# Non-Executive Report of the: Licensing Committee 13<sup>th</sup> June 2023 Report of: Tom Lewis Service Manager – Regulatory Services (Commercial) Classification: Unrestricted

Late Night Levy: Annual Review

Originating Officer(s)	Ibrahim Hussain Licensing Officer - Trading Standards & Licensing
Wards affected	All wards

#### 1. Executive Summary

- 1.1 The London Borough of Tower Hamlets ("the Council") adopted the Late Night Levy ("the Levy"), which came into effect on 1<sup>st</sup> January 2018. From that date, any licence holder (premises licence and/or club premises certificate) permitted to sell (or supply in the case of a club premises certificate) alcohol between 00:00 hours (midnight) and 06:00 hours (6am) is required to pay the Levy. All income raised by the Levy must fund activities and resources which benefit the late-night economy.
- 1.2 The legislation governing the Levy requires that 70% of the revenue must be paid to the Police and the council may retain 30% of the revenue. However, during the consultation for the decision to adopt the Levy, the Council obtained an agreement with the Deputy Mayor for Police and Crime (MOPAC) that all of the revenue raised by the Levy could be retained by the Council and that the decision of how to spend the revenue would be made through the Community Safety Partnership (CSP).
- 1.3 Section 130(5)(b) of the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 requires that the licensing authority must publish an end of year statement of its estimate of the amount for deductions permitted for relevant expenses. This report is to outline what initiatives the Levy revenue has funded and the achievements of these initiatives.

#### 2. Recommendations:

The Licensing Committee is recommended to:

2.1 Note the work achieved via the Levy revenue, the income received and the expenditure and to make any comments for consideration.

## 3. REASONS FOR THE DECISIONS

3.1 This is a noting report to outline the annual report for 2023/24 of income received, expenditure and initiatives funded by the Levy.

#### 4. <u>ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS</u>

4.1 This is a noting report.

# 5. <u>DETAILS OF THE REPORT</u>

5.1 The levy charge is set by Central Government and is based on the rateable value of the premises. See table below for charges.

Rateable Value	Annual Levy
Band A (Nil - £4,300)	£299
Band B (£4,301-£33,000)	£768
Band C (£33,001-£87,000)	£1,259
Band D (£87,001-£125,000)	£1,365* (£2,730)
Band E (£125,001 and above)	£1,493* (£4,440)

<sup>\*</sup>Those that are band D or E where the main use is the sale of alcohol for consumption on the premises will pay an additional fee.

- 5.2 Most premises in Tower Hamlets are rated as band B or C.
- 5.3 The Levy is payable at the same time as the annual licence fee is due, which falls annually from the date the premises licence was first granted.
- 5.4 Total Income received by the Levy in Year 6 (2023/24) was £258,879.
- 5.5 The Council is entitled to deduct its administration costs from the introduction and management of the Levy. Our only costs deducted are for the Late Night Levy Officer role. This is an officer who manages the Levy, which includes coordinating the current initiatives and exploring other options for new initiatives to promote the Levy objectives. The total costs deducted for this role in 2023/24 is £55,516 (this includes parking permit costs).

In year one the Community Safety Partnership (CSP) was presented with a number of costed options for initiatives to be funded by the Levy revenue. In previous years other initiative were agreed via the CSP, which included portable toilets, Welfare and Vulnerability Engagement (WAVE) Training. This year CSP agreed additional initiatives of CCTV Cameras, Medic Patrols and Radio Linked System for Premises and Night Time Patrols. The below table shows the total spend on each of the initiatives this year.

Late Night Levy (LNL) Spent 2023/24 (Year 6)		
Initiative	Total cost (£)	
Additional Police Serials Patrols	166, 679	
Street Pastor Patrols	57,505	
Additional Street Cleansing/Sweeping	93,192	
Street Cleansing/Sweeping Audit Check	8,640	
Portable Urinals	110,035	
Street structure permits (urinals)	14,308	
Room Hire (WAVE Training)	1,440	
Medic Patrols	17,797	
CCTV Cameras	38,040	
Total	507,638	

Total spend including Coordinator role = £563,154

#### Total estimated budget for 2024/25 (Year 7) = £413,000

# 5.7 Surplus update

5.8 In 2022/23 the total estimated budget was £588,000, which gave an estimated surplus of £318,488. This combined the total revenue brought in from the LNL in 2021/22 plus any surplus left over. Due to the large surplus that had built up mainly as a result of the Coronavirus pandemic, we took the decision to introduce additional initiatives in 2023/24 to bring down the surplus. The figures above show that this has worked with the surplus now £155,602.

