



# **Licensing Act 2003**

## **Statement of Licensing Policy**

DRAFT

**January 2024**  
**(6th Edition)**

**EAST SUFFOLK COUNCIL**  
**LICENSING ACT 2003: STATEMENT OF LICENSING POLICY**

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## EAST SUFFOLK COUNCIL

### Sixth version Licensing Act 2003 Statement of Licensing Policy

#### Introduction:

The Licensing Act 2003 became fully implemented on 24 November 2005, and brought about the single biggest change to the licensing arrangements for many types of leisure premises in 40 years. The Act integrated six separate licensing regimes covering the sale and supply of alcohol, the provision of regulated entertainment, the provision of late night hot food or drink (between the hours of 11pm and 5am), night cafés, theatres and cinemas.

This document is the sixth version of the local 'Statement of Licensing Policy' for East Suffolk Council and revisions will endeavour to incorporate the Authority's practical experience of the legislation to date, the revised Guidance document published under section 182 of the Licensing Act 2003 by the Home Office, and feedback from all relevant stakeholders.

The Licensing Authority recognises that it is not always straightforward to reach decisions that satisfy all parties, but the Authority shall always endeavour to carefully balance the interests of owners, premises licence holders, employees, customers and neighbours of licensable premises, and will remain focused on the promotion of the four licensing objectives, which are:

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

#### East Suffolk



East Suffolk covers an area of 125,979 hectares and is located on the east coast (to the north and east of Ipswich, the county town of Suffolk), covering the entire Suffolk coastline. It is the most easterly district in Britain and one of the largest in population.

A large part of the district is rural in character and bisected by a series of small river valleys which broaden into estuaries as they near the coast. The district's quality of life is amongst the highest in the country and its environment is a key factor with a large part of the district designated as an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, along with numerous areas of natural conservation importance including Minsmere and historical importance such as Sutton Hoo, the castles at Orford and Framlingham and our rich and varied coastline and the historic towns of Beccles, Bungay, Halesworth and Southwold.

While tourism and agriculture are important industries in the district, it is also home to many internationally significant names with Britain's busiest Port at Felixstowe, BT's research and innovation centre at Martlesham, and Britten's performing arts centre at Snape Maltings. Recent investment in the area has seen the 'energy coast' developed with both expanding off-shore wind power at Lowestoft and nuclear power at Sizewell.

### **THE ROLE OF THE LICENSING AUTHORITY IN THE DECISION MAKING PROCESS:**

It is important for any person reading this Statement of Licensing Policy to note that the Licensing Authority's discretion and decision making role, referred to throughout this Statement of Licensing Policy, is only engaged following a relevant representation being lodged in respect of an application, and where that representation is not withdrawn. The application will then ordinarily be heard by a sub-committee of the Council's Licensing Committee. However, it must be noted that, in contrast, the process and determination in respect of minor variations and community premises mandatory conditions dis-applications are exceptions to these usual arrangements, as referred to later in this document.

The Licensing Act 2003 provides for a mediation process between parties. Where it is appropriate for the Licensing Authority to do so, following a relevant representation being made, the Authority shall make all reasonable efforts to facilitate mediation. In doing so the Licensing Authority will be mindful of the legislative framework and any relevant government guidance.

In cases where a premises licence application or club premises certificate has been lawfully made, and no responsible authority or person other than a responsible authority (other persons) has made a representation, the Licensing Authority must grant the application on the terms sought, subject only to conditions which are consistent with the operating schedule and relevant mandatory conditions in the Act. This should be undertaken as an administrative process by the Licensing Authority's officers who will translate the proposals contained within the operating schedule to promote the licensing objectives into clear and understandable conditions. As above, there are different arrangements in place for some minor processes under the Act.

The Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 created a further role for the Licensing Authority as a Responsible Authority thereby allowing it to make representations and/or seek a review of a premises licence or club premises certificate.

It is the intention of the Licensing Authority to work closely with licensees, their representatives, responsible authorities, other persons, and partner authorities in order to promote the licensing objectives and minimise the burden on all involved to ensure that as far as possible the licensing arrangements work satisfactorily and successfully.

