout the pandemic and this Licensing Authority held online meetings with licence holders and continued to keep them up to date with guidance on restrictions as they came in from Central Government. Through this we found that many of the contact details we had for our Licence holders, particularly email addresses where either incorrect or were those of the Solicitors who</i>	Improve contact details for Licence Holders

	<p><i>dealt with the original application at the time. This has also caused issue for licence holders when we notify them of their annual fee with letters sometime going to solicitors' firms rather than the licence holder.</i></p> <p><i>In light of this we expect applicants to include the correct correspondence address for the proposed licence holder in their application, and where possible include an email address for the Licence Holder. We also expect Licence holders to keep this Licensing Authority up to date should the contacts for the Licence holder either address, telephone number or email address change.</i></p> <p><i>This will ensure that if needed the Licensing Authority can contact the Licence Holder promptly, we can and will help to avoid unnecessary suspensions of licences because the reminder letter was not received by the Licence Holder."</i></p>	
Page 43 (50 of reviewed Policy)	Delete paras 28, 28.1, 28.2 and 29, 29.1 and 29.2.	No longer needed as covered in Equality Section above.
Page 47 (54 on reviewed Policy) - Appendix 1	<p>Delete the sentence in brackets after "Appendix 1"</p> <p>After the first para Delete list of Responsible Authorities and Add: <i>"For a full list of Responsible Authorities please see the link below, which is updated regularly:</i></p> <p>https://www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/lgnl/business/licences/beer_and_entertainment/Responsible-Authorities.aspx</p>	Ensures applicants etc. view an up to date list of responsible authorities.

<p>Page 55 (60 on reviewed Policy)</p>	<p>Add new Appendix 3 as below:</p> <p><u>Appendix 3</u></p> <p>Model Conditions</p> <p><i>The below are a list of model conditions, which are intended to be used by Applicants, Responsible Authorities, or Other Persons making a representation. Where necessary these conditions should be modified in order to be appropriate, proportionate, and enforceable in respect to the type of application.</i></p> <p><i>This appendix does not form part of the Statement of Licensing Policy to allow for it to be modified where appropriate to ensure conditions contain fit any new or emerging trends.</i></p> <p><i>This basket of model conditions is not an exclusive or exhaustive list of conditions which may be included on a premises licence. It does not restrict any applicant, responsible authority, or interested party from proposing any alternative conditions, nor would it restrict a licensing sub-committee from imposing any reasonable condition on a licence it considers necessary for the promotion of the licensing objectives.</i></p> <p><i>Conditions are listed under the Licensing Objective that they most appropriately promote.</i></p> <p>Key: <i>The second column in the table that follows indicates the types of premises to which the condition in the third column might be of most relevance.</i></p> <p>A Restaurants B Public houses, wine bars or other drinking establishments C Café-bars D Hotel bars</p>	<p>New Model Conditions, which can be kept under review to ensure accurate and proportionate model conditions.</p>
--	---	--

- E** Night-clubs
- F** Off-licences (including convenience stores)
- G** Pavement licences
- H** Qualifying clubs
- I** Take-aways
- J** Boats
- H** Other entertainment venues

Number	Suggested Applicable Premises	Condition
Prevention of crime and disorder		
1	A, B	<p><i>Touting:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <i>No person shall be employed to solicit for custom or be permitted to solicit for custom for business for the premises in any public place within a 500 meters radius of the premises as shown edged red on the attached plan. (marked as Appendix -)</i> 2. <i>Clear Signage to be placed in the restaurant windows stating that the premises supports the Council's 'No Touting' policy.</i>
2.	J	<p><i>Boats:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <i>For all externally promoted events including DJs, birthday bookings (where the person whose birthday it is aged 25 or under), all football related bookings and for publicly ticketed events, all drinking vessels used in</i>

			<p><i>the venue shall be polycarbonate. All drinks in glass bottles are to be decanted into polycarbonate containers or polycarbonate carafes prior to being served, with the exception of champagne or bottles of spirits with a minimum size of 70cl supplied by waiter/waitress service to tables. Staff shall clear all empty champagne and spirit bottles promptly from the tables. Customers shall not be permitted to leave their table carrying any such glass bottles or drink directly from the bottle.</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <i>2. The bar shall close 15 minutes prior to disembarkation, after this no alcohol shall be sold. This is to be announced on the public address system.</i> <i>3. Passengers shall not be allowed to bring alcohol on board the vessel.</i> <i>4. The crew shall make a comprehensive safety announcement over the PA system before every departure. This is to include a segment on drink aware and the ejection policy.</i> <i>5. Any passenger that becomes abusive/aggressive to the crew or other passengers shall be asked to leave the vessel. Such persons will be ejected at the nearest available pier. A duty of care shall be provided for the ejected persons and to consider calling the emergency services.</i> 		
--	--	--	--	--	--

			<p>6. <i>Passenger numbers for each trip should be recorded on the Ships AIS system and on-board in the Ships Diary. The capacity of the vessel shall be determined and approved by the Maritime and Coastguard Agency (MCA) and placed on the ships certificate.</i></p> <p>1. <i>All SIA approved staff engaged in supervising or controlling queues as well as engaged in duties on board the vessel shall wear high visibility yellow jackets or vests.</i></p> <p>2. <i>Registered SIA security staff to be on duty during all externally promoted events including DJs, birthday bookings where the person's birthday is between the ages of 16 and 25 and all football-related bookings. "However, this condition shall not apply to externally promoted events which involve events where there is no sale or supply of alcohol and those participating are young persons taking part in a school organised event supervised by teachers or support staff from the school."</i></p> <p>3. <i>The licence holder shall ensure that there is a written risk assessment policy in place for every event to be held on the vessel and be available for inspection by police or authorised officers</i></p> <p>4. <i>The SIA staff and crew will ensure that the pier is clear of all customers prior to leaving the pier. This includes a duty of care on all persons ejected during the duration of the trip.</i></p>		
--	--	--	--	--	--

			<p>5. <i>It shall be a condition of entry that the customer agrees to an outer clothing and bag search being carried out or refusal of entry will be given, and notices to that effect shall be displayed. SIA Door Supervisors on duty will action as to when and whom is searched and a record of any decisions to be made. All searching shall be supplemented by the use of metal detector wands.</i></p> <p>6. <i>The crew shall patrol all parts of the vessel at regular intervals to check for unruly or unsafe behaviour.</i></p>	
	3.	A-H	<p><i>Smuggled Goods:</i></p> <p>1. <i>The premises licence holder and any other persons responsible for the purchase of stock shall not purchase any goods from door-to-door sellers other than from established traders who provide full receipts at the time of delivery to provide traceability.</i></p> <p>2. <i>The premises licence holder shall ensure that all receipts for goods bought include the following details:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>i. Seller's name and address</i> <i>ii. Seller's company details, if applicable</i> 	

			<p>iii. Seller's VAT details, if applicable</p> <p>iv. Vehicle registration detail, if applicable</p> <p>3. Legible copies of the documents referred to in 2) shall be retained on the premises and made available to officers on request.</p> <p>4. The trader shall obtain and use a UV detection device to verify that duty stamps are valid.</p> <p>5. Where the trader becomes aware that any alcohol may be not duty paid they shall inform the Police of this immediately.</p>	
	4.	A, B, C, D, G	<p><u>Olympic Park – Football Ground/Special Events:</u></p> <p>1. On Match Days for premises licensed for the supply of alcohol for consumption on the premises:</p> <p>1) Drinks shall only be supplied in polypropylene or similar plastic and all bottled drinks shall be poured into such drinking vessels before being handed to the customer. These should be made of recyclable materials.</p> <p>2) Registered door staff shall be employed to control the entry and exits to the premises and to manage any licensed outside area(s).</p>	

			<p>2. <i>No drinks shall be served in glass containers at any time during/whilst* [insert special event] *delete as appropriate</i></p>		
	5.	A-H	<p><i>CCTV/Incident Recording/Reporting</i></p> <p>1. <i>The premises shall install and maintain a comprehensive CCTV system as per the minimum requirements of the Tower Hamlets Police Licensing Team. All entry and exit points will be covered enabling frontal identification of every person entering in any light condition. The CCTV system shall continually record whilst the premises is open for licensable activities and during all times when customers remain on the premises. All recordings shall be stored for a minimum period of 31 days with date and time stamping. Viewing of recordings shall be made available immediately upon the request of Police or authorised officer throughout the entire 31-day period.</i></p> <p>2. <i>The CCTV system serving the premises shall:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>a) be maintained fully operational and in good working order at all times;</i> <i>b) make and retain clear images that include the points of sale of alcohol and facial images of the purchasers of the alcohol; and</i> <i>c) show an accurate date and time that the images were made.</i> 		

			<p>3. <i>A staff member from the premises who is conversant with the operation of the CCTV system shall be on the premises at all times when the premises are open. This staff member must be able to provide a Police or authorised council officer copies of recent CCTV images or data with the absolute minimum of delay when requested.</i></p> <p>4. <i>No alcohol shall be sold if the CCTV equipment is inoperative for any reason.</i></p> <p>5. <i>An incident log shall be kept at the premises and be available on request to the Police or an authorised officer. It must be completed within 24 hours of any incident and will record the following:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>a) all crimes reported to the venue;</i> <i>b) all ejections of patrons;</i> <i>c) any complaints received concerning crime and disorder</i> <i>d) any incidents of disorder;</i> <i>e) all seizures of drugs or offensive weapons;</i> <i>f) any faults in the CCTV system, searching equipment or scanning equipment;</i> <i>g) any refusal of the sale of alcohol;</i> <i>h) any visit by a relevant authority or emergency service.</i> 		
--	--	--	--	--	--

		<p>6. <i>In the event that a serious assault is committed on the premises (or appears to have been committed) the management will immediately ensure that:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>a) the police (and, where appropriate, the London Ambulance Service) are called without delay;</i> <i>b) all measures that are reasonably practicable are taken to apprehend any suspects pending the arrival of the police;</i> <i>c) the crime scene is preserved so as to enable a full forensic investigation to be carried out by the police; and</i> <i>d) such other measures are taken (as appropriate) to fully protect the safety of all persons present on the premises.</i>
6.	A-H	<p><u>Personal Licence Holder/DPS</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <i>There shall be a personal licence holder on duty on the premises at all times when the premises are authorised to sell alcohol.</i> 2. <i>When the designated premise supervisor is not on the premises any or all persons authorised to sell alcohol will be authorised by the designated premises supervisor in writing. This shall be available on request by the Police or any authorised officer.</i>
7.	B, C, H, E, H	<u>Security/Searching</u>

			<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A minimum of [insert appropriate number] SIA licensed door supervisors shall be on duty at the premises at all times whilst it is open for business 2. On any occasion that regulated entertainment is provided, not less than [insert appropriate number] SIA registered door supervisors will be engaged to control entry 3. At least [insert appropriate number] SIA licensed door supervisors shall be on duty at the entrance of the premises at all times whilst it is open for business. 4. At least [insert appropriate number] female door supervisor(s) shall be engaged at the premises at such times as door supervisors are required to be provided. 5. Where SIA registered door supervisors are used at the premises, a record must be kept of their SIA registration number and the dates and times they are on duty. 6. When the premises is carrying on licensable activities after [insert appropriate time (24HR format)] hours, at least [insert appropriate number] door supervisor(s) will to be on duty at each door used for entry or exit. 		
--	--	--	--	--	--

		<p>7. No patrons shall be admitted or re-admitted to the premises after [insert appropriate time (24HR format)] unless they have passed through a metal detecting search arch and, if the search arch is activated or at the discretion of staff, then physically searched, which will include a 'pat down search' and a full bag search.</p> <p>8. All persons entering or re-entering the premises shall be searched by a SIA licensed member of staff and monitored by the premises CCTV system.</p> <p>9. A written search policy that aims to prevent customers or staff bringing illegal drugs, weapon or other illegal items onto the premises at any time shall be in place and operate at the premises.</p> <p>10. A clearly visible notice shall be placed at each entrance to the Premises advising those attending that it is a condition of entry that customers agree to being searched and that the police will be informed if anyone is found in possession of controlled substances or weapons. (E)</p> <p>11. All staff engaged outside the entrance to the premises, or supervising or controlling queues, shall wear high visibility jackets or vests. (B, E, J)</p> <p>12. There must be at the premises a lockable drugs box to which no member of staff, save the DPS and /or</p>	
--	--	--	--

			<p><i>[insert other responsible person, e.g. Premises Licence Holder, Manager, etc., as appropriate], shall have access. All controlled drugs (or items suspected to be controlled drugs or contain controlled drugs) found at the premises must be placed in this box as soon as practicable. Whenever this box is emptied, all of its contents must be given to the Police for appropriate disposal.</i></p>	
8.	E, H	<p><u>External Promoters:</u></p> <p>13. <i>The premises licence holder must submit to the relevant police officer on request a completed risk assessment form as prescribed at least 14 days before any event that is promoted/advertised to the public at any time before the event and features DJ's, MC's or equivalent performing to recorded music.</i></p>		
9.	F	<p><u>Alcohol limits:</u></p> <p>14. <i>No super-strength beer, lagers, ciders or spirit mixtures of 5.5% ABV (alcohol by volume) or above shall be sold at the premises, except for premium beers and ciders supplied in glass bottles.</i></p> <p>15. <i>No single cans or bottles of beer or cider or spirit mixtures shall be sold at the premises.</i></p>		

		16. <i>All sales of alcohol for consumption off the premises shall be in sealed containers only and shall not be consumed on the premises.</i>	
Public Safety			
10.	A, B, C, D, E, G, J, H	<u>Restrictions on use of glass container:</u> 1. <i>No drinks shall be served in glass containers at any time.</i> 2. <i>All drinking vessels used in the venue shall be polycarbonate. All drinks in glass bottles are to be decanted into polycarbonate containers or polycarbonate carafes prior to being served, with the exception of champagne or bottles of spirits with a minimum size of 70cl supplied by waiter/waitress service to tables. Staff shall clear all empty champagne and spirit bottles promptly from the tables. Customers shall not be permitted to leave their table carrying any such glass bottles or drink directly from the bottle.</i> 3. <i>Notwithstanding 2 above, with the written agreement of the Tower Hamlets Licensing Police, a copy of which will be held at the premises reception, glass drinking vessels may be used for private or pre-booked events within the (specified area).</i> 4. <i>Patrons permitted to temporarily leave and then re-enter the premises,</i>	

			<i>e.g., to smoke, shall not be permitted to take drinks or glass containers with them.</i>
11.	<i>B, E, I & J</i>	<u>Capacity</u>	1. <i>The number of persons permitted in the premises at any one time (including staff) shall not exceed [insert appropriate number] persons[, and such number shall be prominently displayed by each entrance to the premises]*delete as appropriate. [The premises licence holder shall ensure a suitable method of calculating the number of people present during licensable activities is in place] *delete as appropriate.</i>
12.	<i>Unique to Beauty Premises</i>	<u>Hairdresser/Barber/Salons:</u>	1. <i>The sale of alcohol shall only be for consumption by customers, their bona fide guests. For the avoidance of doubt there shall be no sales of alcohol to staff for consumption on the premises.</i>
Prevention of public nuisance			
13.	<i>A, B, C, D, E, J, H</i>	<u>Noise prevention</u>	1. <i>A noise limiter must be fitted to the musical amplification system set at a level determined by and to the satisfaction of an authorised officer of the Environmental Health Service, so as to ensure that</i>

			<p><i>no noise nuisance is caused to local residents or businesses. The operational panel of the noise limiter shall then be secured by key or password to the satisfaction of officers from the Environmental Health Service and access shall only be by persons authorised by the Premises Licence holder. The limiter shall not be altered without prior agreement with the Environmental Health Service. No alteration or modification to any existing sound system(s) should be effected without prior knowledge of an authorised Officer of the Environmental Health Service. No additional sound generating equipment shall be used on the premises without being routed through the sound limiter device.</i></p> <p>2. <i>Loudspeakers shall not be located in the entrance lobby or outside the premises building.</i></p> <p>3. <i>All windows and external doors shall be kept closed after [insert appropriate time (24HR format)] hours, or at any time when regulated entertainment takes place, except for the immediate access and egress of persons.</i></p> <p>4. <i>There shall be no admittance or re-admittance to the premises after [insert appropriate time (24HR format)] except for patrons permitted to temporarily leave the premises to smoke.</i></p>		
--	--	--	--	--	--

			<p>5. <i>There shall be no sales of alcohol for consumption off the premises after [insert appropriate time (24HR format)].</i></p> <p>6. <i>The licence holder shall enter into an agreement with a hackney carriage and/or private carriage firm to provide transport for customers, with contact numbers made readily available to customers who will be encouraged to use such services.</i></p> <p>7. <i>Notices shall be prominently displayed at all exits requesting patrons to respect the needs of local residents and businesses and leave the area quietly.</i></p> <p>8. <i>Notices shall be prominently displayed at any area used for smoking requesting patrons to respect the needs of local residents and use the area quietly.</i></p> <p>9. <i>A direct telephone number for the manager at the premises shall be publicly available at all times the premises is open. This telephone number is to be made available to residents and businesses in the vicinity.</i></p> <p>10. <i>The licence holder shall ensure that any queue to enter the premises which forms outside the premises is orderly and supervised by door staff so as to ensure that there is no public nuisance or obstruction to the public highway.</i></p>		
--	--	--	---	--	--

			<p>11. <i>Patrons permitted to temporarily leave and then re-enter the premises to smoke shall be restricted to a designated smoking area defined as [insert specific location].</i></p> <p>12. <i>The sale and supply of alcohol for consumption off the premises shall be restricted to alcohol consumed at the outside tables and chairs shown on the licence plan, shall be by waiter or waitress service, served only to a person seated taking a table meal there and for consumption by such a person as ancillary to their meal.</i></p> <p>13. <i>The sale and supply of alcohol for consumption off the premises shall be restricted to alcohol consumed by persons who are seated in an area appropriately authorised for the use of tables and chairs on the highway and bona fide taking a table meal there, and where the consumption of alcohol by such persons is ancillary to taking such a meal, and where the supply of alcohol is by waiter or waitress service only.</i></p> <p>14. <i>A written dispersal policy shall be in place and implemented at the premises to move customers from the premises and the immediate vicinity in such a way as to cause minimum disturbance or nuisance to neighbours.</i></p>	
	14.	A, B, C, D, E, G, J, H	<u>Outdoor areas</u>	

			<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <i>The premises licence holder shall ensure that any patrons drinking and/or smoking outside the premises do so in an orderly manner and are supervised by staff so as to ensure that there is no public nuisance or obstruction of the public highway.</i> 2. <i>No more than [insert appropriate number] customers will be permitted to enter or remain in [insert specific location] the outdoor areas of the premises at any one time after the hours of [insert appropriate time (24HR format)].</i> 3. <i>The outdoor area shall not be used by patrons after [insert appropriate time (24HR format)].</i> 4. <i>All outside tables and chairs shall be rendered unusable by [insert appropriate time (24HR format)] each day.</i> 5. <i>All tables and chairs shall be removed from the outside area by [insert appropriate time (24HR format)] each day.</i> 6. <i>Alcohol consumed outside the premises building shall only be consumed by patrons seated at tables.</i> 7. <i>Patrons permitted to temporarily leave and then re-enter the premises, e.g., to smoke, shall be limited to [insert appropriate number] persons at any one time.</i> 	
--	--	--	--	--

<p>15.</p>	<p>A, B, C, D, E, G, I, J, H</p>	<p><u>Waste disposal/collections</u></p> <p>8. No waste or recyclable materials, including bottles, shall be moved, removed from or placed in outside areas between [insert appropriate time (24HR format)] hours and [insert appropriate time (24HR format)] hours on the following day.</p> <p>9. No collections of waste or recycling materials (including bottles) from the premises shall take place between [insert appropriate time (24HR format)] and [insert appropriate time (24HR format)] on the following day.</p>	
<p>17.</p>	<p>A-H</p>	<p><u>Litter prevention</u></p> <p>1. All sealed containers of alcoholic drinks offered for sale for consumption off the premises must be clearly labelled or marked with the name and postcode of the premises.</p> <p>2. No advertisements of any kind (including placard, poster, sticker, flyer, picture, letter, sign or other mark) that advertises or promotes the establishment, its premises, or any of its events, facilities, goods or services shall be inscribed or affixed upon the surface of the highway, or upon any building, structure, works, street furniture, tree, or any other property, or be distributed to the public.</p>	

			<p>3. <i>During the hours of operation of the premises, the licence holder shall ensure sufficient measures are in place to remove and prevent litter or waste arising or accumulating from customers in the area immediately outside the premises, and that this area shall be swept and or washed, and litter and sweepings collected and stored in accordance with the approved refuse storage arrangements by close of business.</i></p> <p>4. <i>Where the premises provide late night refreshment for consumption off the premises sufficient waste bins must be provided at or near the exits.</i></p>	
	18.	J	<p><u>Boats:</u></p> <p>1. <i>Amplified music or regulated entertainment shall not take place whilst the vessel is moored at its [insert address] moorings.</i></p> <p>2. <i>No noise shall emanate from the vessel which gives rise to a nuisance.</i></p> <p>3. <i>Alcohol shall not be taken or consumed off the vessel at any time.</i></p> <p>4. <i>The bar shall close 15 minutes prior to disembarkation, after this no alcohol shall be sold. This is to be announced on the public address system.</i></p>	

			<p>5. <i>Passengers shall be advised by the crew to leave the vessel in a quiet and orderly fashion and not to do anything which is liable to disturb nearby residents. Prominent notices shall be displayed at the entrance and exit points.</i></p> <p>6. <i>All SIA approved staff engaged in supervising or controlling queues as well as engaged in duties on board the vessel shall wear high visibility yellow jackets or vests.</i></p> <p>7. <i>Crew members shall be positioned by the door to help guests disembark and ensure that overcrowding does not become a problem</i></p> <p>8. <i>While the vessel is at the pier music levels will be controlled to ensure no noise shall emanate nor vibration transmitted which gives rise to a Public Nuisance.</i></p> <p>9. <i>Flashing or particularly bright lights on or outside the premises shall not cause a nuisance to nearby properties (save insofar as they are necessary for the safety of the crew and customers, and for the prevention of crime).</i></p> <p>10. <i>Live or recorded music will not be allowed to commence until the vessel has left any embarkation pier and will cease before the vessel arrives at any disembarkation pier.</i></p>		
--	--	--	--	--	--

Protection of Children from harm		
19.	A-H	<p><u>Challenge 25:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. All tills shall automatically prompt staff to ask for age verification identification when presented with an alcohol sale. 2. A Challenge 25 proof of age scheme shall be operated at the premises where the only acceptable forms of identification are recognised photographic identification cards, such as a driving licence, passport or proof of age card with the PASS Hologram. 3. A record shall be kept detailing all refused sales of alcohol. The record should include the date and time of the refused sale and the name of the member of staff who refused the sale. The record shall be available for inspection at the premises by the police or an authorised officer at all times whilst the premises is open. 4. All staff whose duties include the serving of alcohol must be trained in the requirements of this scheme including the importance of recording any refusals. 5. Entry by children under the age of 18 to [the premises] [a specified part of the premises] is prohibited between [insert appropriate hours].

		6. <i>Entry by children under the age of [insert appropriate age] to [the premises] [a specified part of the premises] is prohibited unless accompanied by an adult over the age of 18</i>
20.	A-H	<p><u>Staff Training</u></p> <p>1. <i>All staff whose responsibilities include the retail sale of alcohol shall receive training about the prevention of underage sales on induction and then every [insert appropriate number] months thereafter/[insert appropriate number] times a year. This training shall be recorded and the records to be available on request to the Police or any authorised officer. The training to include:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) <i>the operation of the challenge XX scheme;</i> b) <i>types of acceptable ID;</i> c) <i>the method of recording challenges;</i> d) <i>the likely consequences of making an underage sale;</i> e) <i>refusing sales to persons who appear to be drunk;</i> f) <i>proxy sales.</i>
21.	A, B, C, D, F, I	<p><u>Online Deliveries:</u></p> <p>1. <i>Every third-party courier delivery box shall be labelled with the words “Age Restricted Product”.</i></p>

			<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. <i>There shall be mechanism either by an App or on the delivery package to show the delivery rider is aware it is an age restricted product to ensure ID checks are made upon delivery of alcohol.</i> 3. <i>The premises licence holder will ensure that an age verification policy will apply whereby all delivery drivers/riders will be trained to ask any customer to whom alcohol is delivered, who appears to be under the age of 25 years to produce, before being sold alcohol, identification being a passport or photocard driving licence bearing a holographic mark or other form of identification that complies with any mandatory condition that may apply to this licence.</i> 4. <i>Alcohol shall only be delivered to a residential or business address and not to a public place or vehicle.</i> 5. <i>All off sales deliveries to be in sealed containers.</i> 6. <i>A warning shall be displayed on the digital platform on which an order is placed informing customers that they must be aged 18 or over to make a purchase of alcohol and notifying customers that the rider will carry out age verification on delivery. The customer will be required to declare that he or she aged 18 or over. If the rider is not satisfied that the customer is aged 18 or over any alcohol in the order will be withheld</i> 		
--	--	--	---	--	--

			7. <i>The Licence holder shall notify the Licensing Authority of the digital platform(s) used for the sales of alcohol and any changes to those platforms.</i>	
		Miscellaneous (promotes more than one objective)		
	22.	A, C, D	<p>1. <i>The premises shall only operate as a restaurant:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) <i>in which customers are shown to their table;</i> b) <i>where the supply of alcohol is by waiter or waitress service only;</i> c) <i>which provide food in the form of substantial table meals that are prepared on the premises and are served and consumed at the table;</i> d) <i>which do not provide any take away service of food or drink for immediate consumption;</i> e) <i>which do not provide any take away service of food or drink after 23.00, and</i> f) <i>where alcohol shall not be sold or supplied, otherwise than for consumption by persons who are seated in the premises and bona fide taking substantial table meals there, and provided always that the consumption of alcohol by such persons is ancillary to taking such meals.</i> <p>2. <i>The sale of alcohol for consumption on the premises shall only be to a person seated taking a table meal there, and for consumption by such a person as ancillary to their meal.</i></p>	

			<p>3. <i>The sale of alcohol shall be to persons seated at the premises, i.e. table service only.</i></p> <p>4. <i>Sales of alcohol for consumption off the premises shall only be supplied with, and ancillary to a take-away meal.</i></p> <p>5. <i>No more than [insert appropriate figure]% of the sales area shall be used at any one time for the sale, exposure for sale, or display of alcohol.</i></p> <p>6. <i>No vertical drinking.</i></p>		
Page 55 (79 on reviewed Policy)	Appendix 3 (now 4)		Delete John Onslow Address and add new town hall address.		Update.

The London Borough of Tower Hamlets
**STATEMENT OF
LICENSING POLICY**
2023 – 2028

Effective 1st November 2023

Contents

	Background and Context	Page 3
Section 1	Introduction	Page 4
Section 2	The Policy	Page 4
Section 3	Consultation	Page 5
Section 4	Equality and Inclusion in Licensed Venues	Pages 5-8
Section 5	Main Principles of the Licensing Policy	Pages 8-11
Section 6	The Licensing Authority as a Responsible Authority	Pages 11-13
Section 7	The Home Office as a Responsible Authority	Pages 13-15
Section 8	Representations by “Other Persons”	Pages 15-16
Section 9	Crime and Disorder	Pages 16-20
Section 10	Public Safety	Pages 20-21
Section 11	Prevention of Public Nuisance	Pages 22-24
Section 12	Prevention of Harm to Children	Pages 24-27
Section 13	Access to Cinemas	Page 27
Section 14	Children and Public Entertainment	Pages 27-28
Section 15	Health Considerations of Licensing	Page 28
Section 16	Licensing Hours	Pages 28-31
Section 17	Shops, Stores and Supermarkets	Page 31
Section 18	Integrating Strategies and Avoiding Duplication	Pages 31-34
Section 19	Late Night Levy	Pages 34-36
Section 20	Cumulative Effect	Pages 37-38
Section 21	Special Cumulative Impact Policy	Page 38
Section 22	Sexual Entertainment	Page 38
Section 23	Late Night Refreshments and Deregulation Act 2015	Page 39
Section 24	Live Music, Dancing and Theatre	Pages 39-40
Section 25	Risk Assessments	Page 41
Section 26	Temporary Event Notices Process	Pages 42-44
Section 27	Enforcement	Pages 45-46
Section 28	Review Process	Pages 47-48
Section 29	Responsibility of the Licence Holder and the DPS	Pages 48-50
Section 30	Duplication	Page 50
Section 31	Administration, Exercise and Delegation of Functions	Pages 50-53
Appendix 1	List of Responsible Authorities	Page 54
Appendix 2	Mandatory Conditions	Pages 55-59
Appendix 3	Model Conditions	Pages 60-78
Appendix 4	Licensing Contact Details	Page 79
Appendix 5	Sex Establishment Licensing Policy	Pages 80-98
Appendix 6	Special Cumulative Impact Policy for the Brick Lane and Bethnal Green Area	Pages 99-104

Background and Context

This Policy should be read in conjunction with:

The Licensing Act 2003 available from <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2003/17/contents> or by telephoning +44 (0)333 202 507.

Government Guidance under Section 182 of the Licensing Act 2003: available on the website www.gov.uk or by telephoning 020 7035 4848.

Tower Hamlets guidance documents on making applications under the Licensing Act 2003 available from <http://www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/licensing> or available from the Licensing Service on 020 7364 5008.

Tower Hamlets is a Borough that is diverse, improves choice and provides enjoyment for residents and visitors to the Borough of all ages. We want to provide an environment that is safe and welcoming for all to enjoy. While at the same time we also want to ensure that we protect the quality of life for our residents by ensuring that we have sensible controls that keep anti-social behaviour, and undesirable developments selling hot food and drink between 23:00 and 05:00 to a minimum.

However, the policy only applies where the discretion of the licensing authority is engaged. That is, all applications which are unopposed must be granted as applied for. The only conditions that can be applied must relate to statements made in the application itself.

The Licensing Policy objectives and associated benefits have clear links with the Council's Strategic Plan to improve the quality of life for everyone living and working in the Borough.

The Plan has 8 priorities and is the council's main plan, which details the most important priorities for the council between 2022 and 2026. These priorities are translated from the Mayor's vision into the strategic Plan.

You will find there is more detailed information about the eight priorities: https://www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/ignl/community_and_living/community_plan/strategic_plan.aspx

1 Introduction

- 1.1 The London Borough of Tower Hamlets is the Licensing Authority under the Licensing Act 2003 (the Act). It is responsible for granting premises licences; club premises certificates; temporary events notices, in respect of the provision of licensable activities; and personal licences in the Borough.

The term 'Licensing Authority' will be used in all future references to 'the London Borough of Tower Hamlets' in this Statement of Licensing Policy.

All references to the Secretary of State's Guidance relate the statutory guidance published by the Home Office under section 182 of the Act in December 2022. A copy of this version is available at www.gov.uk.

- 1.2 This policy is intended to provide clarity to applicants, 'other persons' and 'responsible authorities' on how this Licensing Authority will determine applications for the following licensable activities:
- Retail sale of alcohol
 - Supply of alcohol to club members
 - Provision of regulated entertainment (as defined in Schedule 1 of the Act)
 - Supply of hot food and / or drink between 23:00 and 05:00 hours

2 The Policy

- 2.1 This 'Statement of Licensing Policy' was prepared in accordance with the provisions of the Act and having had regard to the Secretary of State's Guidance issued under Section 182 of the Act.
- 2.2 The 2003 Act requires that the Licensing Authority, after consultation, adopts and publishes a "Statement of Licensing Policy" that sets out the policies the Licensing Authority will apply to promote the licensing objectives when making decisions on applications made under the Act. It is a requirement that this Policy is reviewed at least every five years. The Licensing Authority will apply the standards and policies set out in this Statement unless good reason exists not to do so. Each application will nonetheless be considered individually on its merits and both applicants and those making relevant representations will be treated fairly and objectively.

3 Consultation

- 3.1 Before publishing this revised Policy Statement, the Licensing Authority has consulted those parties specified in Section 5(3) of the Licensing Act 2003, which are:
- the Chief Officer of Police,
 - the London Fire Brigade,
 - Director of Public Health within Tower Hamlets
 - representatives of holders of existing Premises Licences, Personal Licences and Club Premises Certificates in the Borough
 - such other persons considered to be representatives of business and residents in the area.

The Licensing Authority has given due regard to the responses from this consultation process when completing the final version of this Policy Statement.