## 5.11 Levy Initiatives Roles and Outcomes

#### 5.12 Additional Police Patrols

5.13 The Grant is being utilised to ensure officers are deployed on overtime with the following objectives.

#### Role:

Reduction of crime and disorder linked to licensed premises.

- Increase public safety.
- Potential reduction in minor crimes due to more police presence.
- Potential decrease in street urination.

The Patrols should be executed on the following schedule as resources permit:

- Friday 10pm to 6am
- Saturday 10pm to 6am
- Sunday 10pm to 6am If there is a bank holiday Monday preceding it.
- 5.14 The additional police work a shift pattern of 7 Officers (1 Police Sergeant and 6 Police Constables) working 2 nights per week (Friday/Saturday) and additional Sunday nights where the Sunday precedes a bank holiday Monday. There are also the additional quarterly projects, such as operations to tackle Nitrous oxide sellers outside late night venues.
- 5.15 The police patrols continue to be tasked via the Licensing Authority through a multi-agency forum that includes Licensing Police, Environmental Health and Trading Standards (Licensing, Noise, and Trading Standards), Community Safety and other responsible authorities, e.g., London Fire Brigade.
- 5.16 In year 6 (2023/24), approximately 87 tasked patrols of the borough were completed by the additional police. Their role is to be a uniformed presence on the streets to deter crime and disorder and promote a safer night-time economy.
- 5.17 Patrols will have a minimum of one officer who has received Welfare and Vulnerability Training (WAVE). Where a patrol is unable to fulfil this requirement, the reasons must be detailed in the written results of the patrol provided back to the Council.
- 5.18 The Basic Command Unit will prepare and provide data on a weekly basis to evidence the following key performance Indicators:
  - Location/area patrolled and time.
  - Number of visits to ILicensed premises engagement/enforcement.
  - Number of actions to stop minor crimes e.g. street urination, including location and any link to licensed premises.
  - Number of persons assisted in getting home/needing assistance due to intoxication, incl. any links to licensed premises.
  - Number of people moved on (dispersal) including number moved for noise, and number moved for drink drinking,
  - Number/location of street drinkers observed and potential link to licensed premises.
- 5.19 There have been a number of positive outcomes from these additional police patrols, assessing security checks at venues, dealing with disorder (including street urination), and drugs (including nitrous oxide), assisting venues and members of the public. Below are just a few more examples of the positive impact on the late-night economy within the borough:

- Arrest of adult male with possession of an offensive weapon (a machete), possession of cannabis, and breaching public order.
- Arrested male for assault on a security guard of a Tower Hamlets venue.
- Two females found acting suspiciously and then began talking about narcotics, so they were stopped for a search. One was detected using cannabis and received a community resolution.
- Officers responded to an urgent help request from colleagues who recovered a huge machete from a suspect. The suspect was detained on charges of possession of an offensive weapon.
- Assisted Tower Hamlets Enforcement Officers (THEOs) in dealing with obstruction of highway resulting in a male being issued Fixed Penalty Notice (FPN) for obstruction of the highway.
- Assisted male who had tripped suspected he had broken his arm. Male was transported to Royal London Hospital A&E.
- Supported THEOs in dealing with an unlicensed music event (UME) music stopped and persons (who turned out to be squatters) move from the location.
- Street urinating was detected, and evidence obtained, assisted THEOs to issue FPNs for the offence.
- Intoxicated female assisted in locating her Uber so she could safely get home. Assisted the venue in handling with drunk individuals and dispersed nitrous oxide vendors.
- Special Project VAWG Car observed a female being followed closely by a male. Police met with the female, who indicated that she resides in Canary Wharf and that the police dropped her off at home for her own personal safety.

# Nitrous oxide /Unlicenced food Stalls

- 5.20 In July and August 2023, two nitrous oxide operations were organised, which utilised Late Night Level Serial Police Patrols. This was in partnership with Community Safety, THEOs, CCTV, PTF and Licensing Officers, from Environmental Health and Trading Standards. The objective was to disrupt nitrous oxide users/sellers linked to the ate night economy within Tower Hamlets. There was also an emphasis on the use of the borough's Public Space Protection Order (PSPO) for psychoactive substances.
- 5.21 The operation targeted Hackney Wick and Wapping as well as other areas within the borough based on intelligence. The result of these operations are summarized below:

#### July 2023

- 11 FPNs nitrous oxide /traders
- ASB warning 6 ASBW
- 40 nitrous oxide cylinders sized.
- 1 group selling nitrous oxide were disrupted and the canisters seized.
- 1 dispersal order issued.
- Several people dispersed with the warning of a dispersal.
- 2 arrests 1 for nitrous oxide and 1 for driving under the influence or drink or drugs.
- 2 food stalls were shut down and issued fines at Hackney Wick

which subsequently significantly lowered the crowd over both nights and lowered the demand/crowd for nitrous oxide.