## STATEMENT OF LICENSING POLICY (6<sup>th</sup> edition)

This policy is effective from 31 January 2024 for five years (unless revised by voluntary arrangement).

### 1. Licensing Objectives

- 1.1 This policy must be read in conjunction with the Licensing Act 2003 (the Act), secondary legislation and the Guidance issued under s.182 of the Licensing Act 2003 (the Guidance).
- 1.2 Where revisions are made to the legislation or Guidance issued by the Secretary of State, there may be a period of time when the local Statement of Licensing Policy is inconsistent with these revisions. In these circumstances, the Licensing Authority will have regards, and give appropriate weight to, the relevant changes, Guidance and its own Statement of Licensing Policy.
- 1.3 The Licensing Authority recognises that balancing the interests of owners, employees, customers and neighbours of licensable premises will not always be straightforward, but it will always be guided by the four licensing objectives of the Act, which are :
- a) the prevention of crime and disorder;
  - b) the prevention of public nuisance;
  - c) public safety; and
  - d) the protection of children from harm

The Licensing Authority's general approach to addressing these four licensing objectives is set out in section 14 of this Statement of Licensing Policy.

- 1.4 In exercising its licensing functions, once its discretion is engaged, the Licensing Authority will primarily focus on the direct impact of the licensable activities taking place at the licensed premises on members of the public living, working or engaged in normal activity who may be affected by the activities.
- 1.5 The aims of this Statement of Licensing Policy include:
- a) Helping to encourage and support a strong and inclusive society that balances the rights of individuals and their communities; and
  - b) Integrating the Licensing Authority's aims and objectives with other initiatives and strategies that will help to:
    - reduce crime and disorder, and the fear of crime;
    - ensure the safety of the public engaging in licensable activities
    - encourage tourism and cultural diversity;
    - reduce alcohol misuse by individuals and reduce harms from excessive alcohol consumption which can lead to short and long term injury or harm
    - encourage the self sufficiency of local communities; and
    - reduce the burden of unnecessary regulation on business.
- 1.6 This Statement of Licensing Policy does not seek to undermine the right of any individual to apply under the terms of the Act for a variety of permissions and to have such an application considered on its individual merits, where the Licensing Authority's discretion has been engaged.

It does not seek to override the right of any person to make representations on or about an application or seek a review of a licence or certificate where provision has been made for them to do so in the Act.

- 1.7 The licensing process can only seek to control those measures within the control of the licensee or certificate holder (and their staff/agents), and in the vicinity of the premises involved in licensable activities, for example on the pavement, in a beer garden or smoking shelter. Licensing law is not a mechanism for the general control of anti-social behaviour by individuals once they are away from such premises and beyond the direct control of the licence holder, nor is it the cure-all for community problems.

## 2. **Purpose of the Statement of Licensing Policy**

2.1 The purpose of this Statement of Licensing Policy is to:

- inform the elected Members serving on the Licensing Committee of the parameters within which licensing decisions can be made;
- inform applicants, residents and businesses of the parameters within which the Licensing Authority will make licensing decisions;
- inform residents and businesses about how the Licensing Authority will make licensing decisions; and
- provide a basis for decisions made by the Licensing Authority if these decisions are challenged in a court of law.

2.2 This policy relates to the following licensable activities as defined by the Act:

- Retail sale of alcohol;
- Supply of alcohol by or on behalf of a club, or to the order of a member of the club;
- Provision of regulated entertainment, which generally includes music, film, plays, indoor sporting events, boxing or wrestling, dance and similar activities. It should be noted that some entertainment activities may be subject to full or limited exemption in particular circumstances; and
- Provision of late night refreshment.

2.3 It should be noted that some previous licensable activities, and locations, are now deregulated (whether fully or partially) via amendments made to the 2003 Act. Further information on these is available from [www.gov.uk](http://www.gov.uk). Whether activities/locations may be entitled to benefit from an exemption or de-regulation would be assessed on a case-by-case basis.