- 3.2 The Licensing Authority will ensure that its consultation is broadly based, available on the internet, and the responsible authorities as well as wide range of community, public, welfare and religious organisations, and other key stakeholders are consulted.
- 3.3 The Licensing Authority will give due weight to the views of all the persons / bodies consulted before the Policy Statement is agreed and implemented.
- 3.4 The Licensing Authority undertakes to involve the Tower Hamlets Community Safety Partnership (or equivalent organisation) in policy development and review.
- 3.5 All major reviews will be broadly based, as well as complying with statutory requirements.

4 Equality and Inclusion in Licensed Venues

- 4.1 As per Tower Hamlets Equality Policy, we want Tower Hamlets to be a place where people have equal access to opportunities and where inequality is actively tackled. Tower Hamlets Equality Policy recognises that this can only be done by working with our partners to advance equality, promote good community relations and tackle discrimination. The Council believes that diversity of our community is one of our greatest strengths and assets. We value the strength that comes with difference and the positive contribution that diversity brings to our community. This includes achieving equality and inclusion in all that we do, to improve the quality of life and opportunities for all people who live, work, and visit the borough. The Equality Policy seeks to embed equality throughout the council's plans, services, and activities to ensure it is a key driver for everything we do. As a Licensing Authority we want to do all that we can do to ensure our borough is open and accessible to all.

4.2 It is unlawful for any venue to discriminate against anyone based on race, sex, sexual orientation, age, or any of the protected characteristics under the Equality Act 2010. In our view equality and inclusion extends beyond this definition within the 2010 Act. Any type of discrimination be it intentional or subconscious is inherently damaging for the individual, our wider community, and our economy. Moreover, it actively harms the interests of licensed premises and the licensed industry.

4.3 Tower Hamlets is a diverse and culturally rich borough. It is a microcosm of London and has the fastest population growth in the country because we are a very special place and people want to live and work here. We have always been a gateway for people of all backgrounds to come and better themselves. As part of London's east end, we are enriched by the significant contributions made by a diversity of communities and migrant groups and boast a proud history of collective action against racism and bigotry. Altab Ali Park is an iconic area in the borough that speaks to the richness of this history. Yet, it is only one of the many Parks that has historical importance within the borough, many of which are often used to host small community events to large music festivals. We want to celebrate and build on this, which means we need to hold ourselves, as well as the venues and businesses we licence to account to ensure that together we continue to promote and offer equal opportunities and inclusive experiences for everyone.

4.4 Duties as a License Holder to Equality

Applicants and licensees must make themselves familiar with the law and their responsibilities set out within the Equality Act 2010 and relevant guidance for businesses, which can be found on the Equality & Human Rights Commission website. The 2010 Act makes discrimination against any person (including employees and customers) unlawful. The 2010 Act defines the relevant protected characteristics as age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex, and sexual orientation. Any activity in breach of the 2010 Act may be considered an offence and will lead to enforcement by the Equality and Human Rights Commission.

As part of Tower Hamlets No Place for Hate (NPFH) Campaign we would encourage all licence holders and new applicants to sign our Organisational pledge against hate. Organisations who sign this pledge are published on the website. This helps promote equality within our borough.

https://www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/lgnl/community_and_living/community_safety_crime_preve/hate_crime/organisational_pledge.aspx

4.5 Public Sector Equality Duty

The Council must have regard to its public sector equality duty under the 2010 Act.

In summary a Public Authority must, in the exercise of its functions, have due regard to the need to:

- eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation, and any other conduct that is prohibited by or under this Act.
- advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it.
- foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it.

4.6 Expectation on Licence holders and applicants to equality and inclusivity

There is no one size fits all approach to making a venue inclusive, and each operator will need to make an assessment of its own practices and policies. However, the following are common and best practice examples that could be adopted:

- Inclusive and transparent policies (for example, admittance policies may clearly stipulate adherence to a dress code and refusal if there are concerns about a customer; however, they must not prevent admittance based on any of the protected characteristics).
- Robust complaints procedures that make it easy for customers who feel they have been discriminated against to raise their concerns and understand how this will be investigated or managed.
- Accessible venue layouts that make venues welcoming.
- Comprehensive training on equality and inclusion for all staff, which is regularly refreshed.

4.7 Using the Licensing Process to promote equality and inclusivity

This Authority will use the Licensing Process to ensure both Operators and the Council are compliant in carrying out their legal obligations. This includes:

- Determining licensing applications and reviews.
- Making representations as a responsible authority.
- Applying for reviews in appropriate circumstances.
- Defending appeal decisions

In essence this means that the Council through this licensing process will identify applicants that do not provide sufficient information on how they are promoting equality and inclusivity and could make a representation to require that the applicant address the issue or explain to members of the Licensing Sub-Committee why they have not done so.

4.8 Tower Hamlets Commitment to Equality and Inclusivity

Over the duration of this Statement of Licensing Policy Tower Hamlets as a Licensing Authority will:

- Ensure that any strategy or policy affecting the licensed industry is always underpinned by the promotion of equality and inclusivity.
- Provide where possible advice and support to Licence Holders and Applicants on promoting equality and inclusivity by signposting them to internal and external bodies that can provide expert guidance.

5 Main Principles of the Licensing Policy

5.1 The Act requires that the Licensing Authority carries out its various licensing functions so as to promote the following four licensing objectives:-

5.2 *The prevention of crime and disorder*

Consideration, among other things, a prescribed capacity; door supervisors; an appropriate ratio of tables and chairs to customers; and a requirement that security staff holding the appropriate SIA licence or exemption are present to control entry for the purpose of compliance with the capacity limit and to deny entry to individuals who appear drunk or disorderly or both.

5.3 *Public safety*

Consideration of requiring specific types of training for a DPS or security staff, including awareness of first aid or initiatives to protect women and vulnerable customers; provision and storage of CCTV footage; and ensuring safe departure of those using the premises.

5.4 *The prevention of public nuisance*

Consideration of the prevention of irresponsible promotions, methods of preventing and managing noise and light pollution, and ways of managing litter.

5.5 *The protection of children from harm*

Consideration of age verification schemes, test purchasing policies, and restrictions on the hours when children may be present.

- 5.6 All of the Policy and its implementation must be consistent with those four objectives.
- 5.7 Nothing in the Licensing Policy will undermine the rights of any person to apply under the Act for a variety of permissions and have the application considered on its individual merits and / or 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 Act.
- 5.8 Licensing is about regulating licensable activities of licensed premises, by qualifying clubs and at temporary events within the terms of the Act. The conditions attached to licences and / or Temporary Event Notifications will be focused on matters that are within the control of individual licensees.
- 5.9 In relation to all applications where the Licensing Authority's discretion is engaged it will consider the direct impact of the activities taking place at the licensed premises on members of the public living, working or engaged in normal activity in the area concerned relating to the four Licensing Objectives.
- 5.10 The Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act introduced the provision for the licensing authority to make representations. The Licensing Authority will not make representations that should be made by another responsible authority. The Licensing Authority may wish to make representations on its own account when they could include bringing together a number of minor unconnected complaints that in themselves do not require another responsible authority to make a representation, but when taken together may constitute a public nuisance, represent breaches of licence conditions only observed by licensing officers or which undermines the licensing objectives.
- 5.11 If representations are made by a "responsible authority" or other persons the application will be determined by the Licensing Sub-Committee. In making decisions on licence applications, the Licensing Sub-Committee will have regard to the Act and relevant Regulations, the Secretary of State's Guidance, and this Statement of Licensing Policy. Where this occurs the Licensing Authority's discretion is engaged and it may insert conditions such as ones detailed further on in this policy.
- 5.12 Where no representations are made the application will be granted subject only to the mandatory conditions and conditions that are consistent with the applicant's operating schedule.

- 5.13 This Licensing Authority will ensure that any conditions added to a licence/authorisation are enforceable and proportionate and are consistent with the general principles for licence conditions detailed the Secretary of State's Guidance. We encourage applicants' responsible authorities and other persons to have regard to this Guidance when considering additional conditions. We also encourage the use of words such as "must", "shall" and "will" when deciding the wording of any condition.
- 5.14 Licensing laws are not the primary method of for general control of nuisance and anti-social behaviour by individuals once they are away from any licensed premises, thus being beyond the direct control of the Licensee/Certificate holder or holder of any other such authorisation (e.g. Temporary Event Notice). However, it is a key aspect of control and licensing laws will always be part of an overall approach to the management of the evening and night time economy.
- 5.15 In this respect, the Licensing Authority recognises that, apart from the licensing function, (and issues around cumulative effect) there are a number of other mechanisms available for addressing issues of unruly behaviour that can occur away from licensed premises, including (the list is not exhaustive):
- planning controls
 - ongoing measures to create a safe and clean environment in these areas in partnership with local businesses, transport operators and other Council Departments
 - designation of parts of the Borough as places where alcohol may not be consumed publicly
 - regularly liaison with Borough Police on law enforcement issues regarding disorder and anti-social behaviour, including the issue of fixed penalty notices, prosecution of those selling alcohol to people who are drunk, confiscation of alcohol from adults and children in designated areas and instantly closing down licensed premises or temporary events on the grounds of disorder, or likelihood of disorder or excessive noise from the premises
 - the power of the police, other responsible authority or a local resident or business to seek a review of the licence or certificate

- 5.16 Given the restrictions placed upon the licensed trade during the pandemic we recognise the importance and positive benefits that the licensed trade brings to the Borough. This includes not just social benefits for customers, but jobs and associated regeneration, as well as the benefits to the arts in respect to music, dance and other entertainment, all of which celebrates the rich mixture of cultural diversity and creativity that exists within Tower Hamlets.
- 5.17 Applicants for authorisations/permissions (e.g. premises licence etc.) under the Licensing Act 2003 must carry out the required statutory consultation with local residents. This statutory consultation requires an advertisement of the application in a local paper and the display of a pale blue notice on the premises. Failure to adhere to the statutory consultation will result in an invalid application and/or extension of the statutory consultation period.
- 5.18 A list of responsible authorities can be found in Appendix 1. However, an up to date list of Responsible Authorities with contact details can be found here:
https://www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/lgnl/business/licences/alcohol_and_entertainment/Responsible-Authorities.aspx
- 5.19 Following consultation, the Licensing Authority decided it will contact all residents and businesses within 40 meters of the applicant's premises, where the application is for a new club or premises licence or its variation. The consultation will be strictly neutral and will repeat the information required in the statutory notification.
- 5.20 For larger events and premises of a capacity of more than 1000 persons the Council will carry out a reasonable and relevant level of consultation with local residents and businesses.
- 5.21 In respect of paragraphs 5.19 and 5.20 above, should the Licensing Authority, in the unlikely event, fail to carry out the voluntary consultation within the statutory consultation period, this will not be grounds for refusing or delaying any application. The Licensing Authority can only refuse or delay (restart the consultation period) where it receives an invalid application or where the applicant fails to comply with the statutory consultation requirements.

6 The Licensing Authority as a Responsible Authority

- 6.1 The Council as a licensing authority is now included in the list of responsible authorities under the Licensing Act 2003.

- 6.2 The 2003 Act does not require responsible authorities to make representations about applications for the grant of premises licences or to take any other steps in respect of different licensing processes.
- 6.3 The Council as a Licensing Authority is not expected to act as a Responsible Authority on behalf of other parties (for example, local residents, local Councillors or community groups) although there are occasions where the authority may decide to do so. Such parties can make relevant representations to the licensing authority in their own right, and it is reasonable for the licensing authority to expect them to make representations themselves where they are reasonably able to do so. However, if these bodies have failed to take action and the licensing authority is aware of relevant grounds to make a representation, it may choose to act in its capacity as responsible authority.
- 6.4 It is also reasonable for the Council as a licensing authority to expect that other responsible authorities should intervene where the basis for the intervention falls within the remit of that other responsible authority. For example, the police should make representations where the representations are based on concerns about crime and disorder. Likewise, it is reasonable to expect the local authority exercising environmental health functions to make representations where there are concerns about noise nuisance. Each responsible authority has equal standing under the 2003 Act and may act independently without waiting for representations from any other responsible authority.
- 6.5 The 2003 Act enables the Council as a licensing authorities to act as a responsible authority as a means of early intervention; it may do so where it considers it appropriate without having to wait for representations from other responsible authorities. For example, the licensing authority may (in a case where it has applied a cumulative impact policy) consider that granting a new licence application will add to the cumulative impact of licensed premises in its area and therefore decide to make representations to that effect, without waiting for any other person to do so.
- 6.6 The Council recognises that in cases where it as the licensing authority is also acting as responsible authority in relation to the same process, it is important to achieve a separation of responsibilities within the authority to ensure procedural fairness and eliminate conflicts of interest.
- 6.7 The officer advising the licensing committee (i.e. the authority acting in its capacity as the licensing authority) must be a different individual to the officer who is acting for the responsible authority.

- 6.8 The officer acting for the responsible authority should not be involved in the licensing decision process and should not discuss the merits of the case with those involved in making the determination by the licensing authority. For example, discussion should not take place between the officer acting as responsible authority and the officer handling the licence application regarding the merits of the case. Communication between these officers in relation to the case should remain professional and consistent with communication with other responsible authorities. Representations, subject to limited exceptions, must be made in writing.
- 6.9 At the outset, of an application, or another licensing process a Licensing Officer in the Licensing Team will be allocated to act as the Licensing authority acting as a responsible authority. This licensing officer is not involved in the application process but sets up a separate record to consider the application for the authority in its capacity as responsible authority, engaging with other responsible authorities where appropriate and determining whether the authority acting as a responsible authority wants to make a representation. In certain circumstances the officer acting for the Licensing Authority as a Responsible Authority will be an officer from another team.

7 Home Office as a Responsible Authority

- 7.1 From 6th April 2017 the provisions of Immigration Act 2016 which relate to Licensing became effective. These provisions amend the Licensing Act 2003 making the Secretary of State a responsible authority in respect of premises licensed to sell alcohol or late night refreshment. In effect this conveys the role of responsible authority to Home Office Immigration Enforcement who exercises the powers on the Secretary of State's behalf. For contact details please see the list of Responsible Authorities in Appendix 1.

When Immigration Enforcement exercises its powers as a responsible authority it will do so in respect of the prevention of crime and disorder licensing objective because it is concerned with the prevention of illegal working or immigration offences more broadly.

- 7.2 From 6th April 2017 Licensing Authorities will check the eligibility to work for those applying for personal licences and premises licences (where the applicant is an individual) for the sale of alcohol and late night refreshment (hot food or drink between 23:00 and 05:00 hours).

This does not apply to the licensable activity of Regulated Entertainment ONLY or Club premises certificate and temporary event notices (TEN). However, they will commit a criminal offence if they work illegally.

7.3 Applications for a personal or premises (where they are an individual) licence (for sale of alcohol/provision of late night refreshment) must be able to satisfy the Licensing Authority that they have permission to be in the United Kingdom (UK), and are entitled to undertake work relating to the carrying on of a licensable activity. Essentially this means that licence cannot be granted to disqualified persons who are:

- Unlawfully present in the UK,
- Not permitted to work in the UK,
- Permitted to work, but not in this licensable activity.

Applications from disqualified persons above will be classed as invalid and will be rejected.

7.4 The application for personal and premises licences must submit one of the documents listed in Annex A of the Home Office's Employer right to work checks supporting guidance (<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/right-to-work-checks-employers-guide>) with their application, to show that they have the right to work in the UK and to undertake work in a licensable activity. Applicants may provide photocopies or scanned copies of the documents, which do not need to be endorsed as a copy of the original. Applicants are not required to submit original copies of documents. As an alternative to using one of the documents listed in the above guidance, applicants may choose to demonstrate their right to work by allowing this Licensing Authority to carry out a check with the Home Office online right to work checking service. As a result, we invite applicants to provide their shared code in their application. This code along with the applicant's date of birth allows this Licensing Authority to check their immigration status via the online service (<https://www.gov.uk/view-right-to-work>).

7.5 Where an applicant has restrictions on the length of time they may work in the UK, a premises licence or personal licence may still be issued, but the licence will cease to have effect when the right to work lapses.

7.6 A premises or personal licence issued in respect of an application made on or after 6 April 2017 will lapse if the holder's permission to live or work in the UK comes to an end. The licensing authority is under no duty to carry out on-going immigration checks to see whether a licence-holder's permission to be in the UK has been brought to an end, and the Act does not place a duty on the licensing authority to withdraw or revoke the licence if this occurs.

7.7 The Home Office as a Responsible Authority may request a review of a licence,

where a licence is prejudicial to the prevention of illegal working. This may be as a result of:

- An enforcement operation or data sharing that identifies a relevant offence,
- The issue of a civil penalty for employing illegal workers,
- The identification of a licence holder whose leave to be in the UK, or their permission to work, has come to an end.

8 Representations by “Other Persons”

8.1 Other person includes any individual, body or business.

8.2 Representations against or for an application must be in writing, either by post or email. For it to be considered as a valid representation it must:

- a) Be “relevant”, in that it states the reasons for making the representation, which must include how the proposed licence will have an effect or potential effect of the on one or more of the four licensing objectives (see section 5 above),
- b) Include name and full postal address of the person making the representation (Anonymous representations will not be accepted).
- c) Not be frivolous or vexatious (i.e. concerns issues which, at most, are minor and in relation to which no remedial steps would be warranted or proportionate; or appears to be intended to cause aggravation or annoyance, whether to a competitor or other person, without reasonable cause or justification).

8.3 Other persons can also request a representative to make the representation on their behalf. A representative may include a legal representative, a friend, a Member of Parliament, or a local councillor who can all act in such a capacity. In such cases all dialogue and correspondence will be with the Representative.

8.4 Representations and Disclosure of personal details

Once a valid representation is received unless it is withdrawn by the person/body etc. making the representation the decision on whether to grant the licence/authorisation must be referred to the Licensing Sub-Committee. The Licensing Authority when giving a notice of a hearing to an applicant, is required under the Licensing Act 2003 (Hearings) Regulations 2005 to provide the applicant

with copies of the relevant representations that have been made.

The Licensing Authority must provide all representations to the applicant unredacted as required by the above legislation. The only exception to this is where licensing authorities consider that the person who has made the representation has a genuine and well-founded fear of intimidation. In such circumstances the Licensing Authority will follow the Secretary of State's Guidance and the House of Commons Briefing Paper, dated 6th July 2018: Alcohol: objecting to a licence. In these circumstances the Licensing Authority may decide to withhold some or all of the person's personal details from the applicant, giving only minimal details (such as street name or general location within a street). However, withholding such details will only be considered where the circumstances justify such action.

9 Crime and Disorder

- 9.1 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 and to store prescribed information.
- 9.2 When addressing crime and disorder the applicant should initially identify any particular issues (having regard to their particular type of premises and / or activities) which are likely to adversely affect the promotion of the crime and disorder licensing objective. The applicant should also list such steps that are required to deal with these identified issues. Both risks and mitigating steps should be included within the applications operating schedule. Where the Metropolitan Police, acting as a responsible authority, makes recommendations in respect of an application relating to the licensing objectives the Licensing Authority would expect the applicant to incorporate these into their operating schedule.
- 9.3 Applicants are recommended to seek advice from Council Officers and the Police as well as taking into account, as appropriate, local planning and transport policies, with tourism, cultural and crime prevention strategies, when preparing their plans and Schedules.
- 9.4 In addition to the requirements for the Licensing Authority to promote the licensing objectives, it also has duties under Section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 to do all it reasonably can to prevent crime and disorder in the Borough and to share prescribed information.
- 9.5 The Licensing Authority, if its discretion is engaged, will consider attaching Conditions to licences and permissions to deter and prevent crime and disorder both inside and immediately outside the premises and these may include Conditions

drawn from the Model Pool of Conditions relating to Crime and Disorder given in the Secretary of State's Guidance.

- 9.6 **CCTV** - The Licensing Authority, if its discretion is engaged, will attach conditions to licences, as appropriate where the conditions reflect local crime prevention strategies, for example the provision of closed circuit television cameras.
- 9.7 **Touting** – This is soliciting for custom. There has been a historic problem with Touting in the borough, mainly in relation to restaurants, and as such in 2006 the Council introduced a byelaw under Section 235 of the Local Government Act 1972 for the good rule and government of the London Borough of Tower Hamlets and for the prevention and suppression of nuisances.

As a result, in relation to premises where there is intelligence that touting is, or has been carried out, the Licensing Authority, where its discretion is engaged, will insert a conditions from our model conditions in appendix 2, to prohibit 'touting':-

- 9.8 **Responsible Drinking** - The Licensing Authority expects alcohol to be promoted in a responsible way in the Borough. This should incorporate relevant industry standards, such as the Portman Group Code of Practice. Where appropriate and proportionate, if its discretion is engaged, the Licensing Authority will apply conditions to ensure responsible drinking. The Licensing Authority also recognises the positive contribution to best practice that "Pubwatch" and other similar schemes can make in promoting the licensing objectives and is committed to working with them.
- 9.9 **Psychoactive Substances, e.g. Nitrous Oxide (NOx)** – Misuse of nitrous oxide is associated with increased antisocial behaviour including littering, noise nuisance and vandalism, all of which are detrimental to residents' quality of life and feelings of safety. Use of nitrous oxide is also a health concern and has other associated harms.

As a result, this Licensing Authority expects Licence Holders to refuse entry to any person seen use or selling NOx as a psychoactive Substance. Refusals should also be entered into Licence Holders refusals logs.

Where its discretion is engaged this Licensing Authority impose conditions to formally require refusal of persons seen selling or using NOx as a psychoactive Substance.

- 9.10 **Drinks spiking** – in reference to the Local Governments Association (LGA) Guidance note on drink spiking prevention, this Licensing Authority expects licence holders and applicants to have a zero-tolerance policy towards drinks spiking. This involves as a minimum ensuring all reports of spiking are acted upon and that all incidents of alleged spiking are recorded and reported to the police. Licence holders and applicants should also be aware of the Metropolitan Police’s definition of drink spiking:

“Spiking is where someone adds drugs or alcohol to another person’s drink without them knowing, it is illegal.”

The LGA has set some recommendations for Licence holder, and we would expect our Licence holders to follow these where appropriate to their venues:

<https://www.local.gov.uk/publications/lga-guidance-note-drink-spiking-prevention#recommended-actions-for-licensed-premises->

Applicants for new and variations of exiting licences as well as those submitting TENs are expected to work with the Metropolitan Police in order to consider actions needed to prevent drinks spiking in their venues/events

Where its discretion is engaged this Licensing Authority will impose conditions on licences aimed at preventing drinks spiking, specifically any recommended by the metropolitan police.

- 9.11 **Welfare and Vulnerability** – This Licensing Authority believes that all Licensed venues should train their staff in Welfare and Vulnerability Engagement (WAVE). As of 2023 this Licensing Authority in partnership with the Metropolitan Police and the London Borough of Hackney is delivering monthly WAVE training sessions for Licensed venues within both Tower Hamlets and Hackney. As a result, we expect that all Licensed venues who sell alcohol for consumption on their premises should train their staff in WAVE and adopt Ask for Angela or similar initiatives aimed at assisting vulnerability within alcohol licensed venues.

- 9.12 **Sexual Harassment in the Night Time Economy** – sadly this is still an issues for women working in and visiting licensed venues in London. As a result, this Licensing Authority encourages Licensed venues to sign up to the Mayor of London’s Women’s Night Safety Charter:

<https://www.london.gov.uk/programmes-strategies/arts-and-culture/24-hour-london/womens-night-safety-charter>

As well as the Women's Night Safety Charter we would encourage applicants and licence holders to discuss applications with the Council's Violence Against Women and Girls Service, who can provide advice and training to venues on preventing misogyny within licensed premises.

Lastly, we expect Licence Holders to take a zero-tolerance approach to misogyny within their venues where this is towards customers or employees. We would expect licence holders to refuse to serve persons who commit acts of sexual harassment, even in the first instance, and report the matter to the Metropolitan Police.

9.13 **Party Boats** – An increasing number of complaints have been received in London Boroughs that border the River Thames in relation to “Party Boats”, which use the River. In respect of this we would encourage applicants for Party Boats to consider adopting the conditions listed in our Model Conditions in Appendix 3, where appropriate to promote the Licensing Objective of Prevention of Crime and Disorder. Furthermore, where its discretion is engaged, this Licensing Authority may add one or more of the boat conditions from our Model Conditions.

9.14 **Criminal Activity** - There is certain criminal activity that may arise in connection with licensed premises which the Licensing Authority will treat particularly seriously. These are the use of the licensed premises:

- for the sale and distribution of drugs controlled under the Misuse of Drugs Act 1971 and the laundering of the proceeds of drugs crime;
- for the sale and distribution of illegal firearms;
- for the evasion of copyright in respect of pirated or unlicensed films and music, which does considerable damage to the industries affected;
- for the illegal purchase and consumption of alcohol by minors which impacts on the health, educational attainment, employment prospects and propensity for crime of young people;
- for prostitution or the sale of unlawful pornography;
- by organised groups of paedophiles to groom children;
- as the base for the organisation of criminal activity, particularly by gangs;
- for the organisation of racist activity or the promotion of racist attacks;
- for employing a person who is disqualified from that work by reason of their immigration status in the UK;
- for unlawful gambling; and
- for the sale or storage of smuggled tobacco and alcohol.

The Secretary State's Guidance states that it is envisaged that licensing authorities, the police, the Home Office (Immigration Enforcement) and other law enforcement agencies, which are responsible authorities, will use the review procedures effectively to deter such activities and crime. Where reviews arise and this Licensing Authority determines that the crime prevention objective is being undermined through the premises being used to further crimes, it is expected that revocation of the licence, even in the first instance, should be seriously considered.

- 9.15 The Licensing Authority is mindful of the Secretary of State's Guidance "Reviews arising in connection with crime".
- 9.16 From 1 April 2017, businesses which sell alcohol (for example, retailers of alcohol and trade buyers) will need to ensure that the UK wholesalers that they buy alcohol from have been approved by HMRC under the Alcohol Wholesaler Registration Scheme (AWRS). They will need to check their wholesalers Unique Registration Number (URN) against the HMRC online database which will be available from April 2017. This is an ongoing obligation and if a business is found to have bought alcohol from an unapproved wholesaler, they may be liable to a penalty or could even face criminal prosecution and their alcohol stock may be seized. Any trader who buys alcohol from a wholesaler for onward sale to the general public (known as a 'trade buyer') does not need to register unless they sell alcohol to other businesses. Examples of trade buyers would be pubs, clubs, restaurants, cafes, retailers, and hotels. However, they will need to check that the wholesaler they purchase alcohol from is registered with HMRC. Further information may be found at: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/the-alcohol-wholesaler-registration-scheme-awrs>.
- 9.17 **Smuggled Goods** – The Licensing Authority will exercise its discretion to add conditions to licence where appropriate and proportionate to reduce the risk of receiving smuggled goods and encourage traceability.
- 9.18 **Olympic Park (Football Ground)** – Premises where Police intelligence shows that football supporters congregate within the borough should consider adding the Olympic Park – Football Ground conditions in our Model Conditions in appendix 3.

10 Public Safety

- 10.1 The 2003 Act covers a wide range of premises that require a licence, and so such premises present a mixture of risks to users and should be constructed or adapted and operated so as to acknowledge and safeguard occupants against these risks.

- 10.2 The Licensing Authority will expect Operating Schedules to satisfactorily address these issues and applicants are advised to seek advice from the Council's Environmental Health (Health & Safety) Officers and the London Fire Brigade before preparing their plans and Schedules.
- 10.3 Where an applicant identifies an issue in regard to public safety (including fire safety) which is not covered by existing legislation, the applicant should identify in their operating schedule the steps that will be taken to ensure public safety. This needs to take into account any unique characteristics that arise in connection with the licensable activity, any requirements that are specific to the premises.
- 10.4 One of the Council's Community Safety Partnership Priorities is tackling violence against women and girls. As a result the Licensing Authority expects Licence holders to take a proactive approach to customer safety including the following:
- Making provisions to ensure that customers safely leave their premises, for example providing information on licensed taxi companies, adequate lighting outside the premises,
 - Training of staff in spotting signs of harassment, and how to intervene where safe and appropriate to do so, and/or reporting such harassment to management/emergency services.
- The Licensing Authority may be able to sign post Licence Holders in regard to local/national safeguarding schemes which may assist with the above.
- 10.5 The Licensing Authority, where its discretion is engaged, will consider attaching proportionate and appropriate Conditions to licences and permissions to promote safety, and these may include Conditions drawn from a the Model Pool of Conditions found in the Secretary of States Guidance.
- 10.6 The Licensing Authority will impose conditions that relate to its licensing objectives, and in a way that is proportionate to the individual circumstances of the premises seeking a licence.
- 10.7 Martyn's Law – This will place a requirement on those responsible for certain locations/premises to consider the threat from terrorism and implement appropriate and proportionate mitigation measures, see link below. Numerous licensed premises within the borough may fall within the scope of this legislation. The law is likely to come into force in 2024/25, or sooner. Thus, Licence holders and applicants should consider the threat from terrorism and implement appropriate and proportionate mitigation measures. In particular they should consider completing Police ACT Training: <https://ct.protectuk.police.uk/>

<https://www.protectuk.police.uk/news-views/martyns-law-what-you-need-know>

11 Prevention of Public Nuisance

- 11.1 Licensed premises, especially those operating late at night and in the early hours of the morning, can cause a range of nuisances impacting on people living, working or sleeping in the vicinity of the premises.
- 11.2 Like many London boroughs, Tower Hamlets has many areas of the borough where businesses and residents are “cheek by jowl” with each other. Thus, the correct balance needs to be adopted ensuring residents are not unduly disturbed by licensed premises, whilst ensuring this does not stifle growth in the licence trade.
- 11.3 Though all licensed premises must promote the licensing objectives, and thus actively try to prevent public nuisance being caused by their licensable activities, there are some factors that this Licensing Authority would expect to applicants to consider and where appropriate address in their operating schedule. These are:
- a) Music/performances
Measures to reduce impact of noise on residents
 - b) Queue management
Measure to prevent obstruct access to properties, pavements. Measure to reduce the impact of people noise on residents
 - c) Ingress and Egress
Measure to prevent people noise during ingress and egress
 - d) Use of outside areas (see 11.7 below)
 - e) Deliveries, particularly pick-ups by vehicles
Measures to prevent noise/fumes from engines, drivers (including smoking),
 - f) Bottle disposal
Done at reasonable time to prevent impact on residents e.g. between 8am and 8pm
 - g) Litter
Measures to prevent littering around the venue from patrons
- 11.4 The Licensing Authority appreciates that it would not be necessary or appropriate for all applications to have measures to prevent the above issues. Nevertheless, we will take a strong view on applications for licences that are in close proximity to residential premises, and whose intended use has a higher likelihood of causing public nuisance. This also includes those applications in areas covered by a Cumulative Impact Assessment (CIA). Especially where the applications falls

outside the scope of any exceptions to such CIAs.

- 11.5 The Licensing Authority, where its discretion is engaged, will consider, where appropriate, attaching conditions to licences and permissions to prevent the problems identified listed above, or any other conditions it considered appropriate and proportionate to promote the licensing condition of prevention of public nuisance.
- 11.6 **Street Furniture** – placing of street furniture, which includes advertising boards, on the highway can cause a public nuisance by way of obstruction or encourage consumption of alcohol on an unlicensed area. The Licensing Authority expects applicants to have ensured that they fully comply with the Council's rules relating to authorisation of obstructions on the highway, and that the required authorisations are obtained prior to submitting a licence application. Where proportionate and appropriate, and its discretion is engaged, the Licensing Authority will impose conditions in relation to street furniture, including on private land.
- 11.7 **Fly Posting** – The Council has experienced problems with "fly posting" in relation to venues that offer entertainment. Fly posting is the unauthorised posting of posters / advertisements etc. Where it considers it proportionate and appropriate, and its discretion is engaged, the Licensing Authority will attach conditions relating to the control of fly posting to ensure that venues clearly prohibit all fly posting in their contract terms with others and they effectively enforce this control.
- 11.8 **Beer Gardens and outside areas** – since the ending of the restrictions imposed during the Coronavirus pandemic, we have seen an increase in the use of outside areas. This has also been encouraged by Government under the Business and Planning Act 2020. We want to strike the right balance between allowing businesses to thrive whilst still protecting residents of the borough from being unduly disturbed by the night time economy. Hence, we would encourage applicants to address this concern in their operating schedule by detailing what mitigating measures they intend to adopt to reduce any disturbance the use of the outside area is likely to have on neighbouring residents. Such measures could include:
- limiting the amount of patrons permitted in the outside area, and/or,
 - restricting the use of areas after a certain time,
 - ceasing its use after a certain time.