## August 2023

- 7 FPNs issued and details obtained for males involved in nitrous oxide use/supply and the disruption of nitrous oxide supply.
- 16 nitrous oxide cylinders seized.
- Approximately 40 people dispersed with verbal warnings without having to get to enforcement stage.
- 15 cars utilised for nitrous oxide selling/use dispersed from the area of Pennington Street.
- 4 high visibility patrols across both sites on both nights making our presence known and crime prevention.
- 5.22 A further operation was scheduled for October 2023; however, this was cancelled due to the Misuse of Drugs Act 1971 (Amendment) Order 2023, which was made on 11<sup>th</sup> October 2023. This came into force on 8<sup>th</sup> November 2023 and added nitrous oxide as a class C drug. As a result, it would not have been appropriate to take action under the Powers of the psychoactive substances Public Space Protection Order (PSPO).

#### 5.23 Street Pastor Patrols

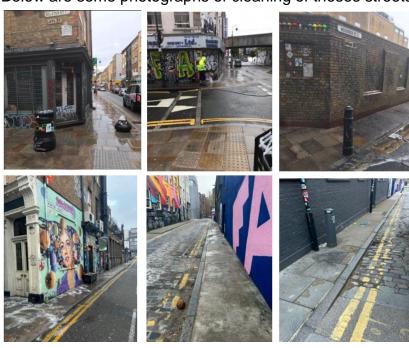
- Increase public safety and wellbeing.
- Deter minor crimes due to uniformed presence.
- Deter street urination due to uniformed presence.
- Promote a safe late-night economy.

- 5.24 The Street Pastor Patrols work a shift pattern of a minimum of 4 pastors who wear branded high visibility jackets. They are contracted to complete two patrols per week (Friday and Saturday) and are the 'friendly faces on the street'.
- 5.25 The Street Pastor Patrols are tasked similarly to the police via the Licensing Authority through a multi-agency forum that includes Licensing Police, Environmental Health and Trading Standards (Licensing, Noise, and Trading Standards). Also invited are all other responsible authorities, e.g., London Fire Brigade.
- 5.26 In year 6 (2023/24) the Street Pastors completed approximately 92 patrols.
- 5.27 There have been a number of positive outcomes from the patrols, such: as preventing disorder and disrupting drug use/dealing (including nitrous oxide); assisting persons within the nighttime economy e.g., providing water, breakfast bars, rain ponchos, hats, scarves, pairs of socks, flip flops, toothbrushes, toothpaste, and deodorant etc. Below are just a few more examples of the positive impact on the late-night economy within the borough:
  - Intelligence gathered to assist special project and direct police patrols.
     These related to reports of large nitrous oxide canisters and cannabis use.
  - Approximately 2155 glass bottles were collected from the busy street.
     Supplied people with 420 water bottles, heated blankets, flip flops, and lollipops.
  - Assisted 31 persons in moving on, including those who were displaced for noise nuisance.
  - Assisted one drunk young man who was difficult to walk, provided water, and assisted his friends in calling an Uber. Stayed with them until Uber arrived.
  - Assisted venue in dealing with a problematic and intoxicated member of the public who kept collapsing outside the venue. The street pastors gave him water, assisted him in calling an Uber, and waited with him until the Uber arrived.
  - Assisted venue in dealing with a group of people one of whom was intoxicated they were offered water and assistance.
  - Assisted intoxicated vulnerable woman at a bus stop providing a hat, gloves, socks, lollipops, chocolate, and water and helped her get on the bus home.
  - Assisted a young female who was very inebriated and whose Uber driver had cancelled on her. The team scheduled a new Uber for her.
  - Assisted a distressed female who was lost in ordering a taxi.

 A car accident occurred resulting in a woman with a head wound. The street pastors team provided first aid and water and called for ambulance/police.