2.4 In some cases additional licences for entertainment may be required under separate legislation, for example sexual entertainment venues may also require a licence under schedule 3 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1982, or the venue may also require Performing Rights Society (PRS) or other permissions.

## 3. **Other legislation, strategies and guidance**

3.1 When carrying out its functions the Local Authority has duties, responsibilities and considerations under other legislation and strategies, for example:

- (a) Crime and Disorder Act 1998 (in particular obligations under section 17 relating to the prevention of crime and disorder);

- (b) The European Convention on Human Rights, given effect by the Human Rights Act 1998;
- (c) Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 (in particular the powers available under section 80 relating to the closure of premises on the grounds of crime, disorder and nuisance);
- (d) Race Relations Act 1976 (as amended by the Race Relations (Amendment) Act 2000);
- (e) Environmental Protection Act 1990 (as amended); (including the duty of the Local Authority to investigate complaints of statutory nuisance).
- (f) Health & Safety at Work Act etc. Act 1974;
- (g) Noise Act 1996 (as amended);
- (h) Health Act 2006;
- (i) Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Act 2005 (including powers for the Local Authority to issued fixed penalty notices to licensed premises emitting noise that exceeds the permitted level between 11pm and 7am);
- (j) Policing and Crime Act 2009;
- (k) The Council's procedure for dealing with petitions and its obligations under the Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009;
- (l) The Equality Act 2010;
- (m) European Union Services Directive;
- (n) Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011;
- (o) The Live Music Act 2012;
- (p) The Policing and Crime Act 2017
- (q) The Immigration Act 2016

3.2 The Premises operators/responsible persons within a business or activity are normally responsible for compliance with any other separate statutory requirements which may apply, not dealt with directly by the Local Authority, for example compliance with the Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005.

3.3 The Licensing Authority will as far as possible seek to avoid duplication with other regulatory regimes when dealing with the licensing function. If other existing law already places certain statutory responsibilities on an employer or operator of premises, it cannot be appropriate or proportionate to impose the same or similar duties on the premises licence holder or club. Once the discretion of the Licensing Authority is engaged, it is only where additional and supplementary measures are appropriate to promote the licensing objectives that necessary and proportionate conditions will be attached to a licence.

3.4 Other Local Authority and Government policies, strategies, responsibilities, and guidance documents may also refer to the licensing function, and the Licensing Authority may liaise with the relevant authorities or its directorates with regard to these. Whilst some of these may not be directly related to the promotion of the four licensing objectives, they can indirectly impact upon them.

3.5 For example, the Licensing Authority will liaise closely with the local Safer Neighbourhood Teams (SNT) and/or Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership (CDRP), the Police and Crime Commissioner and the East Suffolk Safety Advisory Group (SAG) to ensure that the Local Authority can develop effective strategies that take full account of local crime and disorder issues.

3.6 The Local Authority may, in appropriate circumstances, consider seeking from the Licensing Authority premises licences in its own name for its own public spaces within the community. This

may assist with the promotion of broader cultural activities and entertainments which add value to our communities and local economy.