Where disturbance of residents from outside areas is likely, and where its discretion is engaged, this Licensing Authority may add conditions limiting the numbers of persons permitted to use any outside areas, and/or seek to cease the use of any outside areas after 21:00 hours.

- 11.9 **Party Boats** – An increasing number of complaints have been received in London Boroughs that border the River Thames in relation to “Party Boats”, which use the River. In respect of this we would encourage applicants for Party Boats to consider adopting the “Boat” conditions, listed in our Model Conditions in Appendix 3, where appropriate to promote the Licensing Objective of Prevention of Public Nuisance. Furthermore, where disturbance of residence from these party boats is likely, and where its discretion is engaged, this Licensing Authority may add one or more of the boat conditions from our Model Conditions.

12 Prevention of Harm to Children

- 12.1 The wide range of premises that require licensing means that children can be expected to visit many of these, often on their own, for food and/or entertainment. The protection of children from harm includes the protection of children from moral, psychological and physical harm. This includes not only protecting children from the harms associated directly with alcohol consumption but also wider harms such as exposure to strong language and sexual expletives (for example, in the context of exposure to certain films or adult entertainment). Home Office Guidance also expects Licensing authorities to consider the need to protect children from sexual exploitation when undertaking licensing functions.
- 12.2 Tackling Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) is a key target both locally and nationally as such the Licensing Authority expects Licence Holders to:
- Understand that there are criminal offences in relation to sexual exploitation of a child,
 - Ensure that they and their employees have a basic awareness of the signs of CSE and how to report it;
 - Report any concerns to the appropriate authorities or to the Licensing Authority can advise them of the appropriate authority to report concerns to.
- 12.3 Applicants are to consult with the Responsible Authority designated for Child Protection listed in Appendix 1 - List of Responsible Authorities of this who this Licensing Authority recognises to be competent body to advise on the protection of children from harm.
- 12.4 The Act does not prohibit children from having access to any licensed premises; the Council recognises that limitations may have to be considered where it appears necessary to protect children from harm.

12.5 The Licensing Authority will judge the merits of each separate application before deciding whether to impose conditions limiting the access of children to individual premises. The following are examples of premises that will raise concern:-

- Where there have been convictions, Fixed Penalty Notices (FPNs) or formal cautions for serving alcohol to minors or with a reputation for underage drinking
- With a known association with drug taking or dealing
- Where there is a strong element of gambling on the premises
- Where entertainment of an adult or sexual nature is provided
- Where irresponsible drinking is encouraged or permitted.

12.6 Where its discretion is engaged, the Licensing Authority will consider any of the following options when dealing with a licence application where limiting the access of children is considered necessary to prevent harm to children:

- Limitations on the hours when children may be present,
- Limitations on ages below 18,
- Limitations or exclusion when certain activities are taking place,
- Requirements for an accompanying adult,
- Full exclusion of people under 18 from the premises when any licensable activities are taking place.

12.7 No conditions will be imposed requiring that children must be admitted to any premises and, where no limitation is imposed, this will be left to the discretion of the individual licensee.

12.8 The Act details several offences designed to protect children in licensed premises and the Licensing Authority will work closely with the police to ensure the appropriate enforcement of the law, especially relating to the sale and supply of alcohol to children.

- 12.9 All licence holders will be expected to comply the Portman Group Code of Practice, and in particular the Retailer Alert Bulletin by which the Portman Group informs licensed retailers, which products have been found to be in breach of the code and should be removed from sale.
- 12.10 The Licensing Authority expects all licensed suppliers of alcohol to have robust measures, effectively managed and monitored, in place to ensure that minors are fully protected from harm. This will require operating plans to specify these measures and management controls taking into account paragraph 10.1 and 10.2 above. Where appropriate a written childcare policy should be available and be incorporated in the induction of staff.
- 12.11 The Licensing Authority will take appropriate and proportionate action where there are serious concerns in relation to the safeguarding of children in connection with a licensed premises. This may include consideration of applying for a review of the licence where there is significant evidence of undermining the licensing objective of the protection of children from harm.
- 12.12 The sale of alcohol to a minor is a criminal offence and Trading Standards will conduct appropriate test purchasing exercises and will take account of any complaints and intelligence received. The Act permits the use of children under the age of 18 to undertake test purchases.
- 12.13 Where its discretion is engaged this Licensing Authority will consider refusal/revocation in the first instance where test purchases have found venues selling age restricted products to children.
- 12.14 Where there are age restrictions imposed by the Act on the licensable activities in respect of children below a certain age, then the licensee will be required to demonstrate that they have age verification systems in place. This Licensing Authority believes that that Licensed Premises should have age verification policies to require individuals who appear to the person serving alcohol to be under the age of 25 years of age to produce on request appropriate identification. This is commonly referred to as the “Challenge 25 Scheme”. The rationale for this is because it can often be difficult to judge how old teenagers are and “Challenge 25 age verification system” would provide licensed premises with margin of error to prevent underage sales. Thus Challenge 25 can help to empower staff to challenge customers where there is doubt about their age. In turn this is likely to reduce the risk of the owner, or the seller of the alcohol, committing an offence.

- 12.15 Training in age verification systems should be given to all persons who might be in a position to serve or refuse the sale of alcohol to children. The training should include a basic understanding of the law, seeking proof of age, verifying the authenticity of proof of age cards and handling and recording refusals.
- 12.16 Where proportionate and appropriate, and its discretion is engaged, the Licensing Authority will impose “Challenge 25” conditions from our model conditions in appendix 3.
- 12.17 Where proportionate and appropriate, and its discretion is engaged, the Licensing Authority will impose the “Online Deliveries” conditions from model conditions in appendix 3 to ensure adequate age verification systems.

13 Access to Cinemas

- 13.1 Films cover a vast range of subjects, some of which deal with adult themes and / or contain, for example, scenes of horror or violence that may be considered unsuitable for children within certain age groups.
- 13.2 In order to prevent children from seeing such films, the Licensing Authority will impose conditions requiring licensees to restrict children from viewing age restricted films classified according to the recommendations of the BBFC.

14 Children and Public Entertainment

- 14.1 Many children go to see and / or take part in an entertainment arranged substantially for them. Consequently, additional arrangements are required to safeguard them at such times.
- 14.2 Where 12.1 applies, and its discretion is engaged, the Licensing Authority will require the following arrangements in order to control their access and egress and to assure their safety: -
- An adult member of staff to be stationed in the vicinity of each of the exits from any level, subject to there being a minimum of one member of staff per 50 children or part thereof,
 - No child unless accompanied by an adult to be permitted in the front row of any balcony,
 - No standing to be permitted in any part of the auditorium during the

Performance.

- 14.3 Where children are taking part in any regulated entertainment, and its discretion is engaged, the Licensing Authority will require the operating schedule to clearly state the steps taken to assure their safety.
- 14.4 Where its authority is engaged, the Licensing Authority will consider attaching conditions to licences and permissions to prevent harm to children, and these may include conditions drawn from the Model Pool of. Conditions that can be found in the Secretary of State's Guidance.

15 Health Considerations of Licensing

- 15.1 Excess alcohol consumption can lead to a wide range of personal health related harms which are well documented in both the Alcohol Joint Strategic Needs Assessment factsheet and Tower Hamlets Substance Misuse Strategy. The short-term negative health effects of hazardous drinking can include impaired senses, mood or personality changes, loss of consciousness and an increased risk of injury and accidents, while regular alcohol consumption can lead to heart disease, stroke, liver disease, stomach damage and certain types of cancer. Although these are important personal health related harms, they, by and large, fall outside the scope of the four licensing objectives as defined in the Licensing Act.
- 15.2 However, the consequences of drinking go far beyond the individual drinker's health and well-being. They include harm to the unborn fetus, acts of drunken violence, vandalism, sexual assault and child abuse, and a huge health burden carried by both the NHS and friends and family who care for those damaged by alcohol. Many of these affects are relevant to the licensing regime.
- 15.3 The short-term negative health effects of harmful drinking can include impaired senses, mood or personality changes, loss of consciousness and an increased risk of injury and accidents.

16 Licensing Hours

- 16.1 This Part of the Policy Statement details the Licensing Authority's approach to licensing hours. It states the reasons for the policy and identifies the issues the Licensing Authority will take into account when considering applications during the framework hours. This only applies where the Licensing Authority's is engaged.
- 16.2 The policy set out in this Part applies to applications for:-
 - a new premises licence;

- a new club premises certificate;
- variation of a converted premises licence;
- variation of an existing premises licence;
- variation of a converted club registration certificate; and
- variation of an existing club premises certificate where relevant representations are made.

16.3 The policies set out in this Part may, depending on the circumstances of the application, apply to applications for a provisional statement.

16.4 Any condition setting out the hours of premises refers to the hours during which alcohol may be sold or supplied, or (as appropriate) the hours during which other licensable activities may take place pursuant to the premises licence or club premises certificate. In attaching conditions on hours, the Licensing Authority will generally require that customers should not be allowed to remain on the premises later than half an hour (30 minutes) after the cessation of licensable activities.

16.5 Tower Hamlets has a number of licensed venues that already have extended licensing hours. It also borders other London councils that have high concentrations of licensed premises including premises with extended licensing hours.

16.6 The Licensing Authority considers that the possibility of disturbance to residents late at night and in the early hours of the morning, and the effect that any such disturbance may have, is a proper matter for it to consider when addressing the hours during which licensable activities may be undertaken.

16.7 The Licensing Authority is concerned to ensure that extended licensing hours do not result in alcohol-related antisocial behaviour persisting into the night and early hours of the morning. For these reasons, applications to carry on licensable activities at any time outside the framework hours will be considered on their own merits with particular regard to the matters set out in the Policy section below.

16.8 The Licensing Authority has had regard to the Guidance to the Act when determining this policy. The end times set out in the policy are not (and should not be regarded as) the 'usual' or 'normal' terminal hour for licensable activities in the Borough. Instead, the 'framework hours' serve to identify cases where the Licensing Authority will pay particular regard to the likely effect on the local neighbourhood of carrying out the proposed licensable activities during the hours applied for. Applications for hours up to the end of the Framework Hours will not automatically be granted. This policy will be applied only where relevant representations are made. Each case will be considered on its merits.

- Sunday – 06:00 hours to 22:30 hours

- Monday to Thursday – 06:00 hours to 23:30 hours
- Friday and Saturday – 06:00 hours to 00:00 hours (midnight)

Applications in respect of premises licences and club premises certificates to authorise licensable activities outside the framework hours, and in respect of which relevant representations are made, will be decided on their own merits and with particular regard to the following.

- a) The location of the premises and the general character of the area in which the premises are situated. (i.e., does the area include residential or business premises likely to be adversely affected).
- b) The proposed hours during which licensable activities will be take place and the proposed hours during which customers will be permitted to remain on the premises.
- c) The adequacy of the applicant's proposals to address the issues of the prevention of crime and disorder **and** the prevention of public nuisance.
- d) Where the premises have been previously licensed, the past operation of the premises.
- e) Whether customers have access to public transport when arriving at or leaving the premises at night time and in the early hours of the morning.
- f) The proximity of the premises to other licensed premises in the vicinity and the hours of those other premises.

16.9 Applicants who apply for authorisation to carry on licensable activities, throughout the entirety of the hours outside the framework hours, when they do not intend to operate at these times run a risk that Responsible Authorities and interested parties may be more inclined, than they might otherwise be, to make relevant representations about the application.

Although this policy applies to all licensable activities, the Licensing Authority will have regard to the proposed use of the premises when considering applications to carry on licensable activities outside the framework hours. Subject to any relevant representations that may be made to the contrary in individual cases, premises where the following licensable activities are authorised are not considered to make a significant contribution to the problems of late-night antisocial behaviour, and as such these premises will generally have greater freedom to operate outside the framework hours. These premises are:-

- Theatres,
- Cinemas,

- Premises with a club premises certificate.

16.10 In addition, and in relation to all applications, whatever the hours applied for where its discretion is engaged, the Licensing Authority will generally deal with the issue of licensing hours having due regard to the individual merits of each application. However, consideration will be given to imposing stricter conditions in respect of noise control where premises are situated close to local residents.

16.11 Where a negative impact is likely on local residents or businesses it is expected that the applicants' operating schedule will describe how this impact will be minimised.

17 Shops, Stores and Supermarkets

17.1 The Licensing Authority will generally licence shops, stores and supermarkets to sell alcohol for consumption off the premises at any times they are open for shopping.

17.2 However, where the Licensing Authority's discretion is engaged, it may consider restricting those hours in order to promote the licensing objectives. For example, where representations provide evidence of crime and disorder, or public nuisance linked to the premises.

17.3 **Psychoactive Substances, e.g. Nitrous Oxide (NOx)** – Misuse of nitrous oxide is associated with increased antisocial behaviour including littering, noise nuisance and vandalism, all of which are detrimental to residents' quality of life and feelings of safety. Use of nitrous oxide is also a health concern and has other associated harms.

17.4 Where its discretion is engaged this Licensing Authority will consider refusal/revocation in the first instance where there is evidence that a shop, supermarket, or store is or has been selling Psychoactive Substances.

18 Integrating Strategies and Avoiding Duplication

18.1 The Council's licensing function relates, in broad terms to a number of other matters in particular;

- Local crime prevention,
- Planning,
- Transport,
- Tourism,
- Cultural strategies,

- The night time economy.
- 18.2 The Licensing Authority will set up multi-disciplinary working groups to ensure proper integration of local crime prevention, planning, transport, tourism, cultural and night time economy strategies.
- 18.3 The Licensing Authority will arrange for protocols with the Borough Police to enable them to report to the Committee responsible for transport matters on the need for the swift and safe dispersal of people from relevant venues in the Borough.
- 18.4 Arrangements will be made for the Licensing Committees to receive reports on the following matters to ensure these are reflected in their decisions:
- The needs of the local tourist economy and cultural strategy for the Borough, and
 - The employment situation in the Borough and the need for investment and employment where appropriate,
 - The night time economy, its economic contribution to the Borough and the Council's strategy for its development and management. As the Council develops its policy towards the night time economy, through Community Plans or Town Centre Plans and Core Strategies, otherwise the Licensing Policy will be reviewed as necessary.
- 18.5 Licensing and Planning are two separate regimes. As a matter of law the Licensing Authority could not refuse an application because of the absence of appropriate planning consent. However, the Licensing Authority would generally expect applicants to have planning and other permissions required for lawful operation of the premises in place at the time of the licensing application.
- 18.6 The planning and licensing regimes involve consideration of different (albeit related) matters. For instance, licensing considers public nuisance whereas planning considers amenity. As such licensing applications should not be a re-run of the planning application and should not cut across decisions taken by the local authority planning committee or following appeals against decisions taken by that committee. Licensing Committees are not bound by decisions made by a planning committee, and vice versa.
- 18.7 The granting by the Licensing Committee of any variation of a licence which involves a material alteration to a building would not relieve the applicant of the need to apply for planning permission or building control where appropriate.
- 18.8 There are also circumstances when as a condition of planning permission; a terminal hour has been set for the use of premises for commercial purposes. Where these hours are different to the licensing hours, the applicant must observe the

earlier closing time. Premises operating in breach of their planning permission would be liable to prosecution under planning law.

- 18.9 Applicants for new premise or club licences or variations of them are advised to consult the London Borough of Tower Hamlets' Planning Authority about any planning restrictions which may apply to their premises. The Planning website is
- 18.10 The responsible authorities are committed to avoid duplication with other regulatory regimes and the control measures contained in any conditions which are provided for in other legislation. This Policy does not intend to duplicate existing legislation and regulatory regimes that are already places obligations on employers and operators.
- 18.11 The power for licensing authorities to introduce an EMRO is specified in sections 172A to 172E of the 2003 Act which was amended by Section 119 of the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011. These provisions came into force on 31st October 2012.
- 18.12 Regulations prescribing the requirements in relation to the process for making an early morning restriction order (EMRO) were brought in force on 31st October 2012.
- 18.13 Guidance has been introduced in relation to:
- the EMRO process
 - the evidence base
 - introducing an EMRO
 - advertising an EMRO
 - dealing with representations
 - hearings
 - implementation
 - limitations
 - enforcement
- 18.14 The legislation gives licensing authorities discretion to restrict sales of alcohol by introducing an EMRO to restrict the sale or supply of alcohol to tackle high levels of alcohol related crime and disorder, nuisance and anti-social behaviour.
- 18.15 The order may be applied to the whole or part of the licensing authority area and if relevant on specific days and at specific times. The licensing authority must be satisfied that such an order would be appropriate to promote the licensing objectives.
- 18.16 The only exemptions relating to EMROs are New Year's Eve and the provision of

alcohol to residents in premises with overnight accommodation by means of mini bars and room service.

- 18.17 The decision to implement an EMRO should be evidence based and licensing authorities may wish to outline in the policy the grounds which they will take into consideration when considering implementation of an EMRO. This should include consideration of the potential burden imposed as well as the potential benefits. The Licensing Authority reserves the right to introduce an EMRO if it so desires and consultation and evidence from responsible authorities demonstrates the need.
- 18.18 The function of making, varying or revoking an EMRO is specifically excluded from the statutory delegation of functions to the Licensing Committee.

19 Late Night Levy

- 19.1 Following formal consultation in 2017 the Council introduced a Late Night Levy within the borough on 1st January 2018, with the levied hours being midnight to 6am (00:00 to 06:00 hours). The levy is a discretionary power, which this Council has adopted.
- 19.2 The legislative provisions relating to the late night levy are not part of the Licensing Act 2003 but are contained in the following legislation:
- Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011, Chapter 2 of Part 2,
 - The Late Night Levy (Application and Administration) Regulations 2012,
 - The Late Night Levy (Expenses, Exemptions and Reductions) Regulations 2012.
- 19.3 The purpose of the levy is to assist local authorities and the police to manage and improve the night time economy. The money raised by the levy can be used for a range of activities and can be given to other agencies where they can assist in the reduction of crime and disorder, promotion of public safety, reduction or prevention of public nuisance, and cleaning of highways or land in the Borough.
- 19.4 The Late Night Levy will be applied in accordance with this Policy, having regard to the governing legislation and Home Office Guidance issued on 24th March 2015 in relation to the Late Night Levy (or any subsequent guidance).
- 19.5 From 1st January 2018 holders of premises licences or club premises certificates that are authorised by their licence for the sale/supply of alcohol (on and/or off sales) between the levied hours (00:00 to 06:00 hours) must pay the levy. This will apply whether the hours detailed in such licences for the sale/supply of alcohol are used or not.

For example, where a licence permits the sale/supply of alcohol until 02:00 hours

(i.e. within the levied hours), however the premises closes regularly at 23:30 hours they will still be liable to pay the levy unless eligible for an exemption, see list of exemptions below.

- 19.6 The amount of the levy is set by the UK Government and is a yearly amount between £299 and £4,440 depending on the rateable value of the premises and the their actual use. See table below:

Rateable Value Bands (based on the existing fee bands)	A No rateable value to £4,300	B £4,301 to £33,000	C £33,001 to £87,000	D £87,001 to £125,000	E £125,001 and above	D x 2 Multiplier applies to premises in category D that primarily or exclusively sell alcohol	E x 3 Multiplier applies to premises in category E that primarily or exclusively sell alcohol
Levy Charges	£299	£768	£1,259	£1,365	£1,493	£2,730	£4,440

- 19.7 The Licensing Authority will collect the levy from those premises liable to pay it at the same time as the Premises Licence or Club Premises Certificate annual fee.
- 19.8 Failure to pay the levy will result in suspension of Licence/Certificate until the levy has been paid, and any outstanding money owed can be recovered as a civil deb.
- 19.9 Exemptions from the Levy

The following permitted categories of premises are exempt from paying the levy

- a) Premises with overnight accommodation;
this exemption does not apply if alcohol is served during the late night supply period to members of the public who are not staying overnight,
- b) Theatres and cinemas;
this exemption only applies if alcohol is served during the late night supply period only for consumption on the premises to ticket holders, participants in the production, or invited guests to private events; they must be bona-fide theatres or cinemas and the sale of alcohol must not be their primary purpose,
- c) Bingo Halls;
these premises must have licenses under the Gambling Act 2005 and the playing of bingo must be the primary activity,
- d) Community Amateur Sports Clubs;

these must be clubs registered as Community Amateur Sports Clubs that are entitled to various tax concessions including relief from business rates,

e) Community premises;
these must be premises that form part of the church hall, chapel hall, village hall, parish hall, community hall or other similar buildings,

f) New Year's Eve Premises only,
this relates to premises which are authorised to sell alcohol between midnight and 6am, ONLY applies on New Year's Day.

19.10 No exemptions will be granted for the following:

a) Country Village Pubs – this has been decided because it is not relevant to a London Borough such as Tower Hamlets as the definition is pubs that are solely designated in rural settlements with a population less than 3000.

b) Business Improvement Districts (BIDs) - BIDs are district led partnerships created through ballots process via businesses within the district and operate via a levy charge. There are currently none within the borough.

19.11 Reductions

A 30% reduction of the levy will be given to premises who have achieved accreditation in Best Bar None (BBN) Scheme.

No reduction will be given to premises subject to small business rates relief. This has been decided because these premises receive business rates relief to assist in their viability; however, if they operate in the late night period there is no reason to suggest that they are less likely than similar businesses to contribute to the detrimental effects of the late night economy. Furthermore, due to their rateable value, they are more likely to be liable to the lower levy amounts.

19.12 Temporary Event Notices (TENs)

The levy does not apply to Temporary Event Notifications (TENs).

20 Cumulative Effect

- 20.1 The Licensing Authority will not take 'need' into account when considering an application (i.e. commercial demand), as this is not a licensing objective. However, it recognises that the cumulative impact of the number, type and density of licensed premises in a given area, may lead to serious problems of nuisance and disorder outside and some distance from the premises.
- 20.2 Representations may be received from a responsible authority / other persons that an area has become saturated with premises, which has made it a focal point for large groups of people to gather and circulate away from the licensed premises themselves, creating exceptional problems of disorder and nuisance over and above the impact from the individual premises.
- 20.3 In these circumstances, the Licensing Authority 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 licences because the area is saturated with licensed premises and the granting of any more would undermine one or more of the licensing objectives.
- 20.4 The Licensing Authority will take the following steps when considering whether to adopt a special saturation policy:-
- identification of serious and chronic concern from a responsible authority or representatives of residents about nuisance and disorder,
 - where it can be demonstrated that disorder and nuisance is arising as a result of customers from licensed premises, identifying the area from which problems are arising and the boundaries of that area,
 - assessing the causes,
 - adopting a policy about future licence applications from that area.
- 20.5 The Licensing Authority will not adopt a "cumulative impact" policy in relation to a particular area without having consulted individuals and organisations listed in Section 5(3) of the Licensing Act (i.e. those who have to be consulted about this policy). It will also have ensured that there is consultation with local residents.
- 20.6 The Licensing Authority will consider representations based on the impact on the promotion of the licensing objectives in the Borough generally of the grant of the particular application in front of them.
- 20.7 However, the onus would be on the objectors to provide evidence to back up any assertion that the addition of the premises in question would produce the

cumulative impact claimed, taking into account that the impact will be different for premises with different styles and characteristics.

20.8 The Licensing Authority will review any special saturation policies every three years to see whether they have had the effect intended, and whether they are still required.

20.9 The Licensing Authority will not use such policies solely:-

- as the grounds for removing a licence when representations are received about problems with existing licensed premises, or,
- to refuse modifications to a 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,
- to impose any form of quota.

20.10 The Licensing Authority recognises that there is a wide diversity of premises requiring a licence and will have full regard to the differing impact these will have on the local community.

20.11 It therefore also recognises that, within this policy, it may be able to approve licences that are unlikely to add significantly to the saturation and will consider the circumstances of each individual application.

21 Special Cumulative Impact Policy for the Brick Lane and Bethnal Green Area

21.1 The Licensing Authority's Special Cumulative Impact Policy for Brick Lane and Bethnal Green Areas can be found in appendix 5.

22 Sexual Entertainment

22.1 The Licensing Authority has a separate policy in relation to Sexual Entertainment Venues (SEVs), which can be found in Appendix 4.

23 Late Night Refreshments and Deregulation Act 2015

- 23.1 Paragraph 2A of Schedule 2 to the 2003 Act (as inserted by the Deregulation Act 2015) gives licensing authorities powers to exempt premises, in certain circumstances, from the requirement to have a licence to provide late night refreshment. Licensing authorities can choose to apply an exemption specifically where they think it will be helpful to businesses and where there are no problems with anti-social behaviour, disorder associated with the night time economy, or illegal working in licensed premises.
- 23.2 The Licensing Authority can only exempt types of premises set out in the regulations. These are:
- Motorway service areas;
 - petrol stations;
 - local authority premises (except domestic premises) unless there is an event taking place at which more than 500 people are present;
 - schools (except domestic premises) unless there is an event taking place at which more than 500 people are present;
 - hospitals (except domestic premises);
 - community premises (church, chapel, village, parish or community hall or other similar building) unless there is an event taking place at which more than 500 people are present;
 - licensed premises authorised to sell by retail alcohol for consumption on the premises between the hours of 23.00 and 05.00.
- 23.3 This Licensing Authority has decided it is not appropriate for the reasons of promotion of the licensing objectives to use the exemptions, and it requires all late night refreshment providers to be licensed.

24 Live Music, Dancing and Theatre

- 24.1 In its role of implementing local authority cultural strategies, the Licensing Authority recognises the desirability of encouraging and promoting live music, dance, theatre and festivals for the wider cultural benefit of the community, particularly for children. This broad strategy includes all forms of licensable live entertainment. The Licensing Authority recognises that a rich cultural provision has a positive role in community cohesion.
- 24.2 When considering applications for such events and the imposition of conditions on licences or certificates, the Licensing Authority will carefully balance these cultural needs with the necessity of promoting the licensing objectives.
- 24.3 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. The Licensing Authority will regulate live performances on a risk assessed basis and we will be mindful of the licensing objectives and the need to ensure we are not committing disproportionate costs to regulation.

24.4 The Live Music Act came into force on 1st October 2012 and is designed to encourage more performances of 'live' music. The Act:

- i. Removes the licensing requirement for unamplified live music taking place between 8am and 11pm in all venues. This is subject to the right of a licensing authority to impose conditions about live music following a review of a premises licence where the premises are authorised to supply alcohol for consumption on the premises.
- ii. Removes the licensing requirement for amplified live music taking place between 8am and 11pm before audiences of no more than 500 persons on premises authorised to supply alcohol for consumption on the premises. This is subject to the right of a licensing authority to impose conditions about live music following a review of a premises licence.
- iii. Removes the licensing requirement for amplified live music taking place between 8am and 11pm before audiences of no more than 500 persons in workplaces (but not necessarily for workers) not otherwise licensed under the 2003 Act (or licensed only for the provision of late night refreshment).
- iv. Removes the licensing requirement for the provision of entertainment facilities and widens the licensing exemption for live music integral to a performance of Morris dancing or dancing of a similar type, so that the exemption applies to live or recorded music instead of unamplified live music.

25 Risk Assessments

- 25.1 When the Licensing Authority's discretion is engaged it expects applicants to have regard to the advice of the Metropolitan Police in relation to the licensing objective of the prevention of crime and disorder. Therefore, it recommends for significant events (please see note below for definition), a comprehensive risk assessment is undertaken by premises licence holders to ensure that crime and disorder and public safety matters are identified and addressed. Completing of such a risk assessment should include checking previous venues where the artists / performers / promoters have performed recently to see if there have been any issues, and any social media sites to check for any potential problems such as a young audience. The risk assessment should consider the provision and numbers of SIA security, search, ejection policy and entry and egress plans. Such risk assessments should be written down, stored for a year, and made available to Responsible authorities upon request. Accordingly, for premises that wish to stage promotions, or events (as defined below) the Licensing Authority expects that applicants carry out the Risk Assessment and debrief processes and when relevant include in their Operating Schedule.
- 25.2 Licence Holders should discuss their Risk assessments with Metropolitan Police at least 14 days prior to the proposed event.
- 25.3 The additional event/promotion specific risk assessment is for where the venues have events/promotions with different artistes or DJs than their usual DJ/Artistes.
- 25.4 The Premises Licence Conditions proposed by can be recommended as part of a pool of model conditions in appendix 3. They will not be imposed on any licence as a condition, unless as suggested in the applicants operating schedules, or the licensing authority is engaged, i.e., where relevant representations for any application are received. If conditions are to be applied, they will have to be relevant and proportionate to the matters raised in representations.
- 25.5 Definition of a 'Significant Event':
A significant event will be deemed to be: any occasion in a premises licensed under the provisions of the Licensing Act 2003, where there will be a live performer(s) – meaning musicians, DJs, MCs or other artist; that is promoted in some form by either the venue or an outside promoter; where entry is either free, by invitation, pay on the door or by ticket.
- 25.6 Licensees are advised to consult the local Metropolitan Police Licensing Unit to clarify whether their proposed event is significant.

26 Temporary Event Notices Process

- 26.1 The Licensing Act 2003 allows small scale events which include any licensable activities to be held without the need for a premises licence. However advanced notice of at least ten full working days' notice must be given to the Licensing Authority and the Metropolitan Police (please see paragraph 23.4 and 23.5 below for this Licensing Authority's required notice period).
- 26.2 Temporary Event Notices (TENs) authorise "one-off" licensable activities on a premises without the need for a premises licence or club premises certificate. TENs are not a Licence but a notification to the Licensing Authority, Police and Environmental Health of the intention to carry out Licensable activities. There are certain restrictions relating to TENs set out in the Act:
- a) the number of times a person (the "premises user") may give a TEN:
 - 50 times per calendar year for a personal licence holder (inclusive of Late TENs subject to a maximum of 10),
 - 5 times per calendar year for other people (i.e., non personal licence holders) (inclusive of Late TENs subject to a maximum of 2);
 - b) the number of times a TEN may be given for individual premises is 15*times in a calendar year (this number took effect from 1st January 2016 as per the Deregulation Act 2015) so long as the total number of days used for these events does not exceed 21**;
 - c) the temporary event may last no more than 168 hours (this relates to the licensable activities only);
 - d) the scale of the event in terms of the maximum number of people attending at any one time can be no more than 499 (including staff/volunteers etc. running the event).

*The Alcohol Licensing (Coronavirus) (Regulatory Easements) (Amendment) Regulations 2021 has temporarily increased the limits detailed in b) above for 2022 to 2023 (calendar year). * increased to 20 days and ** increased to 26 days.*

- 26.3 Where events are planned outside the limits above, an application must be made for a limited duration Premises Licence.
- 26.4 The Secretary of State's Guidance states "Although ten clear working days is the minimum possible notice that may be given, licensing authorities should publicise their preferences in terms of advance notice and encourage premises users to

provide the earliest possible notice of events planned by them. Licensing authorities should also consider publicising a preferred maximum time in advance of an event by when TENs should ideally be given to them”

- 26.5 In accordance with this Guidance, this Licensing Authority expects event organisers’ to give at least 28 days’ notice of a temporary event. We also expect that events are discussed with Metropolitan Police and Environmental Health, Noise prior to submission. This will ensure that full detailed discussion can take place between the organiser and any other interested parties in order to ensure promotion of the 4 licencing objectives. The maximum timescale this Licensing Authority will accept a TEN in advance of an event is 3 months.
- 26.6 Risk Assessments: In order to assist the Metropolitan Police, we would strongly urge that Risk Assessments are either included with the TEN submission or sent to the Police via the details in Council’s Responsible Authority list on their website. Such risk assessments need to include a description of the event, any risks identified with the event such as increased possibility of intoxicated customers, underage attending the event, or perceived drug use, and any mitigating steps that have implemented to address the identified risks. Where promoted music events are taking place at the premises such a risk assessment should include checking previous venues where the artists / performers / promoters have performed recently to see if there have been any issues, and any social media sites to check for any potential problems such as a young audience. The risk assessment should also consider the provision and numbers of SIA security, search, ejection policy and entry and egress / dispersal plans.
- 26.7 TENs relating to outdoor events are strongly advised to contact the Council’s Sports Leisure and Culture Department, Environmental Health and Health and Safety as well as the emergency services for advice.
- 26.8 With regards to giving notice to the relevant authority, as the term “give” used in section 100 of Licensing Act 2003 is not defined, the Licensing Authority considers this to mean the date on which the TEN is received by the Licensing Authority and not the date on which it was sent. Applicants are therefore advised to hand deliver notices if time is short, as late notices will not be accepted under any circumstances.
- 26.9 Applications for TENs must be made using the prescribed form. Applications must be given to the Licensing Authority and the Metropolitan Police in duplicate.
- 26.10 It should be noted that the Metropolitan Police and the Council’s Environmental Health Notice Service are the only bodies who may make representations to a TEN. However, these two bodies may object to a TEN on grounds that any of the

licensing objectives would not be promoted should the event go ahead. Where objections are received the matter will be put before the Licensing Authority's Licensing Sub-Committee. The Licensing Sub-Committee may:

- i) Allow the TEN to go ahead
- ii) Reject the TEN

26.11 The Act does allow for Late TENS to be submitted by event organisers subject to the to the limitations in paragraph 23.2 (b-d) above and the below limitations referred to below in relation to the number of times a person (the "premises user") may give a Late TEN, which is:

- a) **10** times per calendar year for a personal licence holder,
- b) **2** times per calendar year for other people (non personal licence holders).