## 5.28 Enhanced Cleaning/Sweeping

- Enhanced cleaning and sweeping of street to reduce impact of night-time economy on day-time economy
- Reduce littering.
- 5.29 There are four Big Belly smart solar bins that were purchased with levy funds. These are located on Brick Lane, Bethnal Green Station, near Columbia Road and on While Post Lane. The bins have in built compactors to increase the amount of waste they can take before needing to be emptied. These bins are also solar powered and automatically send a message to the collection service when it needs to be emptied.
- 5.30 All bins purchased via the Levy have signs on them stating that they have been funded by the licensed trade in Tower Hamlets.
- 5.31 In 2023/24 we added street sweeping as well as the additional street cleansing paid for via Levy revenue. This provides additional cleansing and sweeping streets within the Borough where they are or are likely to be adversely affected by the late-night licensing economy. We also redesigned the SLA with the Waste Team to allow for the Licensing Enforcement Forum (FEF) to request additional streets not included in the main list, with a feedback system to ensure results of any requested cleanse/sweep were notified back to the LEF the next week.
- 5.32 Below are some photographs of cleaning of theses streets.



5.33 External audits of the street sweeping were conducted to verify that the quality of service. This provided feedback where money was subtracted from the quarterly payments if the standard fell short.

#### 5.34 Portable Urinal

- Prevent street urination in the borough.
- 5.35 Following the pilot project in Year 2 of the Levy (2019/20) a contract was agreed for two urinals to be placed in the borough every Friday and Saturday night. In 2022/23 a third toilet was added and the locations are currently the corner of Sclater Street and Bethnal Green Road, Brick Lane down from Jack the Chipper, and White Post Lane with the junction of Rothbury Road.



**Brick Lane** 



Sclater Street/Bethnal Green Road



White Post Lane/Rothbury Road

5.36 The urinals are delivered to site on Friday and Saturday evenings and collected on the following morning between 4-5am to allow for street cleansing and ensuring no negative impact on the day-time economy. They also have a sign on them stated that they are funded on a trial basis by the licensed trade in the Borough.

5.37 The contract company also provides an estimate of each urinal's usage each weekend, which ranges from 56 people to 560 people.

#### 5.38 Medics Patrols

- Increase public safety and wellbeing.
- Reduce other patrols time dealing with injured/vulnerable person.
- Promote a safe late-night economy.
- Provide positive effect on burden of London Ambulance Service (LAS)/NHS.
- 5.39 A pilot was agreed by Community Safety Partnership (CSP) for a medic patrol to be trialed as part of the Levy initiatives. This saw the introduction of medic patrols operating on Friday and Saturday night from 22:00 to 04:00 hours, and Sunday where it preceded a bank holiday. This pilot commenced at the end of August and ran through to the end of December inclusive of the New Year's Eve. However, additional patrols were done over valentines' and Easter Weekend. The patrols were tasked in the same way as the Street Pastors and the Police, i.e. tasked by the Licensing Enforcement Forum (LEF).
- 5.40 In total the medics completed 43, and towards the latter part of the patrols they were linked to other patrols and venues via their mobile number. They have proved successful at assisting with injured persons and those under the influence of alcohol and drugs and have assisted THEOs to enable them to continue with their duties rather than waiting with injured persons. Below are a few examples of the positive impact on the late-night economy within the borough. It should also be mentioned the CSP have agreed for this initiative to be continued to become one of the main patrols.
  - Premises called re inebriated person, very drunk, sobered up with water, and was able to make it home with a friend 30 minutes later.
  - Call from THEO regarding person being found unwell, had taken drugs, Naloxone was administered, and an ambulance was called. LAS arrived at 02:33 hours and the patient was brought to A&E for treatment for an overdose.
  - Robbery/Assault; person was punched in head, blood loss, blood loss from ears. LAS took over when they arrived with police on site as well.
  - Confused male found, all observations fine, person was walked home and made safe, person had no food at home, THEO's, LAS, and local authorities, informed and safeguarding issues raised.
  - Patrol assisted a venue's security team. Person had consumed five pints of beer and claims to be unwell; no other medical difficulties exist; discharged into the hands of friends to travel home on their own.