#### **4. Relationship with Planning Process**

- 4.1 Applications for premises licences for permanent commercial premises will normally be from businesses with planning consent for the property concerned. However, applications for licences may be made before any relevant planning permission has been sought or granted by the Local Planning Authority.
- 4.2 It is strongly recommended that prospective licence applicants contact the Local Planning Authority in advance of making a licence application in order to check, or seek advice on, any planning consents or any conditions relevant to the use of the premises. It clearly makes operational sense to ensure that planning and licensing are compatible.
- 4.3 The Licensing Authority wishes to emphasise that the granting by the Licensing Committee of any variation of a licence which involves a material alteration or change of use to a building would not relieve the applicant of the need to apply for planning permission or building control where appropriate.
- 4.4 The Local Authority will aim to properly separate planning, building control and licensing regimes in order to avoid duplication and inefficiency. The Licensing and Planning regimes involve consideration of different (albeit related) matters. For instance, licensing considers public nuisance whereas planning considers amenity. However, liaison will be undertaken between functions to provide a joined-up approach for service users, wherever possible.
- 4.5 The Licensing Authority will avoid treating licensing applications as a re-run of planning applications, and will not normally impose licensing conditions where the same or similar conditions have been imposed on a planning consent.
- 4.6 The Licensing Authority is not bound by decisions made by the Planning Committee and vice versa.
- 4.7 Where as a condition of planning permission restricted hours have been set for the use of premises for commercial purposes that is different to the licensing hours, the licensee must observe the more restricted hours in order to avoid any breach of their planning permission or licensing obligations - for which they may be liable to prosecution under planning or licensing law.
- 4.8 It clearly makes operational sense to ensure that planning and licensing are compatible. In the majority of cases, it will be wise to obtain or vary any necessary planning consent before making a licensing application. This is because the wider range of considerations open to the planning authority means that if the planning and licensing decisions have to differ, it is likely that the planning decision will be more restrictive. However, there is no legal requirement for a planning application to precede a licence application, and compatibility with the requirements of planning is not in itself a valid reason to adopt a restrictive approach to a licence application.
- 4.9 It may sometimes be appropriate for the licensing authority to have regard to a planning decision concerning the same premises, particularly if it has been made recently and the factors taken into account by the planning authority overlap significantly with the licensing objectives. However, *the licensing authority is not bound by decisions made by the planning authority and vice versa.*



## 5. Cumulative Impact

5.1 The Licensing Authority recognises that the cumulative effect of licensed premises may have negative consequences which could include:

- an increase in crime against both property and persons;
- an increase in noise causing disturbance to residents;
- traffic congestion and/or parking difficulties;
- an increase in littering and fouling; and
- an increase in opportunities for excessive alcohol consumption by individuals leading to an increased risk of ill health or harm in themselves or to others.

and that enforcement action taken to ensure that conditions are complied with may not always resolve any problems experienced in the vicinity of licensed premises.

5.2 Licensing is only one means of addressing the problems identified above and cannot in isolation provide a solution to many of the problems that may be experienced. Other mechanisms to address problems could include:

- Planning controls
- Powers of Local Authorities or Police to designate parts of the Local Authority area as places where alcohol may not be consumed publicly and confiscation of alcohol in these areas
- Police powers to close down premises or temporary events for up to 48 hours on the grounds of disorder, the likelihood of disorder or excessive noise;
- Prosecution of personal licence holders who sell alcohol to people who are drunk or underage
- Local Authority powers under the Anti-Social Behaviour Crime and Policing Act 2014
- Powers available to responsible authorities under the provisions of the Policing and Crime Act 2009 or Violent Crime Reduction Act 2006.
- Local Authority powers under the Environmental Protection Act 1990 to serve noise abatement notices.

5.3 Where the Licensing Authority is satisfied that there is evidence of a disproportionate detrimental effect on neighbouring businesses and residents and the operation of a number of premises in a defined area has the effect of undermining the licensing objectives, a special policy may be developed. Such a policy would ordinarily address the impact of a concentration of licensed premises selling alcohol for consumption on the premises, as it would not normally be justifiable to adopt such a policy on the basis of a concentration of shops, stores and supermarkets selling alcohol for consumption off the premises.

5.4 When setting such a policy, the Licensing Authority shall have due regard to the Guidance, and will follow the consultation, adoption and review procedures applicable to the process.

5.5 No special policy adopted for a specific area will be absolute, each application shall be considered individually on its own merits.

5.6 The absence of a special policy does not prevent any responsible authority or other persons making representations on a new application for the grant or variation of a licence on the grounds that the premises will give rise to a detrimental cumulative impact on one or more of the licensing objectives in a particular area.