26.12 These "Late TENS" can be submitted to the Licensing Authority, Metropolitan Police and the Council's Environmental Health Noise Section between 5 and 9 days clear working days before the event, this does not include the day of receipt of the TEN or the day of the proposed event. It should be noted that if either the Police or the Council's Noise and Nuisance team lodges an objection to a Late TEN the event will not go ahead.

26.13 The Licensing authority, with other partners, will provide advice where appropriate to help organisers to plan their events safely, check that the limitations set down in the Act are being observed and that there are no limitations or restrictions under other legislation.

26.14 TENS received that relate to premises within the Cumulative Impact Zone may be received objections from the Police or Environmental Health on the grounds that the giving of a TEN would undermine the licensing objectives in the Cumulative Impact Zone (CIZ). Therefore, persons giving TENS within this Zone should have regard for the Cumulative Impact Policy detailed above and the Secretary State's Guidance relating to Cumulative Impact. The reason for the CIZ is to reduce crime and disorder, and nuisance from a concentration of licensed premises.

27 Enforcement

- 27.1 Once licensed, it is essential premises are maintained and operated so as to ensure the continued promotion of the licensing objectives and compliance with the specific requirements of the Act and the Licensing Authority will make arrangements to monitor premises and take appropriate enforcement action to ensure this.
- 27.2 The Licensing Authority will work closely with Borough Police to establish protocols to ensure an efficient deployment of Police and Council Officers engaged in enforcing licensing law and inspecting licensed premises, in order to ensure that resources are targeted at problem and high risk premises.
- 27.3 The Licensing Authority considers the protection of minors to be a particular priority for enforcement and will, in partnership with other agencies, especially the Police, seek to use the criminal sanctions of the Licensing Act to their fullest extent to achieve such protection.
- 27.4 In relation to enforcement the Council will abide by the Regulators Compliance Code and the Enforcement Concordat and the Council's Enforcement Policy. A copy of this policy is available on the Council's website. In most cases a graduated form of response will be used to resolve issues of non-compliance although it is recognised that in serious cases a prosecution or a review application are appropriate means of disposal. The Council will use test purchases as a legitimate way to determine compliance to the license conditions. Failed test purchases will be disposed with by reference to the Council Enforcement Policy.
- 27.5 Following this Policy the Licensing Authority can take the following action:
- a. Taking no action;
 - b. Issuing an informal warning;
 - c. Recommending improvements within a particular time;
 - d. Monitoring by regular inspection and invite to seek a further review if problems persist;
 - e. Investigate breaches of legislation and refer matters to the Council's Legal Department for consideration for prosecution.
- 27.6 Conditions (other than the statutory mandatory conditions) may only be attached to a licence or club premises certificate if relevant representations are received

(except for conditions drawn from the applicant's operating schedule since these are voluntary propositions). Any such conditions will be tailored to the individual style and characteristics of the premises and events concerned.

27.7 Conditions should be:

- Clear,
- Enforceable,
- Evidenced,
- Proportionate,
- Be expressed in plain language capable of being understood by those expected to comply with them.

27.8 Conditions must be attached at a hearing; unless the authority, the premises user, and the relevant responsible authority have agreed a hearing is unnecessary.

27.9 Licensing authority cannot impose blanket standard conditions. The Secretary of State's Guidance contains a A pool of conditions.

27.10 Conditions can only be carried forward from a premises licence or club premises certificate onto a TEN where relevant objections have been made by the Police or Environmental Health.

27.11 Non Payment of Licence Fee

In accordance with the amendments introduced by the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011, the council must suspend premises licences and club premises certificates on the non-payment of annual fees.

27.12 The legislation states that the premises licence holder will be given at least 2 working days' notice that the licence will be suspended before the suspension is to take effect.

27.13 It is the duty of the Licence Holder to pay their annual licence fee when it is due. The Licensing Authority will send a single request for payment to the licence holder giving 28 days from the date of the letter to make the required payment. If no payment is received the Licensing Authority will take measures to suspend the licence.

27.14 Following the action to suspend the licence income recovery procedures will be commenced along with enforcement visits to ensure that the suspension is maintained until payment is received or licence surrendered.

28 Review Process

- 28.1 Working in partnership:
The promotion of the licensing objectives and achieving common aims relies on a partnership between licence holders, authorised persons, other persons, (as defined by the Secretary of State Guidance), responsible authorities and the Licensing Authority. The licensing authority will try to give licence holders early warning of any concerns about problems identified at any licensed premises and identify the need for improvement.
- 28.2 Purpose of reviews:
The review process is integral to the operation of the Act. The Government's intention is a light touch regulatory regime with regard to the granting of new licences and variations. Only when there have been representations will the Licensing Authority have the discretion not to grant licences. If problems arise in connection with a premises licence, it is for the Responsible Authorities and the other persons to apply for a review of the licence. Without such representations, the Licensing Authority cannot review a licence.
- 28.3 Proceedings:
There are proceedings under the Act for reviewing a premises licence. These are provided as protection for the community, where problems associated with crime and disorder, public safety, public nuisance or the protection of children from harm are occurring.
- 28.4 Initiating Reviews:
At any stage, following the grant of a premises licence, any of the Responsible Authorities or any other persons, such as a resident living in the vicinity of the premises and Councillors, may ask the Licensing Authority to review the licence because of a matter arising at the premises in connection with any of the four licensing objectives.
- 28.5 The Police and Environmental Health Officers have various additional powers of - closure. The Licensing Authority cannot initiate its own reviews of premises licences, however, officers of the Council who are specified as Responsible Authorities under the Act may request reviews.
- 28.6 In every review case an evidential basis for the allegations made will need to be submitted to the Licensing Authority. When a request for a review is initiated from an other person, the Licensing Authority is required to first consider whether the representation made is irrelevant to the licensing objectives, or is vexatious or frivolous.
- 28.7 Where the Licensing Authority receives a request for a review in accordance with the closure procedures described in Part 8 of the Act (for example, closure orders), it will arrange a hearing in accordance with the regulations set out by the

Government.

28.8 Powers following determination of review - The Licensing Authority in determining a review may exercise the range of powers given to them to promote the licensing objectives. Where the licensing authority considers that action under its statutory powers is appropriate, it may take any of the following steps:

- a. Modify the conditions of the premises licence (which includes adding new conditions or any alteration or omission of an existing condition);
- b. Exclude a licensable activity from the scope of the licence;
- c. Remove the designated supervisor;
- d. Suspend the licence for a period not exceeding three months;
- e. Revoke the licence.

28.9 Where reviews arise and the Licensing Authority determines that the crime prevention objective is being undermined through the premises being used to further crimes, the revocation of the licence will be seriously considered. However, revocation also remains an option if other licensing objectives are being undermined.

29 Responsibility of Licence Holders and Designated Premises Supervisors (DPS)

29.1 When licence holders or designated premises supervisors move, leave a premises or dispose of their premises they remain responsible in law until they have informed the licensing authority and surrendered the licence or arranged a transfer, which may involve notification to the Police as well. Any licensees or designated premises supervisors who are not sure what to do should contact the licensing authority. Please note that should the DPS cease to work/be employed by the premises the Licensing Authority will consider that there is no DPS for those premises. This consideration shall apply regardless of whether that person is still named on the Premises Licence, or whether they have asked for their name to be removed from it. This consideration shall apply until such time that an application is received to nominate a new premises supervisor. In such cases, the Licensing Authority shall expect no sales of alcohol to take place until an application to vary the DPS has been submitted to the Licensing Authority.

29.2 Every premises licence that authorises the sale of alcohol must specify a designated premises supervisor (DPS). This will normally be the person who has

been given day to day responsibility for running the premises by the premises licence holder. The only exception is for community premises which have successfully made an application to remove the usual mandatory conditions set out in the 2003 Act. The DPS to be a person with day to day managerial control of the premises who will take reasonable steps to ensure the licensing objectives are promoted and licence conditions are adhered to.

- 29.3 Though there is no requirement for a designated premises supervisor (DPS) to be on the premises at all times that alcohol is being sold, the Licensing Authority expects where they are likely to be absent for a prolonged period, perhaps due to ill health, maternity leave or extended holiday, that a new DPS to be appointed to cover the period of absence. If there are concerns that a DPS is repeatedly absent, the Police may apply for a review of the Premises Licence if this gives rise to concerns about the operation of the premises and its impact on the licensing objectives.
- 29.4 Where the DPS is not present at the premises the Licensing Authority, following guidance by the Secretary of State, recommends that personal licence holders give specific written authorisations to individuals that they are authorising to retail alcohol. The letter of authorisation should state the following:-
- the person(s) authorised to sell alcohol at any particular premises should be clearly identified;
 - the authorisation should have specified the acts which may be carried out by the person who is authorised to supply alcohol;
 - there should be an overt act of authorisation, for example, a specific written statement given to the individual who is authorised to supply alcohol; and
 - there should be in place sensible arrangements for the personal licence holder to monitor the activity that they have authorised on a reasonably regular basis.

It should be noted that the responsibility remains with the Premises Licence Holder and the Designated Premises Supervisor.

- 29.5 The Coronavirus pandemic has demonstrated the need for good contact details, particularly digital ones with Licence Holders. Throughout the pandemic and this Licensing Authority held online meetings with licence holders and continued to

keep them up to date with guidance on restrictions as they came in from Central Government. Through this we found that many of the contact details we had for our Licence holders, particularly email addresses were either incorrect or were those of the Solicitors who dealt with the original application at the time. This has also caused issue for licence holders when we notify them of their annual fee with letters sometime going to solicitors' firms rather than the licence holder.

In light of this we expect applicants to include the correct correspondence address for the proposed licence holder in their application, and where possible include an email address for the Licence Holder. We also expect Licence holders to keep this Licensing Authority up to date should the contacts for the Licence holder either address, telephone number or email address change.

This will ensure that if needed the Licensing Authority can contact the Licence Holder promptly, we can and will help to avoid unnecessary suspensions of licences because the reminder letter was not received by the Licence Holder.

30 Duplication

- 30.1 As far as possible the Licensing Authority will seek to avoid duplication with other regulatory regimes. The Licensing Authority will however impose tailored conditions where it judges it necessary to meet the licensing objectives.

31 Administration, Exercise and Delegation of Functions

- 30.2 The Licensing Authority will be involved in a wide range of licensing decisions and functions and has established a Licensing Committee to administer them.
- 30.3 Appreciating the need to provide a speedy, efficient and cost-effective service to all parties involved in the licensing process, the Committee has delegated certain decisions and functions and has established a number of Sub-Committees to deal with them.
- 30.4 The following Table sets out the agreed delegation of decisions and functions to Licensing Committee / Sub-Committees and Officers.

Matter to be dealt with	Full	Sub	Officers
Application for personal licence		Police objection including unspent	If no objection made
Application for premises licence/club premises certificate		If a relevant representation made	If no relevant representati

Application for provisional statement		If a relevant representation made	If no relevant representati
Application to vary premises licence/club premises certificate		If a relevant representation made	If no relevant representati
Application to vary designated premises supervisor		If police objection	All other cases
Request to be removed as designated premises supervisor			All cases
Application for transfer of premises licence		If police objection	All other cases
Application for interim authorities		If police	All other
Application to review premises licence / club premises certificate		All cases	
Decision on whether a complaint is irrelevant, frivolous, vexatious etc;			All cases
Decision to object when local authority is consultee and not the relevant authority considering the application		All cases	
Determination of a police objection to a temporary event notice		All cases	
Decision on whether a minor variation application is valid, the need to go out to consultation and determination.			All cases
Determination of minor variation application			All cases

Determination of application to vary premises licence at community premises to include alternative licence condition		If a police objection	All cases
Power to suspend a premises licence (S.55A (1) LA2003) or club premises certificate (S.92A (1) LA2003) for non			All cases
Power to specify the date on which suspension takes effect. This must be at least 2 working days after the day the			All cases
Power to impose existing conditions on a premises licence, club premises certificate and Temporary Event Notice where all parties agree that a Hearing is unnecessary – see S.106A LA2003.			All cases
Power to make representations as responsible authority			All cases

- 30.5 Further, with many of the decisions and functions being purely administrative in nature, the grant of non-contentious applications, including for example, those licences and certificates where no representations have been made, has been delegated to Council Officers.
- 30.6 This form of delegations is without prejudice to Officers referring an application to a Sub-Committee, or a Sub-Committee to Full Committee, if considered appropriate in the circumstances of any particular case.

- 30.7 The officers to exercise the discretion are officers who are responsible for the Licensing function and who are given the appropriate written delegated authority.
- 30.8 Application forms, fees, and details regarding each type of application, including the minor variations process can be obtained from the Councils website or by contacting the Licensing and Safety Team on 0207 364 5008 or Licensing@towerhamlets.gov.uk.
- 30.9 The Licensing Authority encourages informal discussion before the application process in order to resolve potential problems and avoid unnecessary hearings and appeals.

Appendix 1:

List of Responsible Authorities

There are a number of “Responsible Authorities”. These have been designated by the Government. Any variation application should be discussed with the relevant authorities first. All new (including time limited) and variation applications have to be sent to the responsible authority. If you are not sure you will need to check which organisation is responsible for health and safety before you send off your forms.

For a full list of Responsible Authorities please see the link below, which is updated regularly:

https://www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/ignl/business/licences/beer_and_entertainment/Responsible-Authorities.aspx

Appendix 2

Mandatory Conditions Made under the Licensing Act 2003 and associated Orders

No supply of alcohol may be made under the premises licence-

- a) at a time where there is no designated premises supervisor in respect of the premises licence, or
- b) at a time when the designated premises supervisor does not hold a personal licence or his personal licence is suspended

For “ON and OFF SALES” and “ON SALES ONLY”: Add conds 1-5

1.
 - (1) The responsible person must ensure that staff on relevant premises do not carry out, arrange or participate in any irresponsible promotions in relation to the premises
 - (2) In this paragraph, an irresponsible promotion means any one or more of the following activities, or substantially similar activities, carried on for the purpose of encouraging the sale or supply of alcohol for consumption on the premises;
 - (a) games or other activities which require or encourage, or are designed to require or encourage, individuals to—
 - (i) drink a quantity of alcohol within a time limit (other than to drink alcohol sold or supplied on the premises before the cessation of the period in which the responsible person is authorised to sell or supply alcohol), or
 - (ii) drink as much alcohol as possible (whether within a time limit or otherwise);
 - (b) provision of unlimited or unspecified quantities of alcohol free or for a fixed or discounted fee to the public or to a group defined by a particular characteristic in a manner which carries a significant risk of undermining a licensing objective
 - (c) provision of free or discounted alcohol or any other thing as a prize to encourage or reward the purchase and consumption of alcohol over a period of 24 hours or less in a manner which carries a significant risk of undermining a licensing objective;
 - (d) selling or supplying alcohol in association with promotional posters or flyers on, or in the vicinity of, the premises which can reasonably be considered to condone, encourage or glamorise anti-social behaviour or to refer to the effects of drunkenness in any favourable manner;

- (e) dispensing alcohol directly by one person into the mouth of another (other than where that other person is unable to drink without assistance by reason of disability)
- 2. The responsible person must ensure that free potable water is provided on request to customers where it is reasonably available.
- 3.
 - (1) The premises licence holder or club premises certificate holder must ensure that an age verification policy is adopted in respect of the premises in relation to the sale or supply of alcohol.
 - (2) The designated premises supervisor in relation to the premises licence must ensure that the supply of alcohol at the premises is carried on in accordance with the age verification policy
 - (3) The policy must require individuals who appear to the responsible person to be under 18 years of age (or such older age as may be specified in the policy) to produce on request, before being served alcohol, identification bearing their photograph, date of birth and either—
 - (a) a holographic mark, or
 - (b) an ultraviolet feature.
- 4. The responsible person must ensure that —
 - (a) where any of the following alcoholic drinks is sold or supplied for consumption on the premises (other than alcoholic drinks sold or supplied having been made up in advance ready for sale or supply in a securely closed container) it is available to customers in the following measures —
 - (i) beer or cider: ½ pint
 - (ii) gin, rum, vodka or whisky: 25 ml or 35 ml; and
 - (iii) still wine in a glass: 125 ml;
 - (b) these measures are displayed in a menu, price list or other printed material which is available to customers on the premises; and
 - (c) where a customer does not in relation to a sale of alcohol specify the quantity of alcohol to be sold, the customer is made aware that these measures are available.
- 5.
 - 1. A relevant person shall ensure that no alcohol is sold or supplied for consumption on or off the premises for a price which is less than the permitted price.
 - 2. For the purposes of the condition set out in paragraph 1—
 - (a) “duty” is to be construed in accordance with the Alcoholic Liquor Duties Act 1979;

- (b) “permitted price” is the price found by applying the formula —

$$P = D + (D \times V)$$

where —

- (i) **P** is the permitted price
 - (ii) **D** is the amount of duty chargeable in relation to the alcohol as if the duty were charged on the date of the sale or supply of the alcohol, and
 - (iii) **V** is the rate of value added tax chargeable in relation to the alcohol as if the value added tax were charged on the date of the sale or supply of the alcohol;
- (c) “relevant person” means, in relation to premises in respect of which there is in force a premises licence
- (i) the holder of the premises licence
 - (ii) the designated premises supervisor (if any) in respect of such a licence, or
 - (iii) the personal licence holder who makes or authorises a supply of alcohol under such a licence
- (d) “relevant person” means, in relation to premises in respect of which there is in force a club premises certificate, any member or officer of the club present on the premises in a capacity which enables the member or officer to prevent the supply in question; and
- (e) “value added tax” means value added tax charged in accordance with the Value Added Tax Act 1994

3. Where the permitted price given by Paragraph (b) of paragraph 2 would (apart from this paragraph) not be a whole number of pennies, the price given by that sub-paragraph shall be taken to be the price actually given by that sub-paragraph rounded up to the nearest penny.

4. (1) Sub-paragraph (2) applies where the permitted price given by Paragraph (b) of paragraph 2 on a day (“the first day”) would be different from the permitted price on the next day (“the second day”) as a result of a change to the rate of duty or value added tax.

(2) The permitted price which would apply on the first day applies to sales or supplies of alcohol which take place before the expiry of the period of 14 days beginning on the second day

For “OFF SALES ONLY” Add the following conditions

- (1) The premises licence holder or club premises certificate holder must ensure that an age verification policy is adopted in respect of the premises in relation to the sale or supply of alcohol.
 - (2) The designated premises supervisor in relation to the premises licence must ensure that the supply of alcohol at the premises is carried on in accordance with the age verification policy
 - (3) The policy must require individuals who appear to the responsible person to be under 18 years of age (or such older age as may be specified in the policy) to produce on request, before being served alcohol, identification bearing their photograph, date of birth and either—
 - (a) a holographic mark, or
 - (b) an ultraviolet feature.
5. 1. A relevant person shall ensure that no alcohol is sold or supplied for consumption on or off the premises for a price which is less than the permitted price.
2. For the purposes of the condition set out in paragraph 1—
- (a) “duty” is to be construed in accordance with the Alcoholic Liquor Duties Act 1979;
 - (b) “permitted price” is the price found by applying the formula —

$$P = D + (D \times V)$$

Where —

- (i) **P** is the permitted price
 - (ii) **D** is the amount of duty chargeable in relation to the alcohol as if the duty were charged on the date of the sale or supply of the alcohol, and
 - (iii) **V** is the rate of value added tax chargeable in relation to the alcohol as if the value added tax were charged on the date of the sale or supply of the alcohol;
- (c) “relevant person” means, in relation to premises in respect of which there is in force a premises licence
- (i) the holder of the premises licence
 - (ii) the designated premises supervisor (if any) in respect of such a licence, or
 - (iii) the personal licence holder who makes or authorises a supply of alcohol under such a licence

- (d) “relevant person” means, in relation to premises in respect of which there is in force a club premises certificate, any member or officer of the club present on the premises in a capacity which enables the member prevent the supply in question; and
- (e) “value added tax” means value added tax charged in accordance with the Value Added Tax Act 1994

3. Where the permitted price given by Paragraph (b) of paragraph 2 would (apart from this paragraph) not be a whole number of pennies, the price given by that sub-paragraph shall be taken to be the price actually given by that sub-paragraph rounded up to the nearest penny.

4. (1) Sub-paragraph (2) applies where the permitted price given by Paragraph (b) of paragraph 2 on a day (“the first day”) would be different from the permitted price on the next day (“the second day”) as a result of a change to the rate of duty or value added tax.

(2) The permitted price which would apply on the first day applies to sales or supplies of alcohol which take place before the expiry of the period of 14 days beginning on the second day.

Appendix 3

Model Conditions

The below are a list of model conditions, which are intended to be used by Applicants, Responsible Authorities, or Other Persons making a representation. Where necessary these conditions should be modified in order to be appropriate, proportionate, and enforceable in respect to the type of application.

This appendix does not form part of the Statement of Licensing Policy to allow for it to be modified where appropriate to ensure conditions contain fit any new or emerging trends.

This basket of model conditions is not an exclusive or exhaustive list of conditions which may be included on a premises licence. It does not restrict any applicant, responsible authority, or interested party from proposing any alternative conditions, nor would it restrict a licensing sub-committee from imposing any reasonable condition on a licence it considers necessary for the promotion of the licensing objectives.

Conditions are listed under the Licensing Objective that they most appropriately promote.

Key:

The second column in the table that follows indicates the types of premises to which the condition in the third column might be of most relevance.

- A** Restaurants
- B** Public houses, wine bars or other drinking establishments
- C** Café-bars
- D** Hotel bars
- E** Night-clubs
- F** Off-licences (including convenience stores)
- G** Pavement licences
- H** Qualifying clubs
- I** Take-aways
- J** Boats
- H** Other entertainment venues

Number	Suggested Applicable Premises	Condition
Prevention of crime and disorder		
1	A, B	<p>Touting:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. No person shall be employed to solicit for custom or be permitted to solicit for custom for business for the premises in any public place within a 500 meters radius of the premises as shown edged red on the attached plan. (marked as Appendix -) 2. Clear Signage to be placed in the restaurant windows stating that the premises supports the Council's 'No Touting' policy.
2.	J	<p>Boats:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. For all externally promoted events including DJs, birthday bookings (where the person whose birthday it is aged 25 or under), all football related bookings and for publicly ticketed events, all drinking vessels used in the venue shall be polycarbonate. All drinks in glass bottles are to be decanted into polycarbonate containers or polycarbonate carafes prior to being served, with the exception of champagne or bottles of spirits with a minimum size of 70cl supplied by waiter/waitress service to tables. Staff shall clear all empty champagne and spirit bottles promptly from the tables. Customers shall not be permitted to leave their table carrying any such glass bottles or drink directly from the bottle. 2. The bar shall close 15 minutes prior to disembarkation, after this no alcohol shall be sold. This is to be announced on the public address system. 3. Passengers shall not be allowed to bring alcohol on board the vessel.

	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 4. The crew shall make a comprehensive safety announcement over the PA system before every departure. This is to include a segment on drink aware and the ejection policy. 5. Any passenger that becomes abusive/aggressive to the crew or other passengers shall be asked to leave the vessel. Such persons will be ejected at the nearest available pier. A duty of care shall be provided for the ejected persons and to consider calling the emergency services. 6. Passenger numbers for each trip should be recorded on the Ships AIS system and on-board in the Ships Diary. The capacity of the vessel shall be determined and approved by the Maritime and Coastguard Agency (MCA) and placed on the ships certificate. 7. All SIA approved staff engaged in supervising or controlling queues as well as engaged in duties on board the vessel shall wear high visibility yellow jackets or vests. 8. Registered SIA security staff to be on duty during all externally promoted events including DJs, birthday bookings where the person's birthday is between the ages of 16 and 25 and all football-related bookings. "However, this condition shall not apply to externally promoted events which involve events where there is no sale or supply of alcohol and those participating are young persons taking part in a school organised event supervised by teachers or support staff from the school." 9. The licence holder shall ensure that there is a written risk assessment policy in place for every event to be held on the vessel and be available for inspection by police or authorised officers 10. The SIA staff and crew will ensure that the pier is clear of all customers prior to leaving the pier. This includes a duty of care on all persons ejected during the duration of the trip.
--	--

		<p>11. It shall be a condition of entry that the customer agrees to an outer clothing and bag search being carried out or refusal of entry will be given, and notices to that effect shall be displayed. SIA Door Supervisors on duty will action as to when and whom is searched and a record of any decisions to be made. All searching shall be supplemented by the use of metal detector wands.</p> <p>12. The crew shall patrol all parts of the vessel at regular intervals to check for unruly or unsafe behaviour.</p>
3.	A-H	<p>Smuggled Goods:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The premises licence holder and any other persons responsible for the purchase of stock shall not purchase any goods from door-to-door sellers other than from established traders who provide full receipts at the time of delivery to provide traceability. 2. The premises licence holder shall ensure that all receipts for goods bought include the following details: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. Seller's name and address ii. Seller's company details, if applicable iii. Seller's VAT details, if applicable iv. Vehicle registration detail, if applicable 3. Legible copies of the documents referred to in 2) shall be retained on the premises and made available to officers on request. 4. The trader shall obtain and use a UV detection device to verify that duty stamps are valid. 5. Where the trader becomes aware that any alcohol may be not duty paid they shall inform the Police of this immediately.
4.	A, B, C, D, G	<p><u>Olympic Park – Football Ground/Special Events:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. On Match Days for premises licensed for the supply of alcohol for consumption on the premises:

		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Drinks shall only be supplied in polypropylene or similar plastic and all bottled drinks shall be poured into such drinking vessels before being handed to the customer. These should be made of recyclable materials. 2) Registered door staff shall be employed to control the entry and exits to the premises and to manage any licensed outside area(s). <p>2. No drinks shall be served in glass containers at any time during/whilst* <i>[insert special event]</i> *delete as appropriate</p>
5.	A-H	<p>CCTV/Incident Recording/Reporting</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The premises shall install and maintain a comprehensive CCTV system as per the minimum requirements of the Tower Hamlets Police Licensing Team. All entry and exit points will be covered enabling frontal identification of every person entering in any light condition. The CCTV system shall continually record whilst the premises is open for licensable activities and during all times when customers remain on the premises. All recordings shall be stored for a minimum period of 31 days with date and time stamping. Viewing of recordings shall be made available immediately upon the request of Police or authorised officer throughout the entire 31-day period. 2. The CCTV system serving the premises shall: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) be maintained fully operational and in good working order at all times; b) make and retain clear images that include the points of sale of alcohol and facial images of the purchasers of the alcohol; and c) show an accurate date and time that the images were made.

		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. A staff member from the premises who is conversant with the operation of the CCTV system shall be on the premises at all times when the premises are open. This staff member must be able to provide a Police or authorised council officer copies of recent CCTV images or data with the absolute minimum of delay when requested. 4. No alcohol shall be sold if the CCTV equipment is inoperative for any reason. 5. An incident log shall be kept at the premises and be available on request to the Police or an authorised officer. It must be completed within 24 hours of any incident and will record the following: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) all crimes reported to the venue; b) all ejections of patrons; c) any complaints received concerning crime and disorder d) any incidents of disorder; e) all seizures of drugs or offensive weapons; f) any faults in the CCTV system, searching equipment or scanning equipment; g) any refusal of the sale of alcohol; h) any visit by a relevant authority or emergency service. 6. In the event that a serious assault is committed on the premises (or appears to have been committed) the management will immediately ensure that: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) the police (and, where appropriate, the London Ambulance Service) are called without delay; b) all measures that are reasonably practicable are taken to apprehend any suspects pending the arrival of the police; c) the crime scene is preserved so as to enable a full forensic investigation to be carried out by the police; and d) such other measures are taken (as appropriate) to fully protect the safety of all persons present on the premises.
--	--	--

6.	A-H	<p><u>Personal Licence Holder/DPS</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. There shall be a personal licence holder on duty on the premises at all times when the premises are authorised to sell alcohol. 2. When the designated premise supervisor is not on the premises any or all persons authorised to sell alcohol will be authorised by the designated premises supervisor in writing. This shall be available on request by the Police or any authorised officer.
7.	B, C, H, E, H	<p><u>Security/Searching</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A minimum of [insert appropriate number] SIA licensed door supervisors shall be on duty at the premises at all times whilst it is open for business 2. On any occasion that regulated entertainment is provided, not less than [insert appropriate number] SIA registered door supervisors will be engaged to control entry 3. At least [insert appropriate number] SIA licensed door supervisors shall be on duty at the entrance of the premises at all times whilst it is open for business. 4. At least [insert appropriate number] female door supervisor(s) shall be engaged at the premises at such times as door supervisors are required to be provided. 5. Where SIA registered door supervisors are used at the premises, a record must be kept of their SIA registration number and the dates and times they are on duty. 6. When the premises is carrying on licensable activities after [insert appropriate time (24HR format)] hours, at least [insert appropriate number] door supervisor(s) will be on duty at each door used for entry or exit.

	<p>7. No patrons shall be admitted or re-admitted to the premises after <i>[insert appropriate time (24HR format)]</i> unless they have passed through a metal detecting search arch and, if the search arch is activated or at the discretion of staff, then physically searched, which will include a 'pat down search' and a full bag search.</p> <p>8. All persons entering or re-entering the premises shall be searched by a SIA licensed member of staff and monitored by the premises CCTV system.</p> <p>9. A written search policy that aims to prevent customers or staff bringing illegal drugs, weapon or other illegal items onto the premises at any time shall be in place and operate at the premises.</p> <p>10. A clearly visible notice shall be placed at each entrance to the Premises advising those attending that it is a condition of entry that customers agree to being searched and that the police will be informed if anyone is found in possession of controlled substances or weapons. (E)</p> <p>11. All staff engaged outside the entrance to the premises, or supervising or controlling queues, shall wear high visibility jackets or vests. (B, E, J)</p> <p>12. There must be at the premises a lockable drugs box to which no member of staff, save the DPS and /or <i>[insert other responsible person, e.g. Premises Licence Holder, Manager, etc., as appropriate]</i>, shall have access. All controlled drugs (or items suspected to be controlled drugs or contain controlled drugs) found at the premises must be placed in this box as soon as practicable. Whenever this box is emptied, all of its contents must be given to the Police for appropriate disposal.</p>
--	---

8.	E, H	<p><u>External Promoters:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The premises licence holder must submit to the relevant police officer on request a completed risk assessment form as prescribed at least 14 days before any event that is promoted/advertised to the public at any time before the event and features DJ's, MC's or equivalent performing to recorded music.
9.	F	<p><u>Alcohol limits:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. No super-strength beer, lagers, ciders or spirit mixtures of 5.5% ABV (alcohol by volume) or above shall be sold at the premises, except for premium beers and ciders supplied in glass bottles. 2. No single cans or bottles of beer or cider or spirit mixtures shall be sold at the premises. 3. All sales of alcohol for consumption off the premises shall be in sealed containers only and shall not be consumed on the premises.
Public Safety		
10.	A, B, C, D, E, G, J, H	<p><u>Restrictions on use of glass container:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. No drinks shall be served in glass containers at any time. 2. All drinking vessels used in the venue shall be polycarbonate. All drinks in glass bottles are to be decanted into polycarbonate containers or polycarbonate carafes prior to being served, with the exception of champagne or bottles of spirits with a minimum size of 70cl supplied by waiter/waitress service to tables. Staff shall clear all empty champagne and spirit bottles promptly from the tables. Customers shall not be permitted to leave their table carrying any such glass bottles or drink directly from the bottle.