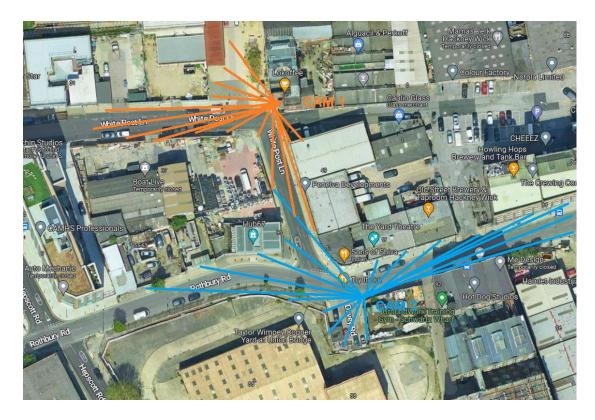
## 5.41 Radio Link System

#### Role:

- Promote a safe late-night economy.
- Reduce crime and disorder.
- More efficient use of late night patrols.
- · Greater engagement with late night venues.
- 5.42 During 2023/24 CSP agreed another pilot for a radio link system to link up all the night time patrols (not just the ones funded by the Late Night Levy) and venues, similar to the London Borough of Hackney. It was agreed to do this in two phases: phase one; link the night time patrols, phase two; link the LNL payer venues, commencing with Hackney Wick. Phase one has been achieved. Phase two is due to be achieved in 2024/25. CSP has agreed for the initial pilot for the Rado Link System for venues in Hackney Wick to run for six months. Then if successful it could be expanded to the rest of the borough.
- 5.43 The cost of the system is negligible for the phase as Community Safety already had spare radios we could use, and Police already have access to a radio. However, we have had to purchase one for the street pastors at a cost of £753.00. Phase two is estimated to cost in the region of £300 one radio/charger, per year.

#### 5.44 Additional CCTV Cameras

- Reduce crime and disorder.
- Ensure better evidence gathering for crimes committed in the areas.
- Ensure better intelligence for more targeted actions.
- 5.45 This initiative was agreed by CSP towards the end of quarter 4 of 2023/24 and was requested by the Police. The request was for two CCTV cameras to be placed in Hackney Wick in the locations should in the map below. The reasons are due to the area having no Police or Council CCTV cameras, which considering the size of both the Night Time Economy and the growing residential population the Police felt having these cameras would assist in ensuring public safety in the area and prevent or help deal with crime and disorder.



5.46 The cost of the camera was £38,040, and this is a one-off cost with no ongoing charges, because Community Safety agreed to cover any ongoing costs as part of the maintenance of their CCTV cameras within the borough. The cameras are being managed on a day-to-day basis by the Council's CCTV control rooms who can use these cameras as they do other within the borough.

# 5.47 Late Night Levy Officer

#### Role:

- Coordinate the Levy Initiatives,
- Increase in Best Bar None membership,
- Increase in compliance with licensing,
- Better engagement with licensed businesses, with ability to promote national initiatives such as Ask Angela, or Operation Make Safe, WAVE and Conflict Awareness Training.
- 5.48 This post manages the Late Night Levy, coordinating the Initiatives funded by the levy. This role also includes attending Pub Watch Meetings and Liaison with the Best Bar None Scheme.
- 5.49 The post holder also attends the multi-agency meetings to provide feedback on the Levy initiatives outcomes.

## 5.50 Conflict Awareness training

Though a provider and contract was set up in 2023/24 we were unable to get a session delivered by year end. This will now be delivered in year 7 (2024/25).

The training itself is aimed at providing licence holders with the skills to deal with conflict resolution. This will also assist in building on the skills previously learned from the Welfare and Vulnerability Engagement (WAVE) Training.

# 5.51 Welfare and Vulnerability Engagement (WAVE)

During year 6 (2023/24), we continued our partnership with the Police and the London Borough of Hackney to face-to-face WAVE training. This runs the first Tuesday of each month, with the venue alternating between Tower Hamlets and Hackney (Professional Development Centre, and Tomlinson Centre, respectively). In 2023/24 there were approximately 10 sessions held between the Tower Hamlets and Hackney with average attendance at each session being 30-35 people.

5.52 These WAVE training sessions include a custom build module on misogyny in the night time economy, which was developed between the Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) lead officers in Hackney and Tower Hamlets. As a result, these sessions have also been used to promote the multi-borough antimisogyny campaign, #dontcrosstheline. This was developed by Tower Hamlets, Hackney, and City of London.