## 6. **Licensing Hours**

- 6.1 The Licensing Authority, through the exercise of its licensing functions once its discretion is engaged, shall not seek to restrict the trading hours of any particular premises unless it is considered appropriate to promote one or more of the licensing objectives. Each application will be considered individually on its own merits.
- 6.2 An Early Morning Restriction Order (EMRO) is a power introduced by the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 that allows licensing authorities to restrict sales of alcohol in the whole or a part of their area for any specified period between 3am and 6am if they consider this appropriate for the promotion of the licensing objectives. This applies to premises licences and club premises certificates.
- 6.3 The licensing authority would need to be satisfied that an EMRO is appropriate for the promotion of the licensing objectives in a particular area.
- 6.4 In the absence of any specific reasons linked to the licensing objectives, the Licensing Authority will not seek to restrict licensed retail outlets ability to sell alcohol for consumption off the premises throughout their general trading hours.
- 6.5 The Licensing Authority recognises that providing consumers with greater choice and flexibility is an important consideration and that in some circumstances flexible licensing hours for the sale of alcohol can help to ensure that the concentrations of customers leaving premises simultaneously are avoided, which in turn can reduce the friction at late night fast food outlets, taxi ranks and other sources of transport which can lead to crime, disorder and disturbance.
- 6.6 The Licensing Authority also acknowledges that licensing hours should not inhibit the development of thriving and safe evening and night-time local economies which are important for investment and employment locally and attractive to domestic and international tourists.
- 6.7 The Licensing Authority will however, where its discretion is engaged, always carefully balance the considerations in 6.5 and 6.6 above against its duty to promote the licensing objectives and protect the rights of local residents and businesses in the vicinity of licensed premises.
- 6.8 The Licensing Authority will consider each application individually on its merits, once its discretion is engaged, and notes the Government's guidance that there is no general presumption in favour of lengthening licensing hours and that the four licensing objectives should be paramount considerations at all times. Where there are relevant representations against an application and the Licensing Committee believes that granting the licensing hours proposed would undermine the licensing objectives then it may reject the application or grant it with appropriate conditions and/or different hours from those requested.
- 6.9 Irrespective of the hours of operation granted for a premises under any licence under the Act, the premises operators should ensure that they comply with any limitation on hours imposed under any other relevant legislation in force - for example Planning law, Sunday Trading Act 1994 or Christmas Day (Trading) Act 2004.

## 7. **Relevant Representations**

- 7.1 A relevant representation is one that is made in writing and:

- is about the likely effect of the licence on the promotion of the licensing objectives;
- has been made by a responsible authority, elected member of the Licensing Authority or other persons, within the relevant time period as prescribed by regulation;
- has not been withdrawn; and
- has not been determined by the Licensing Authority as frivolous or vexatious (or repetitious in respect of a review).

7.2 In 'borderline' cases, the Licensing Authority will normally give the benefit of the doubt to the responsible authority or other persons making the representation, and any subsequent hearing would provide an opportunity for the person or body making the representation to amplify and clarify it.

7.3 Electronic representations will be administered in accordance with the requirements of the Licensing Act 2003 (Premises licenses and club premises certificates) (Amendment) (Electronic Applications etc) Regulations 2009 and are accepted by the licensing authority provided that the representation is received within the prescribed time limits. An electronic representation is not deemed to be received until it is opened which will be within office hours and if the e-mail is sent outside those hours and the consultation period finishes before the office is next open then the representation is late and will be refused.

7.4 The Licensing Authority will determine whether:

- the representation has been made in the prescribed form; and
- any ordinary and reasonable person would consider the issue(s) raised in a representation as frivolous or vexatious (or repetitious in respect of a review).

Any persons aggrieved by a rejection of his representation on these grounds may challenge the Licensing Authority's decision by way of judicial review.

7.5 Local Councillors play an important role in their communities. They can make representations in writing and subsequently at a hearing as:

- a member of the relevant licensing authority, i.e. elected councillors of the licensing authority for the area in which a premises is situated;
- on behalf of a named other person such as a resident or local business if specifically requested to do so; and
- as an individual in their own right.

Their involvement in and/or participation in meetings to discuss matters is subject to The Relevant Authorities (Disclosable Pecuniary Interests) Regulations 2012 and the Suffolk Code of Conduct.

7.6 The Licensing Authority seeks to consider each representation on its merits, and taking into consideration the following matters; location of the premises which is the subject of the application, the nature of the surrounding area, and the direct impact of the activities proposed to take place.