		<p>3. Notwithstanding 2 above, with the written agreement of the Tower Hamlets Licensing Police, a copy of which will be held at the premises reception, glass drinking vessels may be used for private or pre-booked events within the (specified area).</p> <p>4. Patrons permitted to temporarily leave and then re-enter the premises, e.g., to smoke, shall not be permitted to take drinks or glass containers with them.</p>
11.	B, E, I & J	<p><u>Capacity</u></p> <p>1. The number of persons permitted in the premises at any one time (including staff) shall not exceed <i>[insert appropriate number]</i> persons[, and such number shall be prominently displayed by each entrance to the premises]*delete as appropriate. [The premises licence holder shall ensure a suitable method of calculating the number of people present during licensable activities is in place] *delete as appropriate.</p>
12.	Unique to Beauty Premises	<p><u>Hairdresser/Barber/Salons:</u></p> <p>1. The sale of alcohol shall only be for consumption by customers, their bona fide guests. For the avoidance of doubt there shall be no sales of alcohol to staff for consumption on the premises.</p>

Prevention of public nuisance		
13.	A, B, C, D, E, J, H	<p><u>Noise prevention</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A noise limiter must be fitted to the musical amplification system set at a level determined by and to the satisfaction of an authorised officer of the Environmental Health Service, so as to ensure that no noise nuisance is caused to local residents or businesses. The operational panel of the noise limiter shall then be secured by key or password to the satisfaction of officers from the Environmental Health Service and access shall only be by persons authorised by the Premises Licence holder. The limiter shall not be altered without prior agreement with the Environmental Health Service. No alteration or modification to any existing sound system(s) should be effected without prior knowledge of an authorised Officer of the Environmental Health Service. No additional sound generating equipment shall be used on the premises without being routed through the sound limiter device. 2. Loudspeakers shall not be located in the entrance lobby or outside the premises building. 3. All windows and external doors shall be kept closed after <i>[insert appropriate time (24HR format)]</i> hours, or at any time when regulated entertainment takes place, except for the immediate access and egress of persons. 4. There shall be no admittance or re-admittance to the premises after <i>[insert appropriate time (24HR format)]</i> except for patrons permitted to temporarily leave the premises to smoke. 5. There shall be no sales of alcohol for consumption off the premises after <i>[insert appropriate time (24HR format)]</i>.

		<p>6. The licence holder shall enter into an agreement with a hackney carriage and/or private carriage firm to provide transport for customers, with contact numbers made readily available to customers who will be encouraged to use such services.</p> <p>7. Notices shall be prominently displayed at all exits requesting patrons to respect the needs of local residents and businesses and leave the area quietly.</p> <p>8. Notices shall be prominently displayed at any area used for smoking requesting patrons to respect the needs of local residents and use the area quietly.</p> <p>9. A direct telephone number for the manager at the premises shall be publicly available at all times the premises is open. This telephone number is to be made available to residents and businesses in the vicinity.</p> <p>10. The licence holder shall ensure that any queue to enter the premises which forms outside the premises is orderly and supervised by door staff so as to ensure that there is no public nuisance or obstruction to the public highway.</p> <p>11. Patrons permitted to temporarily leave and then re-enter the premises to smoke shall be restricted to a designated smoking area defined as [insert specific location].</p> <p>12. The sale and supply of alcohol for consumption off the premises shall be restricted to alcohol consumed at the outside tables and chairs shown on the licence plan, shall be by waiter or waitress service, served only to a person seated taking a table meal there and for consumption by such a person as ancillary to their meal.</p>
--	--	--

		<p>13. The sale and supply of alcohol for consumption off the premises shall be restricted to alcohol consumed by persons who are seated in an area appropriately authorised for the use of tables and chairs on the highway and bona fide taking a table meal there, and where the consumption of alcohol by such persons is ancillary to taking such a meal, and where the supply of alcohol is by waiter or waitress service only.</p> <p>14. A written dispersal policy shall be in place and implemented at the premises to move customers from the premises and the immediate vicinity in such a way as to cause minimum disturbance or nuisance to neighbours.</p>
14.	A, B, C, D, E, G, J, H	<p><u>Outdoor areas</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The premises licence holder shall ensure that any patrons drinking and/or smoking outside the premises do so in an orderly manner and are supervised by staff so as to ensure that there is no public nuisance or obstruction of the public highway. 2. No more than [insert appropriate number] customers will be permitted to enter or remain in [insert specific location] the outdoor areas of the premises at any one time after the hours of [insert appropriate time (24HR format)]. 3. The outdoor area shall not be used by patrons after [insert appropriate time (24HR format)]. 4. All outside tables and chairs shall be rendered unusable by [insert appropriate time (24HR format)] each day. 5. All tables and chairs shall be removed from the outside area by [insert appropriate time (24HR format)] each day. 6. Alcohol consumed outside the premises building shall only be consumed by patrons seated at tables.

		<p>7. Patrons permitted to temporarily leave and then re-enter the premises, e.g., to smoke, shall be limited to [insert appropriate number] persons at any one time.</p>
15.	A, B, C, D, E, G, I, J, H	<p><u>Waste disposal/collections</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. No waste or recyclable materials, including bottles, shall be moved, removed from or placed in outside areas between [insert appropriate time (24HR format)] hours and [insert appropriate time (24HR format)] hours on the following day. 2. No collections of waste or recycling materials (including bottles) from the premises shall take place between [insert appropriate time (24HR format)] and [insert appropriate time (24HR format)] on the following day.
17.	A-H	<p><u>Litter prevention</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. All sealed containers of alcoholic drinks offered for sale for consumption off the premises must be clearly labelled or marked with the name and postcode of the premises. 2. No advertisements of any kind (including placard, poster, sticker, flyer, picture, letter, sign or other mark) that advertises or promotes the establishment, its premises, or any of its events, facilities, goods or services shall be inscribed or affixed upon the surface of the highway, or upon any building, structure, works, street furniture, tree, or any other property, or be distributed to the public. 3. During the hours of operation of the premises, the licence holder shall ensure sufficient measures are in place to remove and prevent litter or waste arising or accumulating from customers in the area immediately outside the premises, and that this area shall be swept and or washed, and litter and sweepings collected and stored in accordance with the approved refuse storage arrangements by close of business.

		<p>4. Where the premises provide late night refreshment for consumption off the premises sufficient waste bins must be provided at or near the exits.</p>
18.	J	<p><u>Boats:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Amplified music or regulated entertainment shall not take place whilst the vessel is moored at its [insert address] moorings. 2. No noise shall emanate from the vessel which gives rise to a nuisance. 3. Alcohol shall not be taken or consumed off the vessel at any time. 4. The bar shall close 15 minutes prior to disembarkation, after this no alcohol shall be sold. This is to be announced on the public address system. 5. Passengers shall be advised by the crew to leave the vessel in a quiet and orderly fashion and not to do anything which is liable to disturb nearby residents. Prominent notices shall be displayed at the entrance and exit points. 6. All SIA approved staff engaged in supervising or controlling queues as well as engaged in duties on board the vessel shall wear high visibility yellow jackets or vests. 7. Crew members shall be positioned by the door to help guests disembark and ensure that overcrowding does not become a problem 8. While the vessel is at the pier music levels will be controlled to ensure no noise shall emanate nor vibration transmitted which gives rise to a Public Nuisance. 9. Flashing or particularly bright lights on or outside the premises shall not cause a nuisance to nearby properties (save insofar as they are necessary for the safety of the crew and customers, and for the prevention of crime).

		<p>10. Live or recorded music will not be allowed to commence until the vessel has left any embarkation pier and will cease before the vessel arrives at any disembarkation pier.</p>
Protection of Children from harm		
19.	A-H	<p><u>Challenge 25:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. All tills shall automatically prompt staff to ask for age verification identification when presented with an alcohol sale. 2. A Challenge 25 proof of age scheme shall be operated at the premises where the only acceptable forms of identification are recognised photographic identification cards, such as a driving licence, passport or proof of age card with the PASS Hologram. 3. A record shall be kept detailing all refused sales of alcohol. The record should include the date and time of the refused sale and the name of the member of staff who refused the sale. The record shall be available for inspection at the premises by the police or an authorised officer at all times whilst the premises is open. 4. All staff whose duties include the serving of alcohol must be trained in the requirements of this scheme including the importance of recording any refusals. 5. Entry by children under the age of 18 to [the premises] [a specified part of the premises] is prohibited between [insert appropriate hours]. 6. Entry by children under the age of [insert appropriate age] to [the premises] [a specified part of the premises] is prohibited unless accompanied by an adult over the age of 18

20.	A-H	<p><u>Staff Training</u></p> <p>1. All staff whose responsibilities include the retail sale of alcohol shall receive training about the prevention of underage sales on induction and then every <i>[insert appropriate number]</i> months thereafter/<i>[insert appropriate number]</i> times a year. This training shall be recorded and the records to be available on request to the Police or any authorised officer. The training to include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) the operation of the challenge XX scheme; b) types of acceptable ID; c) the method of recording challenges; d) the likely consequences of making an underage sale; e) refusing sales to persons who appear to be drunk; f) proxy sales.
21.	A, B, C, D, F, I	<p><u>Online Deliveries:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Every third-party courier delivery box shall be labelled with the words “Age Restricted Product”. 2. There shall be mechanism either by an App or on the delivery package to show the delivery rider is aware it is an age restricted product to ensure ID checks are made upon delivery of alcohol. 3. The premises licence holder will ensure that an age verification policy will apply whereby all delivery drivers/riders will be trained to ask any customer to whom alcohol is delivered, who appears to be under the age of 25 years to produce, before being sold alcohol, identification being a passport or photocard driving licence bearing a holographic mark or other form of identification that complies with any mandatory condition that may apply to this licence. 4. Alcohol shall only be delivered to a residential or business address and not to a public place or vehicle. 5. All off sales deliveries to be in sealed containers.

		<p>6. A warning shall be displayed on the digital platform on which an order is placed informing customers that they must be aged 18 or over to make a purchase of alcohol and notifying customers that the rider will carry out age verification on delivery. The customer will be required to declare that he or she aged 18 or over. If the rider is not satisfied that the customer is aged 18 or over any alcohol in the order will be withheld</p> <p>7. The Licence holder shall notify the Licensing Authority of the digital platform(s) used for the sales of alcohol and any changes to those platforms.</p>
Miscellaneous (promotes more than one objective)		
22.	A, C, D	<p>8. The premises shall only operate as a restaurant:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) in which customers are shown to their table; b) where the supply of alcohol is by waiter or waitress service only; c) which provide food in the form of substantial table meals that are prepared on the premises and are served and consumed at the table; d) which do not provide any take away service of food or drink for immediate consumption; e) which do not provide any take away service of food or drink after 23.00, and f) where alcohol shall not be sold or supplied, otherwise than for consumption by persons who are seated in the premises and bona fide taking substantial table meals there, and provided always that the consumption of alcohol by such persons is ancillary to taking such meals. <p>9. The sale of alcohol for consumption on the premises shall only be to a person seated taking a table meal there, and for consumption by such a person as ancillary to their meal.</p> <p>10. The sale of alcohol shall be to persons seated at the premises, i.e. table service only.</p> <p>11. Sales of alcohol for consumption off the premises shall only be supplied with, and ancillary to a take-away meal.</p>

		<p>12. No more than [<i>insert appropriate figure</i>] % of the sales area shall be used at any one time for the sale, exposure for sale, or display of alcohol.</p> <p>13. No vertical drinking.</p>

Appendix 4:

Licensing Contact Details

A printed version of the policy can be obtained from:

Licensing and Safety Team
Environment Health and Trading Standards
4th Floor Tower Hamlets Town Hall
160 Whitechapel Road
London E1 1BJ

Telephone: 020 7364 5008

Email: licensing@towerhamlets.gov.uk

It is also available for inspection at the above office.

Appendix 5: London Borough of Tower Hamlets

Tower Hamlets Council

Sex Establishment Licensing Policy

Introduction

This policy sets out Tower Hamlets Council's proposed approach to regulating sex establishments and the procedure that it will adopt in relation to applications for sex establishment licences.

The policy of the Council is to refuse applications for sexual entertainment venues. This policy is intended to be strictly applied and will only be overridden in genuinely exceptional circumstances. Such circumstances will not be taken to include the quality of the management, its compliance with licence conditions, the size of the premises or its operating hours.

The policy is intended as a guide to applicants, licence holders, people who want to object to applications and members of the Licensing Committee who are responsible for determining contested applications. It also aims to guide and reassure the public and other public authorities, ensuring transparency and consistency in decision making.

When the decision making powers of the Council are engaged each application will be dealt with on its own merits but this policy gives prospective applicants an early indication of whether their application is likely to be granted or not. It also provides prospective applicants details of what is expected of them should an application be made.

The legal controls for sex establishment premises are contained in the Local Governmental (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1982 as amended by the Policing and Crime Act 2009.

There are 3 types of sex establishments which fall into the licensing regime:-

Sex shops

Sex cinemas

Sexual entertainment venues

The role of the Council in its position as Licensing Authority is to administer the licensing regime in accordance with the law and not in accordance with moral standing. The Council recognises that Parliament has made it lawful to operate a sex establishment and such businesses are a legitimate part of the retail and leisure industries.

Policy Rationale

The policy has been developed that sets out how the legislation will be administered and applied. The policy identifies how the Council would exercise the licensing regime in relation to sexual entertainment venues.

The policy has been developed to reflect and complement existing Council plans and strategic approach, namely:-

- Tower Hamlets Community Plan.
- Tower Hamlets Crime & Drug Reduction Partnership Plan.

- Tower Hamlets Enforcement Policy.
- Tower Hamlets Core Strategy.
- Tower Hamlets Town Centre Spatial Strategy.
- Tower Hamlets Statement of Licensing Policy (Licensing Act 2003).
- Tower Hamlets Statement of Licensing Policy (Gambling Act 2005).

The policy has also been prepared with regard to:

- Consultation responses
- Human Rights Act 1998
- Equalities Act 2010

The policy seeks to contribute to the “One Tower Hamlets” principle by fostering community cohesion, reducing inequalities and empowering communities.

The public consultation that was undertaken concerning the adoption of a nil policy did not have overwhelming support. Therefore careful consideration has been given to the policy response, given the balance that the consultation returns did not give overwhelming support.

Policy Considerations

Existing Licensed Premises

The Council has had the ability to licence sex shops and sex cinemas under the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1982 for many years.

There are no licensed sex shops in Tower Hamlets.

The businesses that hold premises licences under the Licensing Act 2003 with permissions that will be affected by the adoption of the sexual entertainment venue licensing regime are as follows:-

NAME	ADDRESS
THE BEEHIVE	104-106 Empson Street, London, E3 3LT
EONE CLUB	168 Mile End Road, London, E1 4LJ
NAGS HEAD PUBLIC HOUSE	17-19 Whitechapel Road, London, E1 1DU
THE PLEASURE LOUNGE	234 Cambridge Heath Road, London, E2 9NN
WHITE SWAN	556 Commercial Road, London, E14 7JD
ASTON'S CHAMPAGNE AND WINE BAR BASEMENT & 1ST	187 Marsh Wall, London, E14 9SH
CLUB PAISA	28 Hancock Road, London, E3 3DA
OOPS	30 Alie Street, London, E1 8DA
WHITE'S GENTLEMANS CLUB	32-38 Leman Street, London, E1 8EW
SECRETS	43-45 East Smithfield, London, E1W 1AP
IMAGES	483 Hackney Road, London, E2 9ED

Tower Hamlets Council has adopted schedule 3 Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1982 with effect from 1st June 2014 so that it can:

- set a limit on the number of sexual entertainment venues
- determine premises that are appropriate for the borough and
- licence sexual entertainment venues

Sexual entertainment venues are those that regularly provide lap dancing and other forms of live performance or live display of nudity.

Establishments that hold events involving full or partial nudity less than once a month may be exempt from the requirements to obtain a sex establishment licence and applicants are advised to contact the Licensing Team for advice.

Limits on the number of licensed premises

The Council has determined that there are a sufficient number of sex shops, sex cinemas and sexual entertainment venues currently operating in the borough and it does not want to see an increase in the numbers of premises that are currently providing these activities.

The Council intends to adopt a policy to limit the number of sexual entertainment venues in the borough to nil however it recognises that there are a number of businesses that have been providing sexual entertainment in Tower Hamlets for several years. The Council will not apply this limitation when considering applications for premises that were already trading with express permission for the type of entertainment which is now defined as sexual entertainment on the date that the licensing provisions were adopted by the authority if they can demonstrate in their application:

- High standards of management
- A management structure and capacity to operate the venue
- The ability to adhere to the standard conditions for sex establishments

The Council will consider each application on its merit although new applicants will have to demonstrate why the Council should depart from its policy. Furthermore if any of the existing premises cease trading there is no presumption that the Council will consider any new applications more favourably.

Location of premises

The Council's policy is that there is no locality within Tower Hamlets in which it would be appropriate to license a sex establishment. Accordingly, the appropriate number of sex establishments for each and every locality within Tower Hamlets is zero.

As previously stated in the policy the Council will treat each application on its own merits however applicants should be aware that the Council will take into consideration the location of the proposed premises and its proximity to:

- residential accommodation,
- schools,
- premises used by children and vulnerable persons
- youth, community & leisure centres,
- religious centres and public places of worship
- access routes to and from premises listed above
- existing licensed premises in the vicinity

Impact

In considering applications for the grant of new or variation applications the Council will assess the likelihood of a grant causing impacts, particularly on the local community.

The Council will take the following matters into account:

- the type of activity
- the duration of the proposed licence
- the proposed hours of operation
- the layout and condition of the premises
- the use of other premises in the vicinity
- the character and locality of the area
- the applicant's previous knowledge and experience

- the applicant's ability to minimise the impact of their business on local residents and businesses
- any evidence of the operation of existing /previous licences held by the applicant
- any reports about the applicant and management of the premises received from residents, Council officers or the police
- the ability of the proposed management structure to deliver compliance with licensing requirements, policies on staff training and the welfare of performers
- crime and disorder issues
- cumulative impact of licensed premises, including hours of operation
- the nature and concerns of local residents
- any evidence of complaints about noise or disturbance caused by premises
- planning permission and planning policy considerations

In considering applications for renewal the Council will take into account

- the applicant's ability to minimise the impact of their business on local residents and businesses
- any reports about the licensee and management of the premises received from residents, Council officers or the police
- whether appropriate measures have been agreed and put into place to mitigate any adverse impacts
- any evidence of complaints about noise or disturbance caused by premises

In considering applications for transfer the Council will take into account:

- the applicants previous knowledge and experience

- the applicants ability to minimise the impact of their business on local residents and businesses
- any evidence of the operation of existing /previous licences held by the applicant
- any reports about the applicant and management of the premises received from residents, Council officers or the police
- the ability of the proposed management structure to deliver compliance with licensing requirements, policies on staff training and the welfare of performers

Applicants

Where appropriate the Council expects applicants to:

- demonstrate that they are qualified by experience
- have an understanding of general conditions
- propose a management structure which will deliver compliance
- with operating conditions for example through
- Management competence
- Presence
- Credible management structure
- enforcement of rules internally – training & monitoring
- a viable business plan covering door staff, CCTV
- policies for welfare of performers
- demonstrate that they can be relied upon to act in best interests of performers through remuneration, facilities, protection, physical and psychological welfare
- have a transparent charging scheme with freedom from solicitation
- a track record of management compliant premises or employ individuals with such a track record

New applicants may be invited for interview by the Licensing Officer and /or Police Officer prior to the application being referred to the Licensing Committee for determination.

Applications from anyone who intends to manage the premises on behalf of third party will be refused.

Premises appearance and layout

The Council expects premises to:-

- have an external appearance which is in keeping with the locality
- prevent the display outside the premises of photographs or other images which may be construed as offensive to public decency
- adequate lighting to allow monitoring of all public areas
- surveillance by CCTV
- surveillance by CCTV of all private booths

Conditions

The council will prescribe, and from time to time revise, standard conditions which will apply generally to licences that the council will grant or renew.

Through standard conditions the council seeks to ensure that sexual entertainment venues are well managed and supervised, restrict the sexual entertainment activities and the manner in which they are permitted to be provided, protect performers, and control the impact of the venue and its customers in relation to its locality.

Specifically, standard conditions could include measures which are found in the appendix of this policy.

The Application Process

Making a new, renewal, transfer or variation application

The Act requires the Council to refuse all application if the applicant:

- Is under the age of 18 or
- Has had their licence revoked in the last 12 months or
- Is not resident in the UK, or has not been a UK resident for the last 6months or
- Has been refused an application in the last 12 months or
- Is a corporate body which in not incorporated in the UK

Applications forms and details of current fee levels are available:

- on the Council's website (www.towerhamlets.gov.uk)
- from the Licensing Team on 020 7364 5008
- by email to licensing@towerhamlets.gov.uk

The Council prefers to receive electronic applications and offers a choice off payment options the details of which are contained in the application pack.

The Council expects the premises to have planning consent for the intended use and hours of operation, or otherwise have lawful planning status before making an application for a new licence.

In order for the application to be valid the applicant must:

- Submit the completed application form
- Pay the application fee
- Submit a floor plan, drawn to scale showing the layout of the premises(new applications only)

- Submit a location plan (1;1250) showing the location of the premises(NB. plans will not be required for transfers nor renewal applications)
- 2 passport size photos of the applicant where the applicant is an individual rather than a limited company
- 2 passport size photos of the manager if applicant is a limited company(NB: photos will only be required if there has been a change of applicant or manager since the last application)
- Display an A4 notice at the proposed premises for 21 days following the date that the completed application is submitted setting out the application details. The notice must be in a prominent position so that it can be easily read by passers-by. A notice template will be provided with the application form.
- publish a notice on at least one occasion in a local newspaper, during the period of ten working days starting on the day the application was given Council. The advert can be any size or colour but must be readable.

Applicants who wish to advertise the application in another local newspaper are advised to contact the Licensing Team beforehand, to confirm that it is acceptable.

On receipt of a valid application the Council will consult:

- The Police
- The Fire Brigade
- Building Control
- Health and Safety
- Ward Councillors

For new and variation applications the Council will also consult:

- Development Control Team
- Local residents living within 50m of the premises

Authorised Officers from the Council, Fire Brigade and Police may choose to inspect the premises and require works to be carried out to bring the premises up to the required standard before the premises can be used for licensable activities.

The Council will not determine an application for a licence unless the applicant allows an authorised officer reasonable opportunity to enter the premises to make such examination and enquiries as may be necessary to determine the suitability of the applicant and the sex establishment.

Representations

Anyone wishing to object to the application must submit a representation, in writing, within 28 days of the date that the valid application was received by the Council.

Representations can either be submitted via

- Our website: www.towerhamlets.gov.uk
- Email to: licensing@towerhamlets.gov.uk
- Post to: Consumer and Business Regulations, Licensing Team, 6th Floor, Mulberry Place, 5 Clove Crescent, E14 2BG.

A person making a representation must clearly state their name, address, and the grounds for objecting to the application and indicate whether they consent to have their name and address revealed to the applicant. Copies of representations will be made available to the applicant 14 days before the committee hearing.

The Council will not consider objections that are frivolous or vexatious or which relate to moral grounds (as these are outside the scope of the Act).

The Council prefers to receive electronic representations.

Late representations may be admissible at the discretion of the Council if there's sufficient reason to indicate that applicants will not be significantly prejudiced by the decision to allow a late objection to be considered. In making such a decision the Council will take into account:

- The length of the delay
- The amount of time that the applicant has to consider the representation before the hearing date
- If other representations have been received before the deadline

Determining an application

Applications with no representations will be approved under delegated authority to officers.

Applications with representations recommending that conditions be attached to the licence and which are acceptable to both the applicant and person making the representation can be approved under delegated authority to officers.

All other contested applications will be referred to the Licensing Committee for determination. The applicant, anyone making a representation and the ward Councillors will be notified the date, time and venue of the hearing and invited to attend to address the committee in person.

Applications can take up to 14 weeks to be determined. If an application is likely to take longer than 14 weeks to determine the Council will notify the applicant in writing before this deadline. Applications for sex establishment licenses are exempt from the tacit consent provisions of the EU Services Directive on the grounds of public interest and the legitimate interests of third parties.

The applicant will be notified in writing about the outcome of their application within 5 working days of the decision being made.

Sex Establishment licences are usually issued for 12 months, but can be issued for a shorter period if deemed appropriate.

In order to continue operating as a sex establishment the licence holder must make a renewal application prior to the expiry of the existing licence.

Appeals

Any applicant who is aggrieved by a decision to refuse an application or by the imposition of any conditions can appeal to the Magistrates Court within 21 days of receiving the decision in writing.

Grounds for refusing an application

1. The applicant is unsuitable to hold a licence by reason of having been convicted of any offence or for any other reason.
2. That if the license were to be granted, renewed or transferred the business to which it relates would be managed by or carried on for the benefit of a person, other than the applicant, who would be refused the grant, renewal or transfer of such a license if he made the application himself.

3. That the number of sex establishments in the relevant locality at the time the application is made is equal to or exceeds the number which the authority consider is appropriate for that locality.
4. That the grant or renewal of the license would be inappropriate, having regard:-
 - a. to the character of the relevant locality
 - b. to the use to which any premises in the vicinity are put; or
 - c. to the layout, character or condition of the premises, vehicle, vessel or stall in respect of which the application is made.

Transitional Arrangements

Broadly speaking, those existing sexual entertainment venues (lap dancing clubs etc) with a premises licence under the Licensing Act 2003, under which it is lawful to provide such entertainment, will continue to be able to operate for one year after the Council adopts the 2009 Act provisions or, if later, the determination of any application submitted during that year.

The 'transitional period' will last for 12-months beginning with the date that the Council resolves that Schedule 3 as amended by the 2009 Act will come into force in their area ('the 1st appointed day'). Six months following the 1st appointed day will be known as the '2nd appointed day' and the day on which the transitional period ends will be known as the '3rd appointed day'

Existing Operators

To allow time to comply with the new regime, existing operators, who, immediately before the 1st appointed day, have a 2003 Act licence and lawfully use premises as a sexual entertainment venue under that licence or are undertaking preparatory work to use the venue in that way will be allowed to continue to provide relevant entertainment until the 3rd appointed day or the determination of any application they have submitted before that time (including any appeal against the refusal to grant a licence), whichever is later.

For the purposes of the Transition a “2003 Act Licence” means a premises licence or club premises certificate under the Licensing Act 2003 under which it is lawful to provide relevant entertainment.

“Preparatory work” refers to work carried out by an operator, such as a refurbishment or refit, in order that they can use the premises as a sexual entertainment venue in the future. The operator will have been granted a 2003 Act licence before the 1st appointed day but will not have used the premises as a sexual entertainment venue by that date. It is likely that such operators will be known to the Council. However, where a dispute arises between the Council and a licence-holder over whether the licence-holder qualifies as an existing operator by virtue of this provision the Council will need to seek evidence from the licence-holder to demonstrate that they clearly intended to operate a sexual entertainment venue in the future and work had been done to achieve this end.

For the purposes of the Transition a “2003 Act Licence” means a premises licence or club premises certificate under the Licensing Act 2003 under which it is lawful to provide relevant entertainment.

Appointed Days

1st Appointed Day

The day on which the Sexual Entertainment Venue regime comes into force in the Borough and the beginning of the transitional period (1st June 2014)

2nd Appointed Day

The day 6 months after the 1st appointed day (1st December 2014)

3rd Appointed Day

The day 6 months after the 2nd appointed day and the end of the transitional period (1st June 2015)

New Applications

New applicants are people who wish to use premises as a sexual entertainment venue after the 1st appointed day but do not already have a premises licence or club premises certificate to operate as such under the 2003 Act or do have such a licence but have not taken any steps towards operating as such. After the 1st appointed day new applicants will not be able to operate as a sexual entertainment venue until they have been granted a sexual entertainment venue licence.

Determining Applications Received On or Before the 2nd Appointed Day

Applicants will be able to submit their application for a sexual entertainment venue from the 1st appointed day onwards.

As the Council is able to refuse applications having regard to the number of sex establishments they consider appropriate for a particular locality, all applications made on or after the 1st appointed day but on or before the 2nd appointed day shall be considered together. This will ensure that applicants are given sufficient time to submit their application and all applications received on or before the 2nd appointed day are considered on their individual merit and not on a first come first serve basis.

No applications shall be determined before the 2nd appointed day. After the 2nd appointed day the appropriate authority shall decide what if any licences should be granted. If a new applicant is granted a licence it will take effect immediately. If an existing operator is granted a licence, it will not take effect until the 3rd appointed day, up to which point they will be allowed to continue to operate under their existing premises licence or club premises certificate.

Determining Applications Received After the 2nd Appointed Day

Applications made after the 2nd appointed day shall be considered when they are made but only once all applications made on or before that date have been determined. However, reference to determination here does not include references to the determination of any appeal against the refusal of a licence.

As with applications received on or before the 2nd appointed day, licences granted to new applicants shall take effect immediately and licences granted to existing operators shall take effect from the 3rd appointed day or, if later, the date the application is determined.

Outstanding Applications

The Council will attempt where possible to determine outstanding applications made under the 2003 Act, which include an application for the provision of relevant entertainment, before the date that Schedule 3 as amended by the 2009 Act comes into force in their area.

Where it has not been possible to determine application before the 1st appointed day, applicants will need to submit an application for a sex establishment licence as set out in Schedule 3 if they wish to provide relevant entertainment. From the 1st appointed day onwards outstanding applicants shall be dealt with as though they are new applicants

Additional information and advice

Please contact:

Consumer and Business Regulations
Licensing Team
6th Floor,
Mulberry Place,
5 Clove Crescent, E14 2BG.
licensing@towerhamlets.gov.uk 020 7364 5008

Appendix 6

Special Cumulative Impact Policy for the Brick Lane and Bethnal Green Area

1. The Licensing Authority has adopted a special policy relating to cumulative impact in areas of:
 - Brick Lane
 - Bethnal Green

This special policy creates a rebuttable 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 following the receipt of representations, unless the applicant can demonstrate in the operation schedule that there will be no negative cumulative impacts with one or more of the licensing objectives.

2. The Council reviewed the Special Cumulative Impact Policy in 2021 and, following consultation, decided it was still of the opinion that the concentration of licensed premises within Brick Lane area was having a cumulative impact on the licensing objectives of crime and disorder and prevention of public nuisance. As part of the review in 2021, the Council also decided that the concentration of licensed premises within the Bethnal Green area was also having a cumulative impact on the licensing objectives of crime and disorder and prevention of public nuisance.

Review of Cumulative Impact Assessment - Supporting Evidence

3. In determining the Councils CIAs for the area of Brick Lane and Bethnal Green (Figures One and Two Below) the Council considered the following evidence:
 - Hot spot maps of incidents of crime and disorder and ASB linked to Licence premises in the defined areas for 2017 to 2020.
 - Complaint data from Environmental Health and Trading Standards relating to Noise and Licensing.
 - Licence Application data for the defined areas for 2017 to 2020
 - Results of the Consultation, that included Survey data and comments and written responses.

This evidence is published on our website:

<http://democracy.towerhamlets.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=309&MId=12361>.

Cumulative Impact Assessments (Brick Lane and Bethnal Green)

4. The Licensing Authority is of the view that the number, type and density of premises selling/supplying alcohol for consumption on and off the premises and/or the provision of late night refreshment in the Brick Lane and Bethnal Green Areas (highlighted in Figures One and Two below) is having a cumulative impact on the licensing objectives. Therefore, it is likely that granting further licences would be inconsistent with the authority's duty to promote the licensing objectives. Thus, it has declared a cumulative impact assessment within these areas.
5. The Brick Lane and Bethnal Green CIAs aim to manage the negative cumulative impact of the concentration of licensed premises in these areas and the stresses that the saturation of licensed premises has had on the local amenity, environmental degradation and emergency and regulatory services in managing this impact.
6. The effect of this Special Cumulative Assessment Policy will apply to the following types of applications:
 - New Premises Licences applications,
 - New Club Premises Certificates applications
 - Provisional Statements,
 - Variation of Premises Licences and Club Premises Certificate applications (where the modifications are relevant to the issue of cumulative impact for example increases in hours or capacity).

However, it will only apply where the application seeks to permit the Licensable activities of:

- the sale or supply of alcohol for consumption on or off the premises, and/or,
- the provision of late night refreshment.