## 5.53 #dontcrosstheline – anti misogyny campaign

This was developed by Tower Hamlets, Hackney and City of London to tackling harassment and misogyny on nights out. It was implemented for the start of the 16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence in 2023. The LNL Coordinator worked with their counterpart in Hackney to get information and paraphernalia relating to this campaign out to the LNL Patrols (police, street pastors and medic patrols), as well as THEO Patrols, and Town Centres Teams. A joint letter was also organised and distributed to approximately 200 licensed premises within the borough, as well as being sent to all 4 Pub Watch Chairs (Hackney Wick, Bethnal Green, Brick Lane, Canary Wharf). The campaign can be accessed via the Council's website and a copy of what the posters look like can be seen below.

https://www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/lgnl/community\_and\_living/community\_safe ty\_crime\_preve/domestic\_violence/VAWG-Service-Directory/DontCrossTheLine.aspx



## 6. **EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS**

#### 6.1 These late-night inspections will ensure:

- That Tower Hamlets remains a safe and cohesive community and a great place to live by dealing accordingly with offending premises and ensuring compliance.
- It ensures a fair and prosperous community by ensuring unlicensed premises are dealt with accordingly and that licensed premises prosper within their permissions granted.

## 7. OTHER STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS

7.1 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.

## 7.2 **Best Value Implications**

This work will ensure that licence fees that are due to the Council under the Licensing Act 2003 are received. Those businesses that do not pay their licensing fees will have their licences suspended.

#### 7.3 Environmental considerations

There is a positive impact on the environment provided by the additional street cleaning and additional big belly bins. The additional toilets also provide a positive in preventing street urination within the borough.

#### 7.4 Risk Management

The Council will be at risk of legal challenge if its decision-making process on formal action is not transparent and evidentially based in relation to non-compliance with licence conditions.

A business operating without a licence has a potential impact on the local community.

# 7.5 Crime and disorder reduction implications

The enforcement of licence conditions and prosecution of offending businesses both licensed and unlicensed. This assists with the reduction of anti-social behaviour and controls the inappropriate use of alcohol sales and consumption, in addition to identifying localised disturbances around late night refreshment premises.

## 8. COMMENTS OF THE CHIEF FINANCE OFFICER

- 8.1 This report provides an update on the activities undertaken relating to the Late Night Levy. The Levy is charged on premises permitted to sell or supply alcohol between the hours of midnight and 6am. The charge is set by Central Government in bands relating to the rateable value of the property.
- 8.2 The legislation governing the Levy requires that 70% of the revenue must be paid to the Police and the council may retain 30% of the revenue. However, at Tower Hamlets the Council obtained an agreement with the Deputy Mayor for Police and Crime (MOPAC) that all of the revenue raised by the Levy could be retained by the Council and that the decision of how to spend the revenue would be made through the Community Safety Partnership (CSP).
- 8.3 The Levy is collected at the same time as the premise license and the income collected is ringfenced and spent on activities and resources which benefit the late-night economy. Any unspent income is transferred to the late night levy reserve and where spend exceeds the income levels collected in a given year, the balance is funded from this reserve. The reserve balance at the end of 2022/23 was £460k.
- 8.4 In 2023/24 the Council collected £259k in income relating to the late night levy. Spend in year approved by the CSP totalled £563k, including admin costs of £56k. As a result, a £304k reserve drawdown was made to fund this additional spend, leaving a balance of £156k in the late night levy reserve. This reserve balance can be used to fund additional activities above those paid for from the income collected in year in 2024/25.

# 9. COMMENTS OF LEGAL SERVICES

- 9.1 The late-night levy ("the Levy") is a power, conferred on licensing authorities by provision in Chapter 2 of Part 2 of the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011. This power allows licensing authorities to charge a levy to persons who are authorised to sell alcohol late at night in the authority's area, as a means of raising a contribution towards the costs of policing the late-night economy.
- 9.2 The levy must cover the whole of the licensing authority's area. However, the Council chooses the period during which the Levy applies every night, between midnight and 06:00 hours, and may decide whether exemptions or reductions should be applied.
- 9.3 There are restrictions on the types of services that licensing authorities can fund with the Levy revenue to ensure that the Levy is spent on tackling alcohol-related crime and disorder and services connected to the management of the nighttime economy. The Council can deduct permitted administration, collection and enforcement costs from the gross levy revenue. The report at paragraph 1.3 refers to the annual publication requirements in respect of the Levy.

- 9.4 The 2011 Act provides that the police are entitled to receive at least 70% of the net levy revenue. The Council may retain up to 30% of the net levy revenue to fund other activities besides policing.
- 9.5 When making decisions, the Council must have due regard to the need to eliminate unlawful conduct under the Equality Act 2010, the need to advance equality of opportunity and the need to foster good relations between persons who share a protected characteristic and those who do not (the public sector equality duty). Whilst that does not apply specifically to this report, which is for noting purposes only, it would apply to all decisions taken in respect of the Levy, including the activities to be funded by the Levy.