7. **This Policy will be strictly applied and where relevant representations are received and it is the view of the Council that the application will be refused. Applicants will need to demonstrate that there are exceptional circumstances and that granting their application will not negatively add to the cumulative effect on the Licensing Objectives within the Brick Lane and Bethnal Green CIAs if they wish to rebut this presumption.**
8. The Special Cumulative Impact policy creates a rebuttable presumption that where relevant representations are received by one or more of the responsible authorities and/or other persons against applications (Councillors, Members of the Public) within the CIA zones the application will be refused.
9. Where representations have been received in respect to applications within the CIA zones the onus is on the applicant to adequately rebut the presumption.
10. It must be stressed that the presumption created by this special policy does not relieve responsible authorities or other persons of the need to make a representation. If there are no representations, the licensing authority must grant the application in terms that are consistent with the operating schedule submitted in line with their delegated authority.
11. This special policy is not absolute and the Licensing Authority recognises that it has to balance the needs of businesses with local residents. The circumstances of each application will be considered on its merits and the Licensing Authority shall grant applications, when representations are not received. The applicant should demonstrate that the operation of the premises will not add to the cumulative impact on one or more of the following licensing objectives:
 - Prevention of Crime and Disorder;
 - Prevention of Public Nuisance.

Therefore, applicants will be expected to comprehensively demonstrate why a new or varied licence will not add to the cumulative impact. They are strongly advised to give consideration to mitigating potential cumulative impact issues when setting out steps they will take to promote the licensing objectives in their operating schedule.

12. The Special Cumulative Impact policy will not be used to revoke an existing licence or certificate and will not be applicable during the review of existing licences.

Possible exceptions to the Brick Lane and Bethnal Green Cumulative Impact Assessments

- Applications for licences for small premises with a capacity of fifty persons or less who only intend to operate within framework hours, and that;
 - Only have consumption of food (late night refreshment) and drink (alcohol) on the premises only,
 - Only provide Off sales of food (late night refreshment) and drink (alcohol) for delivery (i.e. not for take away),and,
 - Have arrangements to prevent vertical drinking, for example fully seated venues;
- Applications for licences that are not alcohol led (e.g. Hairdressers wanting to provide alcohol to clients during their hair cut/treatments), .
- Applications for licences where the applicant has recently surrendered a licence for another premises of a similar size and providing similar licensable activities in the same CIA Area.

Licensing Authority will **not** consider the following as possible exceptions:

- that the premises will be well managed and run,
- that the premises will be constructed to a high standard,
- that the applicant operates similar premises elsewhere without complaint.

The Cumulative Impact Assessment Areas for the Brick Lane and Bethnal Green

13. The Cumulative Impact Assessment Areas are detailed in the maps below.

Figure One – Brick Lane CIZ

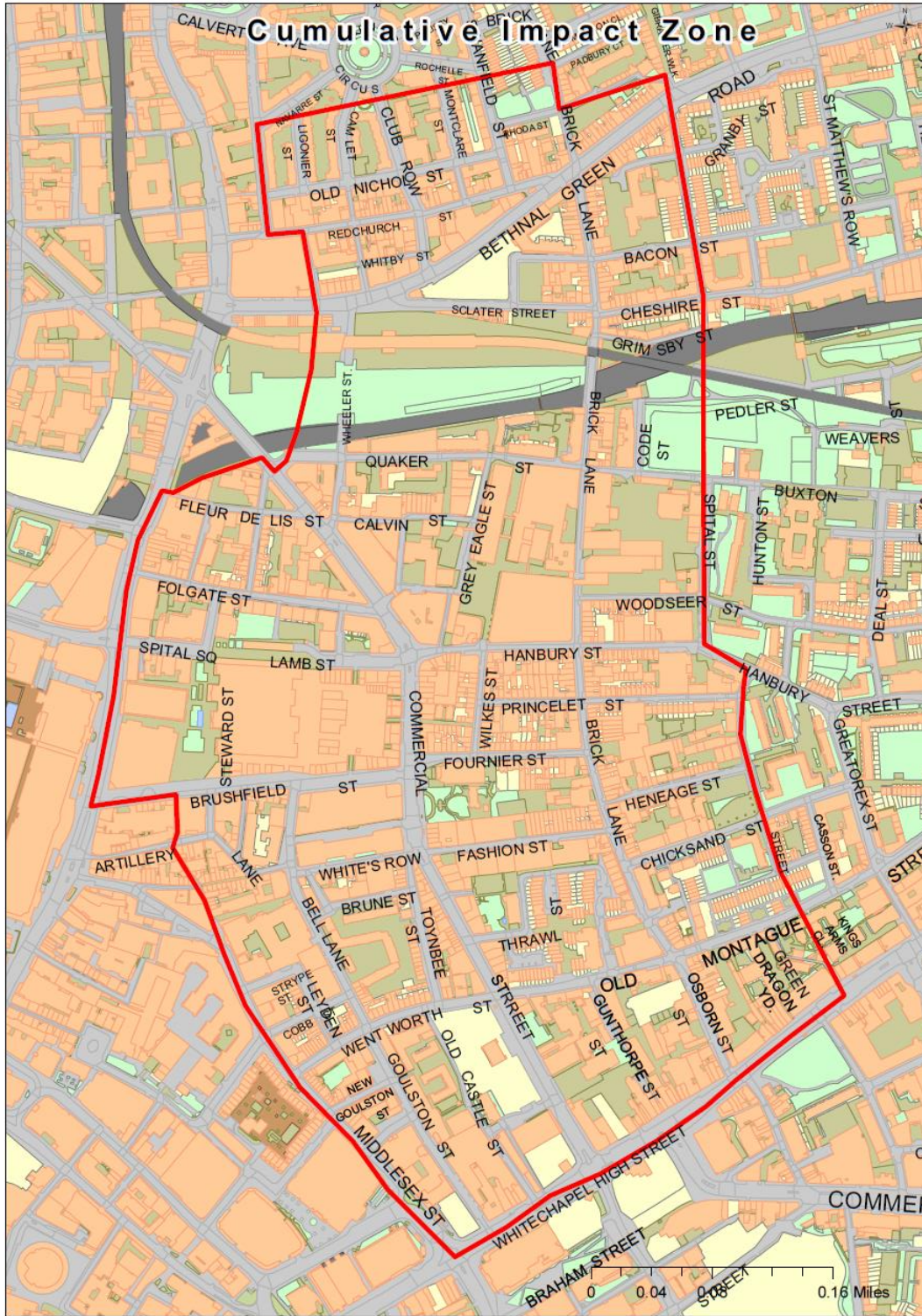
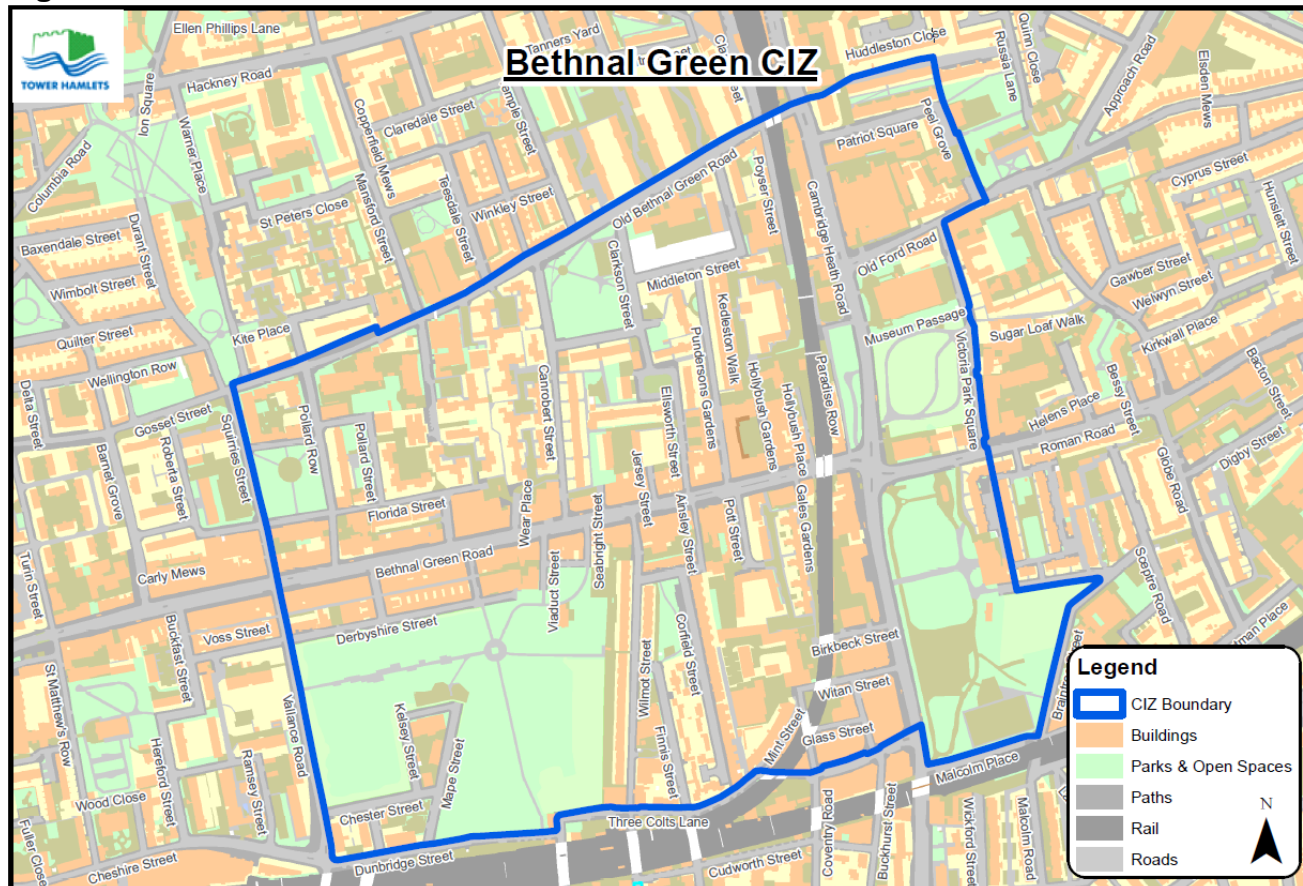


Figure Two – Bethnal Green CIZ



Statement of Licensing Policy Review 2023 - Survey

SURVEY RESPONSE REPORT

26 February 2020 - 24 April 2023

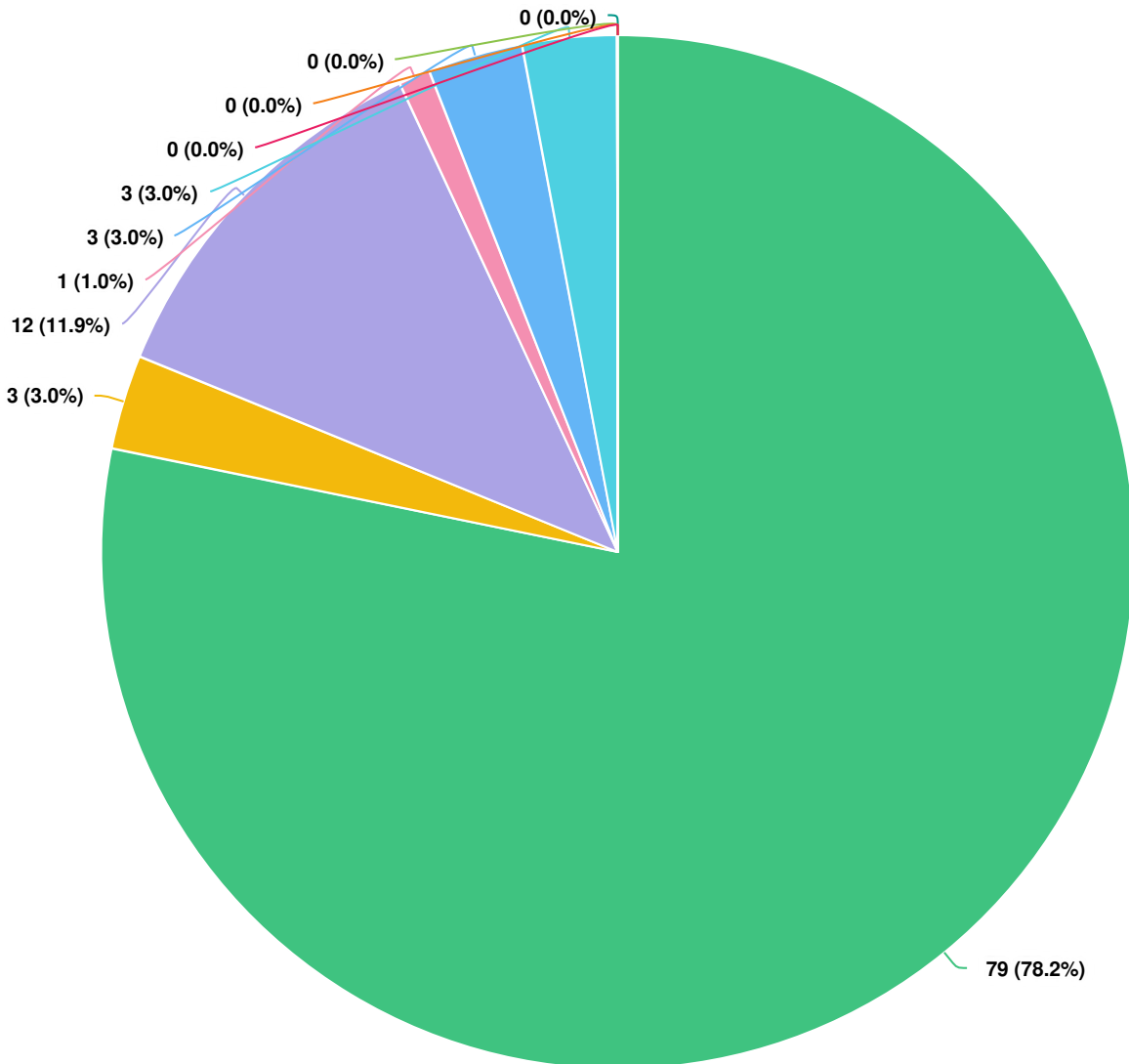
PROJECT NAME:

Statement of Licensing Policy Review Consultation 2023



SURVEY QUESTIONS

Q1 Please select the title below that best describes you?

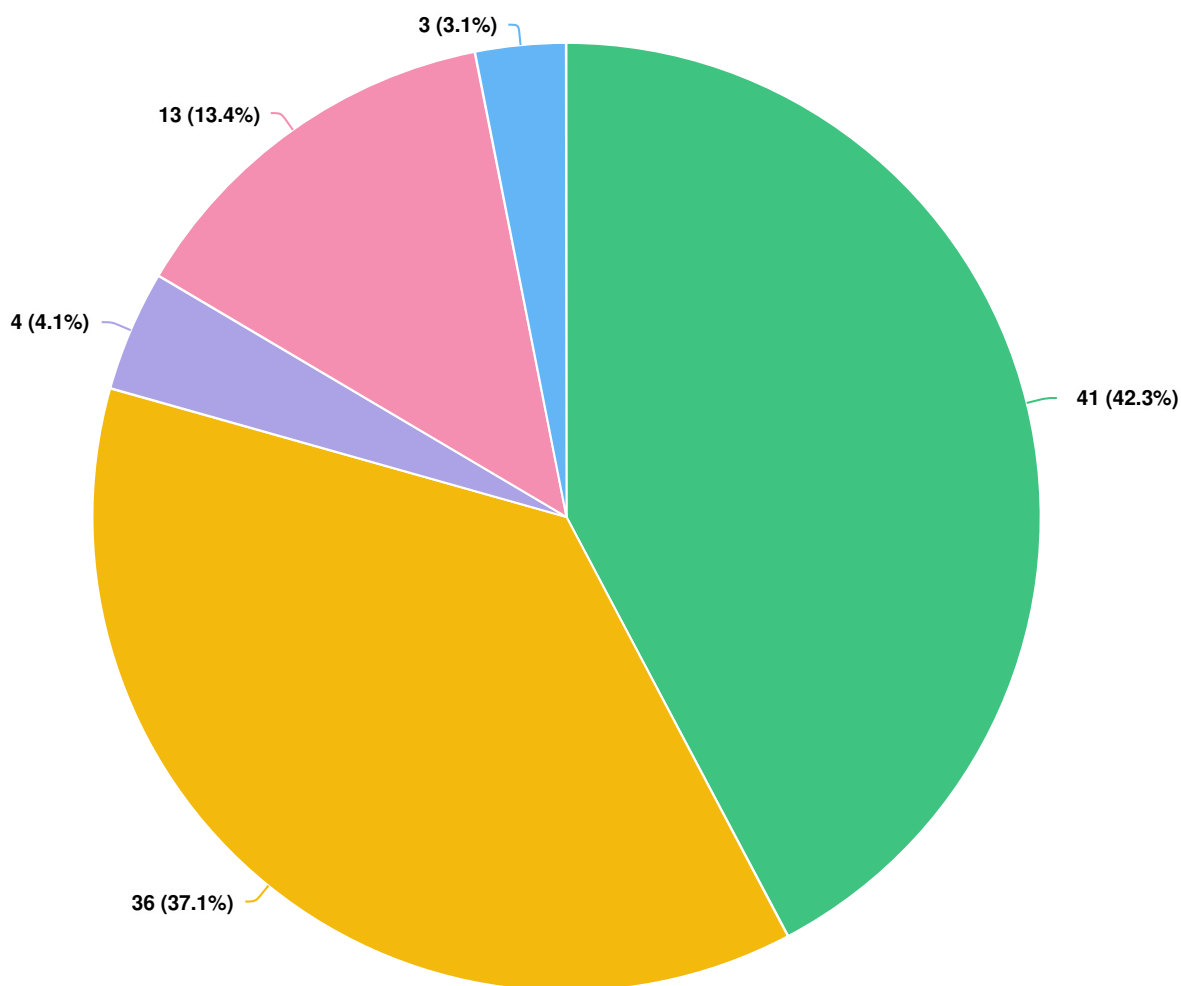


Question options

- Resident of Tower Hamlets
- Resident not Tower Hamlets
- Licensee of Tower Hamlets
- Business of Tower Hamlets
- Responsible Authority (e.g. Police, LFB etc.)
- Other (please specify)
- Licensee not Tower Hamlets
- Business not Tower Hamlets
- Trade Body/Organisation
- Legal Professional (e.g. Solicitor)

Mandatory Question (101 response(s))
 Question type: Dropdown Question

Q2 Tower Hamlets currently does a 40-metre voluntary consultation via letter to residents to advise them that we have received an application for a licence. This consultation was dropped during the Coronavirus Pandemic, and we instead place a list of...

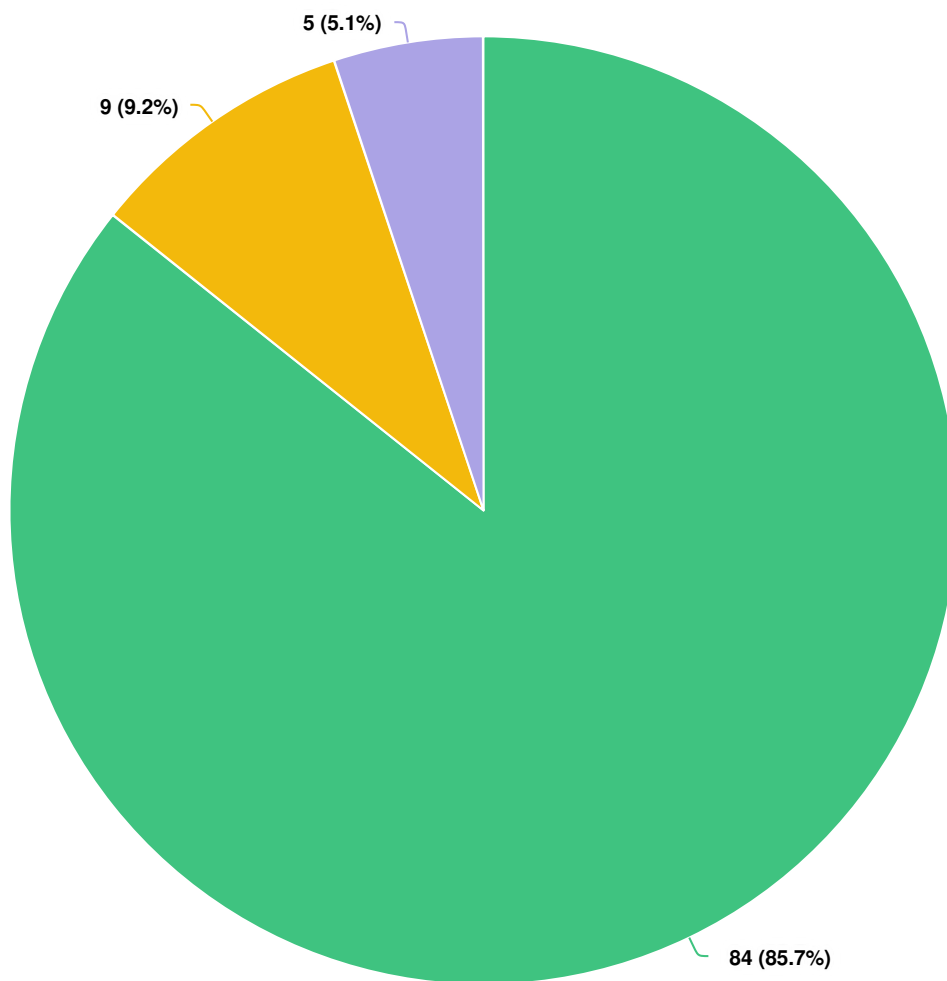


Question options

- Keep Voluntary consultation as it is (40 metres)
- Increase the Voluntary consultation to 50 metres
- Decrease the Voluntary consultation to 30 metres
- Cease the Voluntary consultation
- Other (please specify)

Optional question (97 response(s), 4 skipped)
Question type: Dropdown Question

Q3 | Do you agree with the below paragraph, which seeks to add conditions to licences, where appropriate, to require refusal of entry/service to those using NOx.?Psychoactive Substances, e.g. Nitrous Oxide (NOx) – Misuse of nitrous oxide is associated w...



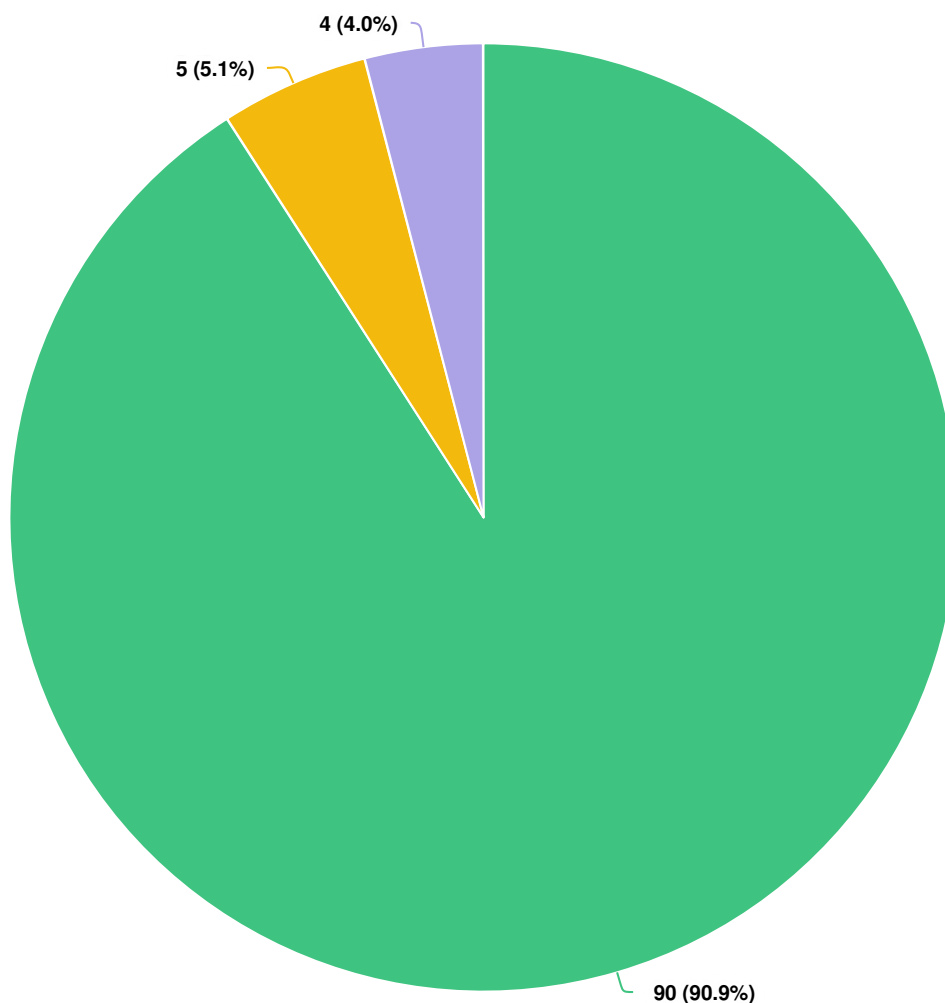
Question options

● Yes ● No ● Other (please specify)

Optional question (98 response(s), 3 skipped)

Question type: Dropdown Question

Q4 Do you agree with the below paragraph, which seeks to add conditions to licences, where appropriate, to prevent drinks spiking? Drinks spiking – in reference to the Local Governments Association (LGA) Guidance note on drink spiking prevention, this ...



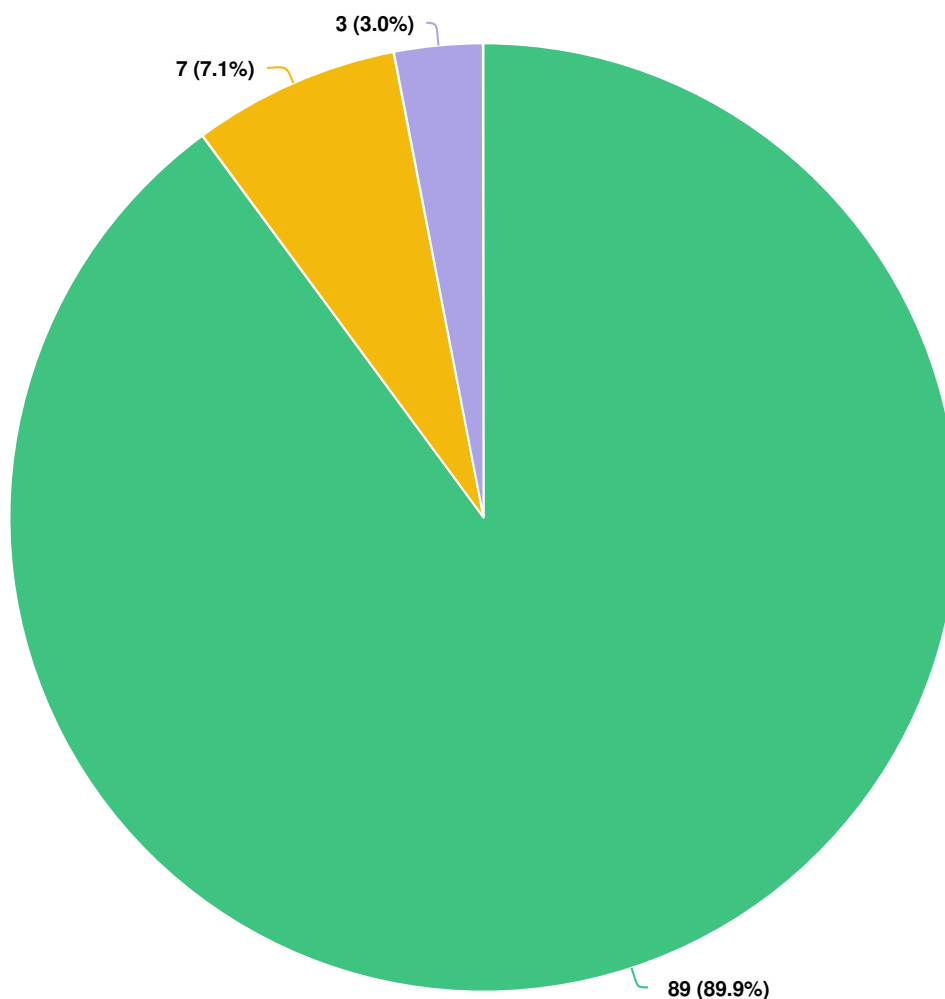
Question options

- Yes
- No
- Other (please specify)

Optional question (99 response(s), 2 skipped)

Question type: Dropdown Question

Q5 Do you agree with below paragraph, which seeks to encourage licensed premises to train their staff in Welfare and Vulnerability Engagement? Welfare and Vulnerability – This Licensing Authority believes that all Licensed venues should train their sta...



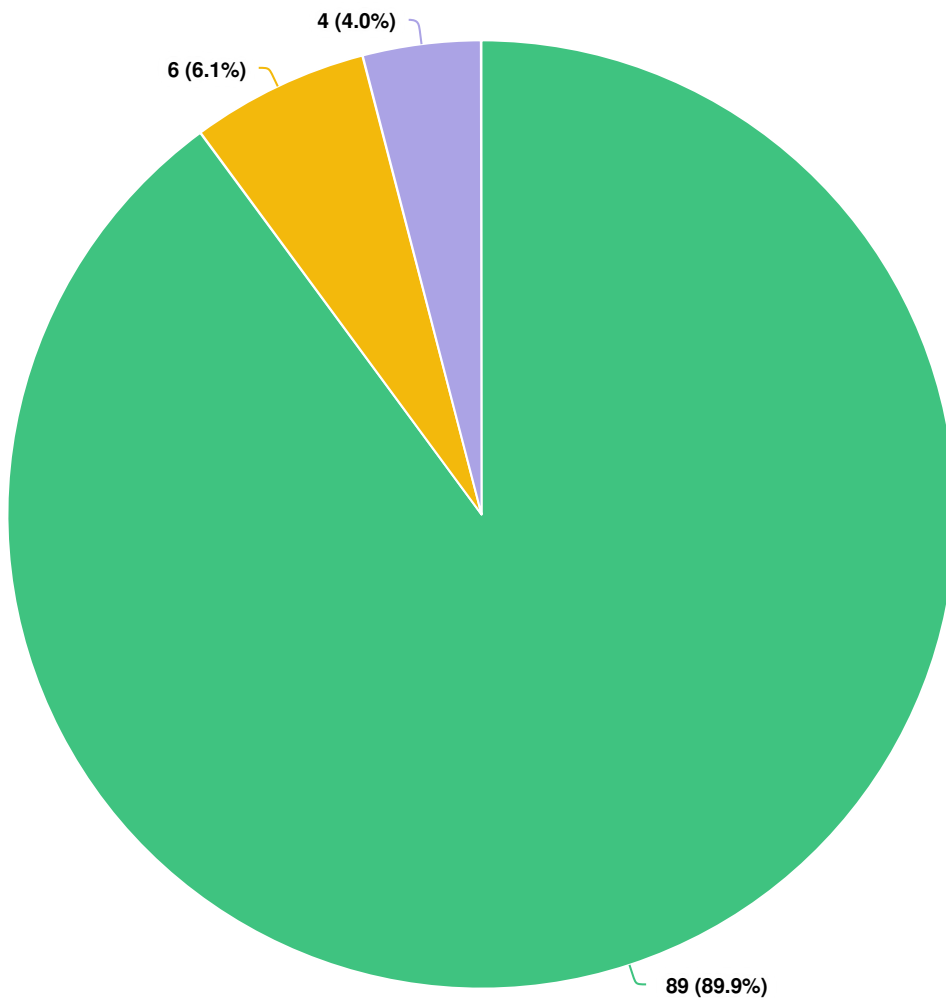
Question options

- Yes
- No
- Other (please specify)

Optional question (99 response(s), 2 skipped)

Question type: Dropdown Question

Q6 Do you agree with the below paragraph that encourages licence holders to sign up to Women’s Night Safety Charter and refuse entry/service in the event of an act of misogyny within a licensed premises? Misogyny in the Night Time Economy – sadly this ...



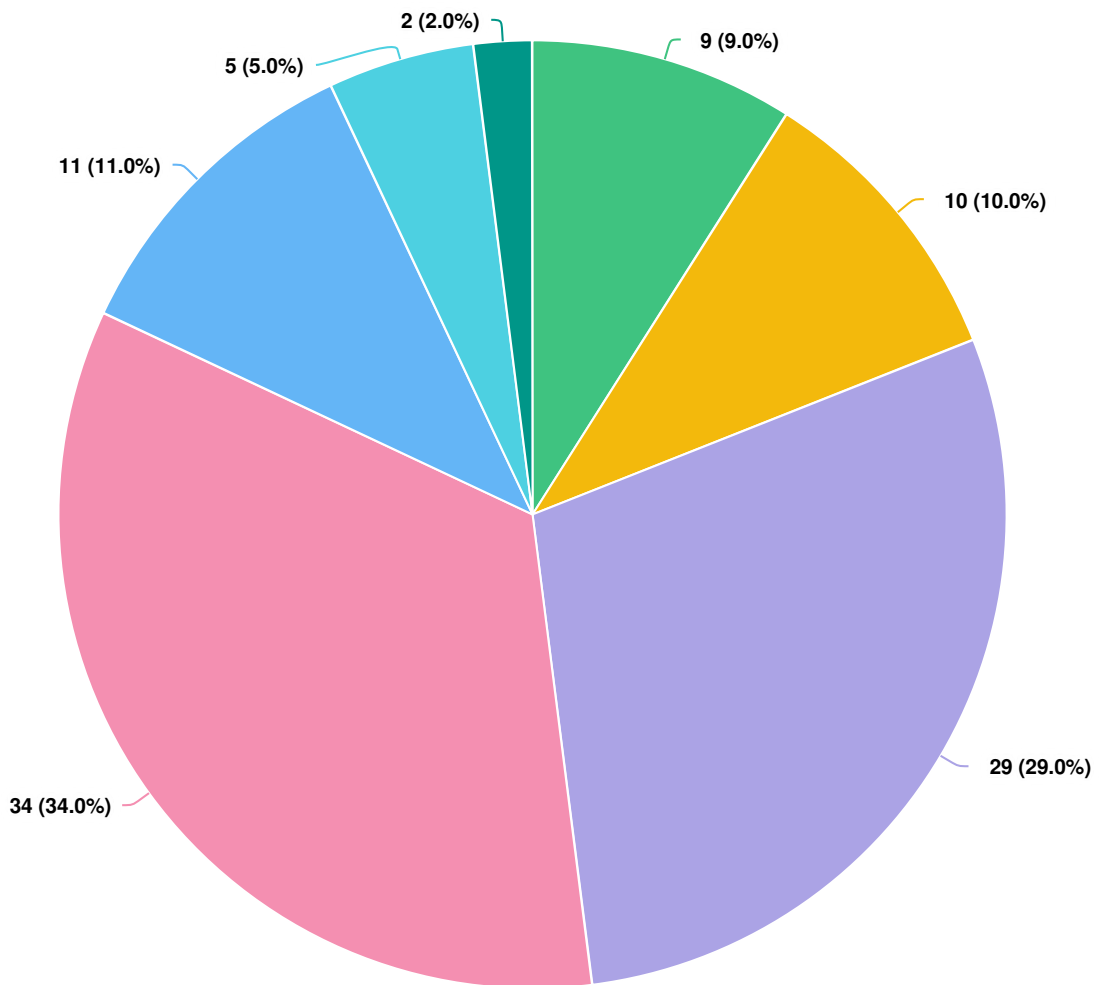
Question options

- Yes
- No
- Other (please specify)

Optional question (99 response(s), 2 skipped)

Question type: Dropdown Question

Q7 | The reviewed policy is seeking to restrict the use of Beer Gardens or similar areas after a certain time where the use of this area could cause nuisance to residents. What time do you agree would be most realistic in terms of preventing nuisance whi...

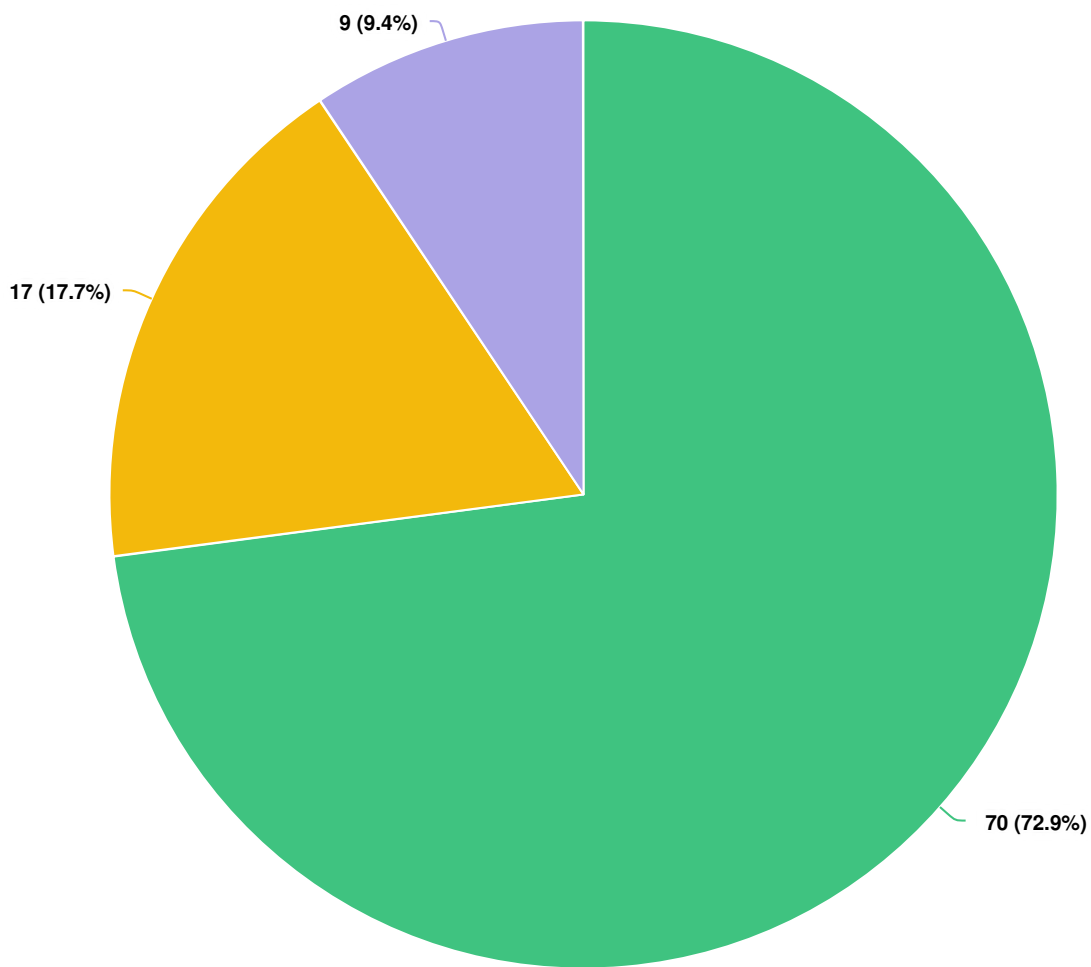


Question options

- 8pm
- 9pm
- 10pm
- 11pm
- 12am
- No restriction
- Other (please specify)

Optional question (100 response(s), 1 skipped)
Question type: Dropdown Question

Q8 Do you agree that applicants for Party Boats should be expected to adopt one or more of the below conditions as appropriate to their proposed application? a) For all externally promoted events including DJs, birthday bookings (where the person whose...



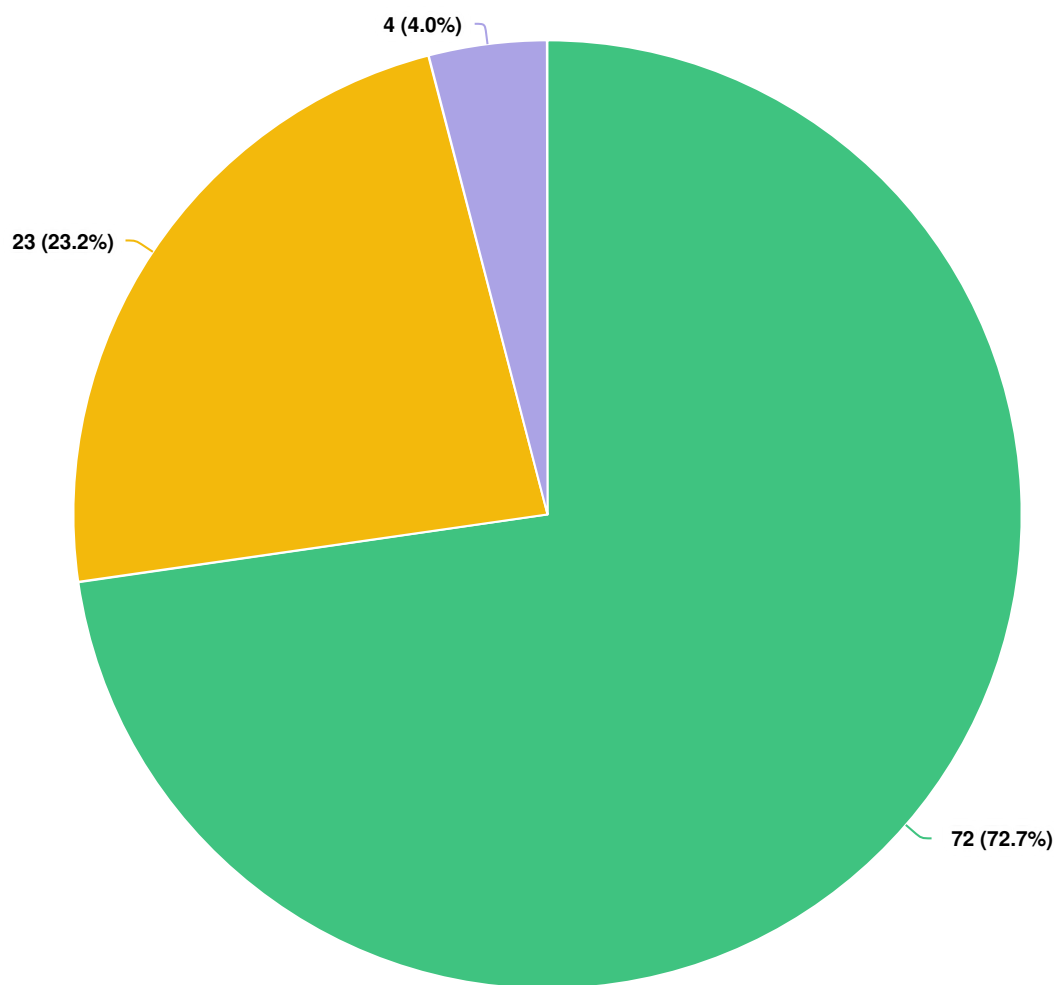
Question options

- Yes
- No
- Other (please specify)

Optional question (96 response(s), 5 skipped)

Question type: Dropdown Question

Q9 | We currently offer to certify films for licensed premises wanting to show films that have yet to be certified by the British Board of Film Classification (BBFC).The reviewed policy will refer applicants to the BBFC for all film certifications. Thi...



Question options

- Yes
- No
- Other (please specify)

Optional question (99 response(s), 2 skipped)

Question type: Dropdown Question

Q10 | If you have any other comments you wish to make in response to the reviewed Statement of Licensing Policy 2023 - 2028 please add these below:

[REDACTED]
1/19/2023 04:19 PM

Licensing should be reviewed every 6 months.

[REDACTED]
1/20/2023 04:51 PM

no

[REDACTED]
1/25/2023 10:33 PM

Cross border collaboration with Hackney council - they need to abide to similar licensing policies and be held responsible for the night-time related ASBs brought to our borough. They should not be any license granted to premises within the courtyards shared with residents. The council should also look into the event licenses which premises used to encroach on residential areas. The Boundary TRA had to fight off the organisation On-Redchurch (funded by major developers but impersonating as a community group) who tried to stage street parties on the Boundary Estate. The previous council funded this organisation and the event and public realm department initially approved their event. After discussing with the council event team, the event was finally halted. Please be careful who you fund or support. On Redchurch is not a community group. No street parties in dense residential estate please.

[REDACTED]
1/27/2023 12:11 PM

We need more cultural events in towers hamlets - this includes clubs. Save London's nightlife!

[REDACTED]
1/27/2023 12:32 PM

Should any changes be made to established businesses that could potentially put those businesses at risk, those businesses should receive support from the council to ensure their survival in keeping with the original business ethos.

[REDACTED]
1/27/2023 03:11 PM

When a new license is granted I think that a minimum time limit should be placed on the premises which would prohibit them from going back to the licensing authority seeking changes and variations to the license they have been granted, I think that a one year minimum time limit would be reasonable, this would hopefully stop the practice of newly licensed premises who were not originally granted all they had asked for from just reapplying again a few months down the line, if they operate in a responsible way during the first year of operation then by all means apply again with a years worth of evidence on how the premises operated.

[REDACTED]
1/27/2023 04:55 PM

TENS applications must include a fire safety policy for the location, and 40 metre zone mitigation strategy to manage crowd control, noise and nuisance, storage for empties and cigarette butts, prevention of lewd behaviour and public urination, all in the immediate vicinity of the event location.

[REDACTED]
1/27/2023 09:53 PM

I'd like a Sainsbury's in Wapping, also a Primark and any shops as we have three closed premises in Wapping Lane - including the bakers, recently. This is a highly residential area (not solely wealthy people) and we have minimal facilities and an elderly population relying on the two local buses. Instead of another sports bar/rubbish Italian restaurant why not an arts cinema? Who pays, wins.

[REDACTED]
1/27/2023 11:07 PM

Local residents must be consulted on applications for new fast food businesses.

[REDACTED]
1/28/2023 02:18 AM

Pubs and other licenced to venue should not be permitted to allow customer to take drinks and smoke outside their venue because they block the pavement, causing residents and other footpath user to walk on road or take other routes. It also noise nuisance for residents living near these establishments during the summer.

[REDACTED]
1/28/2023 10:49 AM

The decline of lgbtq+ clubs and party spaces is a travesty in Tower Hamlets. Last year's targeting of Klub Verboten and Crossbreed was a shame on the council and the license conditions of prohibiting semi-nudity in private venues targets these institutions directly. I am sure you have never been to one of these spaces, but they are havens of freedom of expression, safety, and community. Historically, lgbtq+ spaces have always been targetted for being 'immoral' and 'different'. These spaces do not hurt anyone, they make it clear the dress standards are flexible for those attending, and they contribute to lgbtq+ life in the city. They are away from family and residents, usually in very shut off warehouses. As a young Bangladeshi lgbtq+ person, Tower Hamlets thriving queer scene is one of my favourite things about the Borough. My friends all over London are often jealous about the quality of nightlife here! Here is an article on Tower Hamlets moral panic and targeting: <https://mixmag.net/read/fetish-parties-attacked-by-tower-hamlets-council-news/>. Please be on the right side of history.

[REDACTED]

The decline of lgbtq+ clubs and party spaces is a travesty in Tower

1/28/2023 10:49 AM

Hamlets. Last year's targetting of Klub Verboten and Crossbreed was a shame on the council and the license conditions of prohibiting semi-nudity in private venues targets these institutions directly. I am sure you have never been to one of these spaces, but they are havens of freedom of expression, safety, and community. Historically, lgbtq+ spaces have always been targetted for being 'immoral' and 'different'. These spaces do not hurt anyone, they make it clear the dress standards are flexible for those attending, and they contribute to lgbtq+ life in the city. They are away from family and residents, usually in very shut off warehouses. As a young Bangladeshi lgbtq+ person, Tower Hamlets thriving queer scene is one of my favourite things about the Borough. My friends all over London are often jealous about the quality of nightlife here! Here is an article on Tower Hamlets moral panic and targetting: <https://mixmag.net/read/fetish-parties-attacked-by-tower-hamlets-council-news/>. Please be on the right side of history.

1/28/2023 11:26 AM

Greater protection for historically & pre-existing licensed premises against any new complaints & challenges especially relating to noise. Support to retain licensed venues as socially & culturally significant places and stricter governance regarding change or restrictions to their use.

1/29/2023 03:06 PM

We need bins in Tower Hamlets - where are they ? This would also help the anti social behaviour if people see the are is taken care of -

1/30/2023 08:38 PM

Nox is by far a bigger issue than is currently acknowledged. There needs to be prosecution of vendors of nox and monitoring / actions around its use, particularly on streets and in cars.

2/01/2023 10:44 AM

The process of applying and paying for TENs seems clunky and long winded which allowed for increased margin for error. It would be great if this application process was streamlined via the online portal to allow for swift and concise applications, resulting in a reduction in admin on from both the applicant and council processor.

2/02/2023 04:16 PM

Majority of these rules and regulations seem to be adding more and more compliance to bars & restaurants who are already pretty good in providing a safe environment to guests. It feels like these resources would be better utilised in more public areas.

Please confirm whether the council are conducting proper cumulative

2/06/2023 01:24 PM

impact assessments in relation to any cumulative impact areas retained or proposed

2/09/2023 10:11 AM

Pubs in residential areas cause the least problems of all licensed premises and suffer the strictest licensing regulations, furthermore, they existed long before current local residents moved to the area, as such leave them have their beer gardens until 11pm. Maybe 10pm on a Sunday.

2/15/2023 10:07 PM

I do agree with all the above points.

2/20/2023 09:14 AM

Safety first. Keep noise levels down whilst docked and close by to residential premises. Only allow the party to start when the boat has set off.

3/03/2023 08:48 PM

Drinking in the street / public highway / parks should be much more closely regulated and the police / council should have powers to regulate this and publicans should be held responsible for patrons causing nuisance outside their premises.

3/04/2023 12:48 PM

When licensed premises apply to have outside seating and service it is vital that neighbours are contacted before anything is granted. What has happened in our area in the past - E2 /Weavers Ward - is that people sitting outside drinking at night in Columbia Road and Ezra Street attract others who bring their own bottles and cans and sit in the street nearby. They then make a lot of noise and sometime urinate in the street. It can be a real problem in the summer nights and it would be great if it could be monitored.

3/04/2023 10:58 PM

Please keep supporting and developing the night life economy.
Please create a kink and queer friendly environment

3/08/2023 01:32 PM

Only comments I have is regarding party boats. As a lifelong resident and someone whose family home is on the Riverside, the party boats never have caused us issue. I find it annoying that "newcomers" in the expensive Riverside apartments complaining about the river, it has been busy for the past 1000 years. These same people never stay or lay down roots in the area, these people come and stay for five minutes and think they have the right to complain and trying to get things changed. Listen to the actual long term residents as opposed to the transient community in million pound apartments.

[REDACTED]
3/08/2023 09:56 PM

For drinking outlets within a 100 metres from dense residential estates, there must be tighter controls on spillover effects such as car bars where patrons continue to party and drink after the outlets closed., these on-premise outlets must not have takeaway drinking off premise license to prevent this.

[REDACTED]
3/13/2023 09:57 AM

Keep up with reviewing the licensing policy to keep everyone safe

[REDACTED]
4/05/2023 03:09 PM

Please review licenses in the case where flats/houses have been built next to venues - or at least enforce existing license requirements more strongly. New residents have to adapt to the area but only based on reasonable expectation: for instance it is reasonable to expect a pub in a residential area does not have a late night music license. Also, please consider the impact of loitering near the premises when determining licensing. Late night noise and chatter in public areas have impacted us severely, and venues claim it is not their responsibility to manage public areas.

[REDACTED]
4/05/2023 03:22 PM

Numerous spelling and other errors in the questionnaire (eg para b and P in boating section are the same)

[REDACTED]
4/08/2023 06:19 PM

Large venues like the one in wapping called skylight cause issues all over like a half mile in all directions

[REDACTED]
4/11/2023 01:20 PM

Apart from the minor litter problem, it is not true to state (as you have here) that nitrous oxide is associated with increased antisocial behaviour. This a pejorative claim made without evidence. Such a statement should have no place in a 'neutral' survey.

Optional question (31 response(s), 70 skipped)

Question type: Essay Question

Equality Impact Analysis Screening Tool

Section 1: Introduction

Name of proposal For the purpose of this document, 'proposal' refers to a policy, function, strategy or project
Statement of Licensing Policy 2023 Review
Service area and Directorate responsible
Place/Public Realm
Name of completing officer
Tom Lewis, Team Leader, Licensing and Safety, Environmental Health and Trading Standards
Head of Service
David Tolley, Head of Service, Environmental Health and Trading Standards

The Equality Act 2010 places a 'General Duty' on all public bodies to have 'due regard' to the need to:

- Eliminate discrimination, harassment and victimisation and any other conduct prohibited under the Act
- Advance equality of opportunity between those with 'protected characteristics' and those without them
- Foster good relations between those with 'protected characteristics' and those without them

This Equality Impact Analysis provides evidence for meeting the Council's commitment to equality and the responsibilities outlined above. For more information about the Council's commitment to equality, please visit the Council's [website](#).

Section 2: Summary of proposal being screened

Describe the proposal including the relevance of proposal to the general equality duties and protected characteristics under the Equality Act 2010

This is a Policy that the Council has a legal requirement to adopt under the Licensing Act 2003. The Council must prepare and publish a Statement of Licensing Policy at least every 5 years. The

policy sets out in detail how the licensing authority (Council) will discharge its licensing functions under the Licensing Act 2003.

There are four licensing objectives set out in the Licensing Act 2003, as follows:

1. the prevention of crime and disorder,
2. the prevention of public nuisance,
3. public safety,
4. the protection of children from harm.

In considering the policy in view of the Equality Act 2010, though there could be a view that there may be an effect on religious/believe the reason for the policy is statutory. Therefore, in view of this and the new addition of "Equality and Inclusion in Licensed Venues" section, which discusses PSED and links the policy to the Council's Equality Policy, it does not appear that there are likely to be any adverse effects on people who share Protected Characteristics as defined by the 2010 Act.

Section 3: Equality Impact Analysis screening

Is there a risk that the policy, proposal or activity being screened disproportionately adversely impacts (directly or indirectly) on any of the groups of people listed below?	Yes	No	Comments
<p>Please consider the impact on overall communities, residents, service users and Council employees.</p> <p>This should include people of different:</p>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Sex 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<p>More females than men are prone to sexual harassment in the nighttime economy. The policy sets out our expectations of licence holders relating to sexual harassment in the Night Time Economy by encouraging licensed venues to sign up to the Mayor of London's Women's Night Safety Charter. As well as the Women's Night Safety Charter we encourage applicants and license holders to discuss applications with the Council's Violence Against Women and Girls Service, who can provide advice and training to venues on preventing misogyny within licensed premises. In addition, License Holders are expected to take a zero-tolerance approach misogyny within their</p>

			<p>venues where this is towards customers or employees. Refusal in the first instance of acts of sexual harassment and reporting to the metropolitan police is expected. The policy states that it is expected that all Licensed venues who sell alcohol for consumption on their premises should train their staff in WAVE and adopt Ask for Angela or similar initiatives aimed at assisting vulnerability within alcohol licensed venues. Females and gay men are more prone to drinks spiking than other groups. A YouGov poll in 2022 identified that nationally 10% of females said they had their drink spiked compared to 5% of males. 48% of those aged between 18-24 said they have had a drink spiked or know someone who has. However, it is those aged between 25 and 49 who are the most likely to say they have personally had a drink spiked (11%).</p> <p>The policy makes an expectation on licence holders and applicants to have a zero-tolerance policy towards drinks spiking. This involves as a minimum ensuring all reports of spiking are acted upon and that all incidents of alleged spiking are recorded and reported to the police. Applicants for new and variations of existing licences as well as those submitting TENs are expected to work with the Metropolitan Police in order to consider actions needed to prevent drinks spiking in their venues/events.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Age 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<p>The policy states the types of criminal activity that may arise with licensed premises which the Licensing Authority will treat particularly seriously that relate to children and young people. This includes illegal purchase and consumption of alcohol by minors which impacts health, educational attainment, employment prospects and propensity for crime of young people; relating to grooming children; and relating to criminal activity particularly relating to gangs.</p> <p>Teenagers and young adults are more likely to use psychoactive substances such as nitrous oxide (NOx). Misuse of nitrous oxide is associated with increased antisocial behaviour including littering, noise nuisance and vandalism, all of which are detrimental to residents quality of life and feelings of safety. Use of nitrous oxide is also a health concern</p>

			and has other associated harms. The policy places an expectation on License Holders to refuse entry to any person seen use or selling NOx as a psychoactive Substance. Refusals should also be entered into License Holders refusals logs.
▪ Race	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	There is no estimated direct or indirect disproportionate impact of these proposals to residents on the grounds of different gender identities.
▪ Religion or Philosophical belief	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	There is no estimated direct or indirect disproportionate impact of these proposals to residents on the grounds of different gender identities
▪ Sexual Orientation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Females and gay men are more prone to drinks spiking than other groups. A YouGov poll in 2022 identified that nationally 10% of females said they had their drink spiked compared to 5% of males. 48% of those aged between 18-24 said they have had a drink spiked or know someone who has. However, it is those aged between 25 and 49 who are the most likely to say they have personally had a drink spiked (11%). The policy makes an expectation on licence holders and applicants to have a zero-tolerance policy towards drinks spiking. This involves as a minimum ensuring all reports of spiking are acted upon and that all incidents of alleged spiking are recorded and reported to the police. Applicants for new and variations of exiting licences as well as those submitting TENs are expected to work with the Metropolitan Police in order to consider actions needed to prevent drinks spiking in their venues/events.
▪ Gender re-assignment status	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	There is no estimated direct or indirect disproportionate impact of these proposals to residents on the grounds of different gender identities
▪ People who have a Disability (physical, learning difficulties, mental)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	All business have a duty under the Equality Act 2010 to provide reasonable adjustment. The policy references that applicants and licence holder must make themselves

health and medical conditions)			familiar with the law and their responsibilities set out within the Equality Act 2010.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Marriage and Civil Partnerships status 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	There is no estimated direct or indirect disproportionate impact of these proposals to residents on the grounds of different gender identities
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ People who are Pregnant and on Maternity 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	There is no estimated direct or indirect disproportionate impact of these proposals to residents on the grounds of different gender identities
<p>You should also consider:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Parents and Carers ▪ Socio-economic status ▪ People with different Gender Identities e.g. Gender fluid, Non-binary etc. ▪ Other 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	There is no estimated direct or indirect disproportionate impact of these proposals to residents on the grounds of different gender identities

If you have answered **Yes** to one or more of the groups of people listed above, **a full Equality Impact Analysis is required**. The only exception to this is if you can 'justify' the discrimination (Section 4).

Section 4: Justifying discrimination

Are all risks of inequalities identified capable of being justified because there is a:	
(i) <i>Genuine Reason</i> for implementation	<input type="checkbox"/>
(ii) The activity represents a <i>Proportionate Means</i> of achieving a <i>Legitimate Council Aim</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(iii) There is a <i>Genuine Occupational Requirement</i> for the council to implement this activity	<input type="checkbox"/>

Section 5: Conclusion

Before answering the next question, please note that there are generally only two reasons a full Equality Impact Analysis is not required. These are:

- The policy, activity or proposal is likely to have **no or minimal impact** on the groups listed in section three of this document.
- Any discrimination or disadvantage identified is **capable of being justified** for one or more of the reasons detailed in the previous section of this document.

Conclusion details

Based on your screening does a full Equality Impact Analysis need to be performed?

Yes	No
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

If you have answered **YES** to this question, please complete a full Equality Impact Analysis for the proposal

If you have answered **NO** to this question, please detail your reasons in the 'Comments' box below

Comments

The decision making body is recommended to:

- Agree the proposed Licensing Policy

All local authorities have to prepare and publish a Statement of Licensing Policy at least every 5 years. This policy defines how they will administer and exercise their responsibilities under the Licensing Act 2003.

The Statement of Licensing Policy is prescribed by central government in its guidance to Local Authorities, issued by the Secretary of State under section 182 of the Act. The policy must comply with this guidance. The current policy is compatible with this guidance.

This policy covers the following:

- How the Licensing Authority will use its regulatory powers in relation to applications and reviews of the activities it regulates, to the extent it is allowed by statute.
- The main licensing objectives for the authority which are set by legislative requirements.
- The Licensing Authority approach to regulation
- The scheme of delegation

Licence holder must promote the licencing objectives, and applicants must show how their application promotes these objectives in their applications.

1. the prevention of crime and disorder,
2. the prevention of public nuisance,
3. public safety,
4. the protection of children from harm.


Responsible Authorities and residents etc. can object to applications where they fail to properly promote the licensing objectives.

The new policy contains expectations on applicants and licence holders to undertake Welfare and Vulnerability Engagement Training and take zero tolerance to sexual harassment. Thus, it seeks to raise the profile of protecting vulnerable persons, and encourage a safer more inclusive licensed trade within the borough.

A statutory consultation process commenced on 19th January and 13th April 2023. The comments received have been analysed and incorporated into the policy where necessary.

The policy will be agreed by the full Council.

This page is intentionally left blank

Decision Report Council 27 September 2023	 TOWER HAMLETS
Report of: (Cover report of Matthew Mannion, Head of Democratic Services) Main Report of Janet Fasan, Director of Legal and Monitoring Officer	Classification: Unrestricted
Annual Report of the Standards Advisory Committee	

Wards affected	All Wards
-----------------------	-----------

1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1.1 At its meetings earlier in the year, the Standards Advisory Committee have reviewed and prepared an Annual Report to Council.
- 1.2 The Annual Report is attached to this cover sheet.
- 1.3 Council is asked to review and note the Annual Report.
- 1.4 John Pulford, the Chair of the Standards Advisory Committee will be in attendance at Council to present the report and hear from Members.
- 1.5 Note that the report has been updated since its last presentation to the Standards Advisory Committee following feedback from Members.

Recommendations:

The Council is recommended to:

- 1. Review and note the Annual Report of the Standards Advisory Committee for 2022-23.

This page is intentionally left blank

Non-Executive Report of the: Standards Advisory Committee 18 April 2023	 TOWER HAMLETS
Report of: Janet Fasan, Director of Legal and Monitoring Officer	Classification: Open (Unrestricted)
Standards Advisory Committee Annual Report to Council 2022/23	

Originating Officer(s)	Jill Bayley, Head of Safeguarding
Wards affected	All Wards

Executive Summary

This report sets out the Committee's annual report to Council. The report covers the activities of the Committee over the last year as well as being an opportunity to highlight any relevant issues to Council.

The Committee are asked to consider the draft Annual Report and feed back on any last updates before the report is presented to Council.

Recommendations:

The Standards Advisory Committee is recommended to:

1. Note the activities of the Standards Advisory Committee for the municipal year May 2022 – May 2023 as set out in the Annual Report of the Standards Advisory Committee attached as Appendix 1.

1. REASONS FOR THE DECISIONS

- 1.1 It is considered best practice in many authorities for the full Council to receive an annual report in relation to the work of the Standards Advisory Committee and on issues around standards generally. The provision of an annual report of the Committee's business ensures the profile of ethical standards across the organisation and affords the opportunity to highlight areas of good practice and identify any requirements for improvement.

2. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

- 2.1 The Advisory Committee could decide not to submit an annual report but this course of action is not recommended.

3. DETAILS OF THE REPORT

- 3.1 The Standards Advisory Committee is asked to consider the Annual Report attached as Appendix 1.
- 3.2 The report contains an outline of the work and activities of the Standards Advisory Committee over the past year as well as highlighting any particular issues that Council should consider.
- 3.3 The Standards Advisory Committee is asked to note the list of topics for consideration over the next year and to advise whether any additional topics should be considered, and whether any of the topics should be given particular priority.

4. EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 There are no immediate equalities implications arising out of this report.

5. OTHER STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 This section of the report is used to highlight further specific statutory implications that are either not covered in the main body of the report or are required to be highlighted to ensure decision makers give them proper consideration. Examples of other implications may be:
- Best Value Implications,
 - Consultations,
 - Environmental (including air quality),
 - Risk Management,
 - Crime Reduction,
 - Safeguarding.
 - Data Protection / Privacy Impact Assessment.
- 5.2 Robust ethical governance arrangements help to ensure the proper, efficient and effective discharge of the Council's functions and contribute to compliance with the requirement to achieve best value.

6. COMMENTS OF THE CHIEF FINANCE OFFICER

- 6.1 There are no direct financial implications arising from this report.

7. COMMENTS OF LEGAL SERVICES

- 7.1 Section 27 of the Localism Act 2011 requires local authorities to promote and maintain high standards of conduct by members and co-opted members of the authority. Section 28 of the same act requires local authorities to adopt a Code of Conduct which is consistent with the Nolan principles of standards in public life.

7.2 This report and the appendix demonstrate this local authority's compliance with the above legislation.

Linked Reports, Appendices and Background Documents

Linked Report

- None.

Appendices

- Appendix 1 - Standards Advisory Committee - Annual Report to Council Year May 2022 to May 2023.

Local Government Act, 1972 Section 100D (As amended) List of "Background Papers" used in the preparation of this report

- None.

Officer contact details for documents:

N/A

This page is intentionally left blank

London Borough of Tower Hamlets
Standards Advisory Committee - Annual Report to Council
Year May 2022 to May 2023

Introduction

1. This is the regular Annual Report of the Advisory Committee. It sets out the key issues dealt with by the Committee during the past municipal year and identifies the priorities for 2023/24.
2. It should be noted that, as there was a change of administration following the Council election in May 2022, some of the reports considered by the Committee during this municipal year relate to the previous administration.

Membership

3. During the municipal year 2021/22 the Committee comprised 5 elected members and 5 independent co-opted members. The Council's Constitution provides that an independent co-opted member be appointed Chair of the Committee.

Elected Members:

- Cllr. Sirajul Islam
- Cllr. Shafi Ahmed
- Cllr. Amin Rahman
- Cllr. Abu Chowdhury
- Cllr. Sabina Akhtar

Independent Co-opted Members

- John Pulford MBE (Chair)
- Fiona Browne (Vice Chair)
- Mike Houston
- Elizabeth Marshall MBE

Nafisa Adam and Denzil Johnson resigned as independent co-opted members shortly before the start of the current municipal year and Syed Uddin resigned on 19 January 2023. The Committee thanks them for their service.

There is currently one vacancy for a co-opted member which the committee hopes to fill in the near future.

Independent Persons

4. The Council has appointed two statutory Independent Persons (IPs) under the Localism Act 2011. The IPs are Ms Rachael Tiffen and Ms Amanda Orchard. Both were appointed to their current term of office as IP at Council on 19 January 2022. Ms Tiffen's second term of office and Ms Orchard's first term of office both started on 20 January 2022 and last until 20 January 2026.
5. The principal role of the IP is to give an independent view on governance issues in general and specifically in relation to alleged breaches of the Code of Conduct for Members. Both IP's work closely the Monitoring Officer and her Deputies, considering all complaints and whether an alleged breach of the Code meets the criteria for investigation.
6. It is also a statutory requirement to consult the IP before deciding on the outcome of an investigation into a complaint and whether to impose any sanction. The Member complained about may also at any stage of the process seek a view from the IP. In order to avoid any conflict of interest the Council has appointed two IPs.
7. The Council is fortunate to have appointed IPs with a sound understanding of the ethical framework who both act as advocates for the Council in promoting ethical standards and of high standards of conduct. Although not members of the Standards Advisory Committee, they attend meetings and play an important role in the proceedings. Both IPs also contribute to and participate in the Council's mandatory Ethics & Probity training programme.

Officers

8. The Committee's lead officers were:
 - Janet Fasan – Director, Legal Services and Monitoring Officer
 - Matthew Mannion – Head of Democratic Services
 - Agnes Adrien – Head of Litigation and Deputy Monitoring Officer
 - Jill Bayley, Head of Safeguarding and Deputy Monitoring Officer

Terms of Reference

9. The current terms of reference for the Standards Advisory Committee are contained in Part B Section 19 of the Constitution, with the Committee's procedures set out in Part D. The terms of reference and procedures are attached as Appendix A to this report.

Meetings

10. The Standards Advisory Committee held four meetings during the 2022/23 municipal period on the following dates:
 - 23 June 2022
 - 22 September 2022
 - 15 February 2023
 - 18 April 2023
11. The Committee met in hybrid format with a quorum meeting physically and other members attending virtually. This system worked well during the pandemic and has been continued now that restrictions have eased as it allows for flexibility.

Standards Advisory Committee Work Programme 2022/23

12. The Committee agreed a work programme at the first meeting of the municipal period on 23 June 2022. It was updated throughout the year. The key areas of business considered during the year are listed below.

Code of Conduct for Members – Complaint Monitoring:

13. The Committee received bi-annual monitoring reports on complaints of alleged breach of the Code of Conduct for Members. There were seven complaints from May 2022 to May 2023.
14. Six complaints were made by members of the public and one by a Member. Five complaints were closed without investigation after consultation with the IP. One complaint is currently being investigated after consultation with the IP. One complaint has been referred to an outside agency for investigation.
15. The Committee continues to monitor whether there are lessons to take from complaints monitoring. The Committee continues to monitor remedial actions and that outcomes are reported to the complainant, to give assurance that maintaining ethical standards is given full organisational support.

Dispensations:

16. The Committee received bi-annual reports on dispensations granted by the Monitoring Officer under section 33 of the Localism Act 2011 in respect of disclosable pecuniary interests (DPI's).

The meeting on 23 June 2022 noted that the Monitoring Officer had granted a continuing General Dispensation to all Members for their current four-year term to be present, speak and vote where they would otherwise have a DPI in the following matters:

- (a) Housing: where the Councillor (or spouse or partner) holds a tenancy or lease with the Council if the matter does not relate to the particular tenancy or lease of the Councillor (their spouse or partner);
 - (b) Council Tax: setting the council tax or a precept;
 - (c) Determining an allowance, travelling expense, payment or indemnity for Councillors;
 - (d) Council Officer pay where this impacts on Member Allowances.
17. A specific dispensation may also be granted where the Monitoring Officer is satisfied that:
- (a) without the dispensation the number of persons prohibited from participating in any particular business would be so great a proportion of the body transacting the business as to impede the transaction of the business;
 - (b) without the dispensation the representation of different political groups on the body transacting any particular business would be so upset as to alter the likely outcome of any vote relating to the business;
 - (c) granting the dispensation is in the interests of persons living in the authority's area; or
 - (d) it is otherwise appropriate to grant a dispensation.
- Any grant of a dispensation must specify the duration of the dispensation up to a maximum of 4 years. The regular reporting to the Standards Advisory Committee allows Members to maintain oversight of any specific dispensations that are granted.
18. General Dispensations have been granted to all Councillors, lasting for that Full Council meeting only, on two occasions during this municipal year.
19. A General Dispensation was granted to all Councillors for Full Council on 5 October 2022 for an Agenda Item regarding support for small businesses in the face of the energy bill crisis. The Dispensation lasted for the Full Council meeting on 5 October 2022 only. The decision to grant the dispensation was made due to the significant number of Members who had a DPI because they have businesses in the borough, and as a result:
- a) the representation of different political groups on the body conducting the business would be so upset as to alter the outcome of the vote on the matter; and
 - b) Granting the dispensation would be in the interests of persons living within the authority's area; and
 - c) The number of DPIs in the matter would impede the transaction of the business.
20. A General Dispensation was granted to all Councillors for Full Council on 18 January 2023 for Agenda Item 8, a Motion concerning Tower Hamlets Homes. The Dispensation lasted for that Full Council meeting only. The Dispensation was granted on the grounds that:

- a) the representation of different political groups on the body conducting the business would be so upset as to alter the outcome of the vote on the matter; and
- b) Granting the dispensation would be in the interests of persons living within the authority's area; and
- c) The number of DPIs in the matter would impede the transaction of the business.

Gifts & Hospitality:

- 21. The Committee received quarterly reports on the requirement contained in the Code of Conduct to register gifts and hospitality received or declined with an estimated value of £25 or above.
- 22. In total 18 declarations were made within the reporting periods of the June 2022, September 2022, February 2023 and April 2023 meetings.
- 23. During the year the Committee also monitored the speed of the declarations made, taking interest in whether declarations were made within the 28-day deadline. The Committee noted that four of the 17 declarations were made after the deadline and noted the reasons for the delays.
- 24. The Committee pays particular attention to any large donations received. The Committee would encourage all large gifts to be donated to the Speaker's Charity.
- 25. The Committee noted that acceptance of gifts and hospitality by councillors is not merely an administrative issue. Acceptance can impact on Member reputation and on the Council as a whole. Members need to show they are acting in the public interest and do not gain personally from receiving gifts.
- 26. The Committee received quarterly reports on the Register of Interests and noted that reminders were sent out to Members quarterly to update their Register of Interests.

Member Attendance

- 27. The Committee meeting in June 2022 received the annual report on Councillor and Co-optee attendance during the municipal year 2021-2022 at Council and Committee meetings. The report set out how attendance was recorded and provided details of attendance at meetings by the Mayor, Councillors and Co-optees.
- 28. It was noted that the Local Government Act 1972 currently forbids the holding of virtual council meetings. During the 2021-22 municipal year, council and committee meetings were held in a hybrid format. This allows members of

committees to participate remotely in a committee meeting. However they do not count as present for quorum requirements and cannot vote.

Terms of Reference

29. At the meeting in June 2022 the Committee considered a report on the Committee's Terms of Reference. It was agreed that a review of the Committee procedures should be added to the workplan for review.

Member / Officer Relations Protocol

30. The Member / Officer Relations Protocol (the Protocol) is in the process of updating. It is closely connected to the Code of Conduct (the Code) and the Committee has agreed that, as the Code has been updated, the Protocol should be refreshed to reflect changes.
31. A working group has been set up to review the Protocol. The draft Protocol was considered at the April meeting of the Committee and Members' comments were noted.

Member Learning and Development Programme and review of Member Induction

32. The February meeting of the Committee received the regular yearly report providing an update on the Member Learning and Development Programme listing events that had taken place since October 2021, and in particular reviewed the Member Induction programme after the local elections in May 2022.
33. The Member Induction programme was spread over a period of several months, with some information being provided to candidates before the election. The programme continued after the election with some compulsory training for all Members and some more targeted training, and lots of general briefings, continuing until November. Initial attendance and engagement was good, but tailed off during the autumn for the general briefings. Sessions were provided in person with access to many also available online.
34. At the conclusion of the induction period a survey was sent to all Members to capture their views on the programme. Overall feedback was good with an average score of 4.25/5 for 'how much value has the overall induction programme been to you'.
35. Feedback from Members and officers generally shows that the Induction programme was effective and useful to Members. In particular, Members supported having an extended Induction rather than pushing everything into the early weeks. One area of focus for future learning and development is to

expand the options for the types of training delivered to include options such as pre-recorded videos and looking at the best way to mix in person and online training as appropriate.

36. The Learning and Development Programme looks to offer around 6-8 sessions a year and these will often be run by external trainers depending on the topic. Topics include Chairing Skills, Public Speaking and IT skills. The Committee saw and commented on initial plans for the programme and it looks forward to finding out how it went in its next report.

Guidance and Training for Members serving on outside bodies

37. At the September meeting the Committee reviewed the Guidance for Members and Officers on outside bodies. The Committee considered changes to the Guidance and made various suggestions on improvements.

Implementation of best practice recommendations by the Committee on Standards in Public Life

38. The Committee considered an update on the recommendations on best practice made by the Committee on Standards in Public Life. The Committee noted that many of the recommendations had been implemented.

Local Government Association report on Abuse and Intimidation of Members and Members' Addresses

39. The Committee considered the LGA report which had been published in June 2022. The report set out seven recommendations around the safety and wellbeing of Members.
40. The Committee considered the requirement for Members to disclose their home address as part of the pecuniary interests protocol, which are made public (unless the Monitoring Officer agrees an exemption due to security issues). This requirement has been removed in relation to pre-election documentation.
41. The Committee noted that Members can be the subject of threats and intimidation and that these intimidation and threats can have a serious negative impact on their wellbeing. The Committee considered the support and guidance which is available to members to reduce the risks to them.

Standards Advisory Committee Work Planning for 2023-24

42. The Committee intends to undertake a substantial work programme during 2023-24, including looking at the following items.


- Bi-annual monitoring of complaints of alleged breach of the Code of Conduct for Members.
 - Quarterly monitoring of gifts and hospitality registered.
 - Bi-annual reports on DPI dispensations.
 - Review of the Constitution
 - Members' training programme
 - Review of the Committee's Terms of Reference and procedures.
 - Monitoring of DPIs,
 - News on ethics matters elsewhere including areas such as good practice, case law, ombudsman and quasi-judicial proceedings and similar.
 - Members' attendance at meetings.
 - Annual report to Council.
 - Annual review of the Member Code of Conduct
43. The 2023/24 work programme aims to continue to embed behaviours that support the seven principles in public life described in the Nolan report, by encouraging Members to apply ethical standards in their day-to-day duties and to look at how these should influence their approach to discharging their responsibilities in their individual and collective capacities.

Conclusion

44. As Chair of the Committee I wish to thank my fellow committee members, the Independent Persons and the Monitoring Officer for their contributions to the Committee's business and their commitment to promoting and maintaining high standards of ethical conduct across the Council. I also wish to thank the officers of the Council for their work in supporting the Committee during the year.
45. I would particularly like to highlight how important it is that the Council has such dedicated co-opted Members who are active contributors to the Committee's discussions and have demonstrated commitment to the role of Standards in the authority. The involvement of co-opted Members should be considered as 'good governance'. We are ahead of many local authorities in this area.

John Pulford MBE
Independent Chair

This page is intentionally left blank

Non-Executive Report of the: Council 27 September 2023	 TOWER HAMLETS
Report of: Janet Fasan, Director of Legal and Monitoring Officer	Classification: Unrestricted
Appointment of a Co-Optee to the Standards Advisory Committee	

Originating Officer(s)	Matthew Mannion, Head of Democratic Services
Wards affected	All Wards

Executive Summary

The Standards Advisory Committee recently ran a recruitment exercise to fill a vacancy for a co-opted Member on the Committee.

From a very strong field, the recruitment panel selected Faham Sinan-Katamba as the candidate to recommend for appointment.

Council is therefore requested to agree the appointment of Faham Sinan-Katamba as a co-optee for a four-year term on the Committee.

Recommendations:

The Council is recommended to:

1. Appoint Faham Sinan-Katamba as a Co-Opted Member of the Standards Advisory Committee for a four-year term, expiring 28 September 2027.

1. REASONS FOR THE DECISIONS

- 1.1 There are currently four Independent Co-Opted Members of the Standards Advisory Committee and a vacant post. There are also five Councillor Members of the Committee.
- 1.2 Ensuring full independent representation on the Committee is best practice in the operation of the Standards Advisory Committee.

2. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

- 2.1 The Council may choose not to confirm the appointment. This course of action is not recommended.

3. DETAILS OF THE REPORT

- 3.1 The Standards Advisory Committee has undertaken a full recruitment exercise to select a new co-opted Member to fill the vacancy on the Committee.
- 3.2 This included the standard recruitment advertising, shortlisting, interviews and pre-recruitment checks. The panel consisted of:
- John Pulford: Co-Opted Chair of the Committee
 - Janet Fasan: Director of Legal and Monitoring Officer
 - Matthew Mannion: Head of Democratic Services
- 3.3 Following the process, the panel determined, from a number of high-quality applicants that Faham Sinan-Katamba was, overall, the best scoring and most suitable candidate and should be offered the position.
- 3.4 Appointment of Members to Committees of the Council is the responsibility of Council. Therefore, this report asks for Council's agreement to appoint Faham Sinan-Katamba to the Standards Advisory Committee as a co-opted Member for the standard four-year term.
- 3.5 John Pulford, Chair of the Standards Advisory Committee, who Chaired the panel reported that:

“Faham Sinan-Katamba has a strong background in supporting East London projects and organisations across our many communities and age groups. He has a strong understanding of expectations around governance and standards with lots of relevant experience in the field.”

4. EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 It is important for the role of the Standards Advisory Committee that external co-optees are involved in providing input to ensure the Council maintains strong governance of the Member Code of Conduct.
- 4.2 When undertaking the recruitment process work was undertaken to encourage applications from our diverse local community.

5. OTHER STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 This section of the report is used to highlight further specific statutory implications that are either not covered in the main body of the report or are required to be highlighted to ensure decision makers give them proper consideration. Examples of other implications may be:
- Best Value Implications,
 - Consultations,
 - Environmental (including air quality),
 - Risk Management,

- Crime Reduction,
- Safeguarding.
- Data Protection / Privacy Impact Assessment.

5.2 Not having a well-functioning Standards Advisory Committee is a risk to the governance of the authority.

6. COMMENTS OF THE CHIEF FINANCE OFFICER

6.1 There are no financial implications arising from this report. Co-opted Members are funded from within the existing Members' Allowances budget of £1.1m.

7. COMMENTS OF LEGAL SERVICES

7.1 As indicated in paragraph 3.4 above, the appointment of co-opted Members to the Standards Advisory Committee is the responsibility of Council. A proper recruitment process has been followed and there are no other legal implications arising from this report.

Linked Reports, Appendices and Background Documents

Linked Report

- None.

Appendices

- None.

Local Government Act, 1972 Section 100D (As amended)

List of "Background Papers" used in the preparation of this report

List any background documents not already in the public domain including officer contact information.

- None.

Officer contact details for documents:

N/A

This page is intentionally left blank

Non-Executive Report of the: Council 27 th September 2023	 TOWER HAMLETS
Report of: Janet Fasan, Director of Legal and Monitoring Officer	Classification: Unrestricted
Questions submitted by Members of the Council	

Originating Officer(s)	Matthew Mannion, Head of Democratic Services
Wards affected	All wards

SUMMARY

1. Set out overleaf are the questions that were submitted by Members of the Council for response by the Mayor, the Speaker or the Chair of a Committee or Sub-Committee for this Council meeting.
2. In accordance with Council Procedure Rule 10.4, questions relating to Executive functions and decisions taken by the Mayor are put to the Mayor unless he delegates such a decision to another Member, who will therefore be responsible for answering the question. In the absence of the Mayor, the Deputy Mayor will answer questions directed to the Mayor.
3. Questions are limited to one per Member per meeting, plus one supplementary question unless the Member has indicated that only a written reply is required and in these circumstances a supplementary question is not permitted. Oral responses are time limited to one minute. Supplementary questions and responses are also time limited to one minute each.
4. Council Procedure Rule 10.7 provides for an answer to take the form of a written answer circulated to the questioner, a reference to a published work or a direct oral answer.
5. There is a time limit of thirty minutes at the Council meeting for consideration of Members' questions with no extension of time allowed and any questions not put within this time are dealt with by way of written responses.
6. Members must confine their contributions to questions and answers and not make statements or attempt to debate.

MEMBERS' QUESTIONS

27 questions have been received from Members of the Council as follows:-

11.1 Question from Councillor Amin Rahman

Could the lead member provide an update on the status of the council's outstanding accounts requiring sign off? These accounts were left unsigned for many years under the previous administration.

11.2 Question from Councillor Mufeedah Bustin

When will the Mayor be in a position to communicate the outcome of his review of the council's asset portfolio? Many organisations are left in limbo, including those waiting 18 months for decisions on meanwhile use properties, and in my ward, lease renewals for the Mudchute and operators for Island Gardens café.

11.3 Question from Councillor Musthak Ahmed

Can the lead member share the findings of the independent investigation into housing management following the complaint brought by 31 members of staff in the department?

11.4 Question from Councillor Asma Islam

Can the Mayor and lead member clarify what percentage of the administration's 1000 a year house building target will be for social rent?

11.5 Question from Councillor Shafi Ahmed

Could the lead member provide an update on the purpose, parameters and processes of the LGA Corporate Peer Review that took place between 18th and 22nd September?

11.6 Question from Councillor Rachel Blake

Could the lead member inform me when residents in Bow East will have their regular food waste collections resume. Residents in my ward and across the borough have spent weeks without collection.

11.7 Question from Councillor Kamrul Hussain

Could the lead member outline how the council is looking to make Workpath more accessible to the residents of Tower hamlets? It is understood plans are being discussed to redesign the service and move it to the new Town Hall in Whitechapel as part of an efficiency and improvement exercise.

11.8 Question from Councillor Amy Lee

Residents are concerned about proposed changes to leisure services and the impact this will have on them. Can the lead member outline plans, for John Orwell Sports Centre and provide reassurance to residents that the service they receive will not diminish?

11.9 Question from Councillor Saif Uddin Khaled

Following coverage of issues within the council's housing management service, can the lead member provide an update on what steps have been taken to address outstanding issues and how future issues will be addressed?

11.10 Question from Councillor Ayas Miah

DVLA statistics show that there has been a drop in the number of low emission vehicles registered in the borough in the last year, despite numbers increasing elsewhere in the country. Could the lead member inform me what the borough is doing to increase the uptake of electric/low emission vehicles and explain why this may not be working?

11.11 Question from Councillor Bodrul Choudhury

Following the launch of free school meals for over 38,000 additional children across tower hamlets - including at secondary level - could the lead member provide an update on what schools, parents and pupils have had to say about the new service?

11.12 Question from Councillor Sabina Akhtar

Can the lead member confirm:

- whether all buildings within the LBTH estate have been surveyed for RAAC (including schools)?
- Can he detail the mitigation measures for where RAAC has been found?
- If surveys have not been completed, can he provide a timeline for their completion?

11.13 Question from Councillor Ahmodul Kabir

Could the lead member provide an update on the ongoing work to address the service issues outlined in the waste emergency declared by the Mayor last year?

11.14 Question from Councillor Shubo Hussein

What are the future plans for the LBTH community hubs? Residents in Bromley South have been informed that their community hub has been closed as the council decided not to renew the lease.

11.15 Question from Councillor Abdul Mannan

Following complaints from across the community about the effectiveness of drug treatment services in the borough, can the lead member outline what is being done to tackle heroin and crack cocaine addiction which has been an issue in Tower Hamlets for so long.

11.16 Question from Councillor Asma Begum

Over the past months residents in this borough have spent weeks without their bins being collected, could the lead member tell me whether specific measures are being taken to clear the backlog of missed collections?

11.17 Question from Councillor Ahmodur Khan

Following on from the administration's motion, could the lead member explain how the council pursues best value when disposing of council owned assets?

11.18 Question from Councillor Rebakah Sultana

A recent study found that young women in tower hamlets are four times more likely to be hospitalised for self-harm than their Male counterparts – could the lead member inform me whether there are any specific programmes or workstreams concerned with women's mental health?

11.19 Question from Councillor Harun Miah

The Mayor has overseen several housing away days. Could the lead member explain what progress has been made in these sessions, and how it will help to tackle the ongoing issue of overcrowding in the borough?

11.20 Question from Councillor Amina Ali

Could the lead member provide an update on the progress of operation continuum? Since 2022 how many operation continuum events have taken place?

11.21 Question from Councillor James King

Over the summer concerned parents contacted Labour councillors because they were informed that the council was withdrawing funding from district sports teams and their children could no longer attend sessions – could the lead member confirm whether the council did withdraw funding from sports clubs in the borough, if so why and if not then commit to investigate as to why some parents believed this to be the case?

11.22 Question from Councillor Abdal Ullah

Could the lead member for community safety inform me whether the council is aware of the frequent disruption residents in Wapping are facing from young men choosing to use the streets of the borough as a race circuit – often these illegal race meets leave nitrous oxide canisters littering the street. Could the lead member meet with me to discuss the installation of speed humps/noise monitoring equipment as a means of getting to grips with the issue?

11.23 Question from Councillor Faroque Ahmed

Could the lead member confirm whether GLL is cancelling reciprocal arrangements ahead of schedule for residents in this borough ahead of leisure services coming in house – residents in the borough have been in touch with me over the summer to say that they were denied access to other GLL facilities.

11.24 Question from Councillor Sabina Khan

There have been a number of high-profile departures from Canary Wharf in the last year who act as major employers directly and indirectly on the island.

What is council doing to retain and attract global businesses in Canary Wharf? Has the council modelled scenarios or planned for further exits from Canary Wharf and assessed whether there are risks to the council and residents?

11.25 Question from Councillor Sirajul Islam

Will the Mayor be able to update me on the ongoing negotiations between himself and TFL regarding LIP and any other funding that is being withheld from the borough?

11.26 Question from Councillor Peter Golds

Residents in many parts of the Isle of Dogs including Lockesfield Place, Masthouse Terrace, Midland Estate, Livingstone Place and Crews Street have, in a short period, registered a significant number of complaints about the collection of food and organic waste. All to no avail, despite logging them via the website and the telephone systems.


Will the Mayor give an assurance that this problem will be resolved?

11.27 Question from Councillor Nathalie Bienfait

Could data be provided on how many homes in Tower Hamlets fail the Decent Homes Standard, split by ward?

Could details be provided of whether, and if so, how, the Housing Team uses information from the English Housing Survey to inform their work?

This page is intentionally left blank

Non-Executive Report of the: COUNCIL 27 th September 2023	 TOWER HAMLETS
Report of: Janet Fasan, Director of Legal and Monitoring Officer	Classification: Unrestricted
Motions submitted by Members of the Council	

Originating Officer(s)	Matthew Mannion, Head of Democratic Services
Wards affected	All wards

SUMMARY

1. The following motions have been submitted by Members of the Council under Council Procedure Rule 11 for debate at the Council meeting.
2. The motions submitted are listed overleaf. In accordance with the Council Procedure Rules, the motions alternate between the administration and the other Political Groups.
3. Motions must be about matters for which the Council has a responsibility or which affect the Borough. A motion may not be moved which is substantially the same as a motion which has been put at a meeting of the Council in the previous six months; or which proposes that a decision of the Council taken in the previous six months be rescinded; unless notice of the motion is given signed by at least twenty Members.
4. There is no specific duration set for this agenda item and consideration of the attached motions may continue until the time limit for the meeting is reached. The guillotine procedure at Council Procedure Rule 9.2 does not apply to motions on notice and any of the attached motions which have not been put to the vote when the time limit for the meeting is reached will be deemed to have fallen. A motion which is not put to the vote at the current meeting may be resubmitted for the next meeting but is not automatically carried forward.

MOTIONS

Set out overleaf is the motions that have been submitted.

12.1 CROSS PARTY MOTION ON CELEBRATING MIGRATION

Proposed by: Cllr Musthak Ahmed

Seconded by: Cllr Amina Ali

This Council notes:

- The integral and invaluable role that migrants, refugees, and asylum seeking peoples have played in shaping the history and culture of Tower Hamlets.
- That those fleeing tyranny and oppression – whether they be the Jewish communities fleeing the pogroms of Tsarist Russia; the fascism of Mussolini, Franco and Hitler; the Irish, Caribbean, Bangladeshi, and South-East Asian communities escaping the poverty and deprivation of colonialism; or Somali and Ukrainian refugees seeking safety from war – have always been welcomed into this Borough, enriched our community, and thrived.
- That the contribution of these communities to the cultural, political, social and economic fabric of the Borough have changed its identity for the better.
- That these groups have worked with and forged great links of solidarity and friendship with pre-existing working-class communities, who themselves have played a proud and positive role in the forging of the borough we live in today.
- That these communities have stood together and fought against racism and hatred in every generation: from those who stood bravely against the fascist Blackshirts in the 1930s; to the Caribbean community that fought against racism in the 50s and 60s; the Bangladeshi and South East Asian community – including the Mayor and many members from across the chamber – who faced down the National Front in the 70s and 80s; and the broad coalition of communities that expelled the EDL in the 2010s.

This Council believes:

- Tower Hamlets should always be a borough where the poor, the tired, the oppressed, and the hungry can come and know they will be welcomed and treated with dignity and respect.
- That our borough's diversity and openness represents the best of humanity, and demonstrates that tolerance, respect, and understanding will always produce caring and cooperative places for people to live.
- That regardless of religion, skin colour, sexual orientation, gender, or belief system, Tower Hamlets will always be a safe place for all its residents.

This Council resolves:

- To produce an exhibition showcasing the rich history of migration to Tower Hamlets, to be showcased in the new Town Hall.
- To build on the borough's work with organisations that support and protect migrants and refugees.
- To work with relevant epistemic communities and external stakeholders to develop and enhance its institutional knowledge in protecting and promoting refugees and asylum seeking peoples, building on the good work of the existing Refugee and Families teams.
- To work with boroughs and authorities across London and the country to protect migrants, refugees, and asylum seeking peoples from hostile environments.
- To officially state its wish to be designated a 'Borough of Sanctuary' – cementing its commitment to inclusivity, tolerance, and dignity for all people.

12.2 MOTION ON WASTE

Proposed by: Cllr Asma Begum

Seconded by: Cllr TBC

This Council notes:

1. That our residents have raised concerns about missed waste collections, impacting the cleanliness and environment of our borough.
2. That some residents have gone weeks without a bin collection.
3. That Tower Hamlets is one of the worst performing boroughs for recycling rates.

This Council believes:

1. That reliable waste collection services are essential for the well-being of our community.
2. That the waste service is currently in a state of crisis despite the Mayor declaring a waste emergency.
3. Urgent action is required to clear the backlog of missed collections and make our borough cleaner.

This Council resolves:

1. Acknowledge the concerns raised by residents regarding missed general waste, food waste and garden waste collections and apologise for the inconvenience it causes to our community.
2. Instruct the Mayor, Lutfur Rahman, and the Lead member to conduct a comprehensive review of the waste collection system, identify the root causes of missed collections, and take immediate corrective actions to minimise such occurrences.
3. Publish weekly updates and promote transparency in reporting on waste collection performance, and will include data on missed collections, reasons for delays, and the steps taken to address them.

12.3 MOTION ON PUBLIC BODY PAY GAP

Proposed by: Cllr Maisha Begum

Seconded by: Cllr TBC

Research from across civil society, including the GMB union shows that there is an Ethnicity Pay Gap, between Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic worker and non-Black Asian and Minority Ethnic workers who are otherwise equal in educational attainment. This is not only reflected in the pay of Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic workers, but this disparity is also apparent in the promotion of Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic workers in the workplace.

This council notes that:

- One in six Bangladeshi residents across England and Wales live in Tower Hamlets. Locally, the Bangladeshi population remains by far the largest in the country in both proportionate (34.6%) and numerical (107,333) terms.
- Other significant ethnic groups include White British (22.9%), White Other (14.6%), Black African (5%), Chinese (3.3%) and Somali or Somalilander (2%)
- GMB Race, the union's self-organised groups in London, sent out a survey to Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic London workers to collect information about their Pay, Terms and Conditions. GMB Race's survey results, while disappointing, unsurprisingly show the fact that only half of respondents thought they received equal treatment and access to bonuses, overtime, pension, and other plus payments compared to non-BAME staff.
- The TUC's own research shows that the Ethnicity Pay Gap for minority workers has shown that students who entered the workplace after GCSE are paid 11% less than their white counterparts. Whilst those who attained degrees, the pay gap more than doubled to 23%. The race pay gap impacts the standard of living of those affected and also worsens for people who have aspired and succeeded in further education.
- The Resolution Foundation has shown that Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic workers lose out on £3.2bn a year in wages compared to white workers. It found Pakistani and Bangladeshi male graduates earned an average £2.67 an hour (12%) less, while among female graduates, black women faced the biggest pay penalty, of £1.62 an hour (9%).
- Within Tower Hamlets only 33.1% of the borough's top 5% of earners are BAME.
- The general reporting of the pay gap is poor and recent figures show so far only 3% of employers with over 250 employees are voluntarily reporting their ethnicity pay gap.
- The Government has acknowledged this weakness and that Ethnicity Pay Gap reporting should be mandatory. However, this has not happened.
- The Women's and Equalities Committee's (WESC) report Ethnicity Pay Gap in February 2022 recommended that the Government should introduce mandatory ethnicity pay gap reporting by April 2023. This should be for all organisations that currently report for gender and that legislation should include the requirement for employers to publish a supporting narrative and action plan.
- This call has been echoed by the TUC.

This council believes that:

- All those that live and work within Tower Hamlets should be equally able to flourish in their place of employment. Therefore, there should be no glass ceiling because of the colour of someone's skin. Pay, promotions, career development and progression and bonuses in all sectors should be underpinned by ability and fairness. This is vital in eradicating systemic racism and division in wider society and a cause acutely relevant to the diverse community in this borough.
- With a cost-of-living crisis hitting households hard, the diminishing earnings of Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic workers will disproportionately push many of such workers further into work poverty.
- This disproportionately affects local authorities, like Tower Hamlets, who are proud of their diverse and multicultural communities.
- All public bodies within the borough should be committed to being open and transparent about publishing its data on employees, whilst running fair, open and inclusive promotion strategies within its public sector duties. Such public data is the first step in creating awareness of the ethnicity pay gap with a view to drive change.
- Other employers across all sectors should do the same and that there should be mandatory reporting of the Ethnicity Pay Gap for all employers with 250 or more staff members.

This council resolves to:

- Adopt GMB Race's campaign for an Ethnicity Pay Gap, including:
- Agree to annually report on the Ethnicity Pay Gap within its own organisation;
- Endeavour to regularly analyse strengths and weakness based on its own reporting, devising and implementing annual plans to proactively put in place plans to ensure there are no bars to recruitment, training, salary levels or promotion;
- Work with GMB locally and adopt GMB Race campaigns Ethnicity Pay Gap Charter;
- Work with council suppliers, contractors and partners to seek to do the same encouraging best practice through procurement rules as relevant; and
- Call upon the Government to introduce mandatory pay gap reporting.