7.7 The Licensing Act 2003 provides discretion for the Licensing Authority to facilitate a mediation process between parties. The Licensing Authority will attempt mediation between the relevant parties wherever it may be practicable or appropriate to do so, so as to avoid unnecessary

hearings. It may also extend the normal time limits for hearings where it is considered to be in the public interest to do so (for example where all parties are on the point of reaching agreement or so as to ensure that it is possible for a party to attend the hearing). Mediation potential will be assessed case-by-case as each set of circumstances will be different. Where compromise may be viable to appropriately balance the interests of all stakeholders, and doing so will not prejudice any party's rights under the law, then the Licensing Authority will take all reasonable steps to facilitate such discussions.

7.8 It should be noted that the usual hearing arrangements, following receipt of a relevant representation, do not apply to minor variations. For these processes the power to determine the application has been delegated to the Licensing Officer, and no hearing mechanism is involved. Relevant representations and statutory guidance will, however, be considered as part of this process, and applications shall be assessed individually and on merit by the relevant officer.

## **8. Administration, Exercise and Delegations of Functions**

8.1 The Council's published delegation scheme of functions under the Licensing Act 2003 is contained within the Council's Constitution and is available on the Council's website.

8.2 Where an application has been lawfully made under the Act, and no relevant representations are outstanding, the Licensing Authority will grant the application, in accordance with the requirements of the Act under the authority delegated to an officer. The exceptions to this usual administrative process are applications for review of a premises which must be referred to a hearing when the application is made, minor variations and community premises mandatory conditions disapplication requests, as referred to elsewhere in this document.

8.3 Where an application does not meet the statutory requirements, it will be returned to the applicant with an explanation of the matters that need to be addressed in order to meet the statutory requirements.

8.4 Electronic applications will be administered in accordance with the requirements of the Licensing Act 2003 (Premises licences and club premises certificates) (Amendment) (Electronic Applications etc) Regulations 2009.

## **9. Hearings**

9.1 Where a hearing is required, the relevant representations made will be put before the Licensing Sub-Committee. The representations, including the name and address of the person making them, will normally become part of a public document. If any person is deterred from making a representation due to these requirements, for example if they have a genuine and well-founded fear of intimidation or violence, then they should promptly contact the Licensing Team for advice.

9.2 The hearing will be conducted in accordance with the Licensing Act 2003 (Hearings) Regulations 2005

9.3 Where an application is determined at a hearing, the Licensing Sub-Committee will give appropriate weight to the:

- relevant representations made
- submissions and any evidence presented by all parties

- Guidance issued under section 182 of the Act (as may be amended from time to time)
- Licensing Authority's Statement of Licensing Policy
- Steps necessary to promote the licensing objectives
- The Human Rights Act 1998.

## 10. Conditions

10.1 The 2003 Act (under sections 19-21) makes provision for certain mandatory conditions which are summarised below:

- (a) Where a premises licence authorises the sale or supply of alcohol, no supply may be made at any time when there is:
  - No designated premises supervisor in respect of the licence; or
  - At a time when the designated premises supervisor does not hold a personal licence or it is suspended.
- (b) Where a premises licence authorises the exhibition of films, the licence must include a condition requiring that the admission of children is restricted in accordance with the recommendation of the film classification body, or where varied, the film classification awarded by the Licensing Authority. (Note: The Licensing Authority may either award a classification to an unclassified film or vary the classification of a film upon application in accordance with its policy).

The Licensing Authority recognise the British Board of Film Classification (BBFC), or any successor person or persons designated as the authority under section 4 of the Video Recordings Act 1984, as the relevant film classification body for these purposes.

- (c) Where a licence includes a condition requiring that one or more individuals are present at the premises to carry out security activities, the licence must include a condition requiring such individuals to be licensed by the Security Industry Authority. This requirement will not normally apply to employees who benefit from any relevant exemption under the Private Security Industry Authority Act 2001 (the 2001 Act) or by virtue of any other legislation (for example the Violent Crime Reduction Act 2006).

(Note: A premises licence need not impose such a requirement in relation to those licensed premises which the 2001 Act treats as 'unlicensed premises' – being premises staging plays or exhibiting films, licensed gaming premises such as casinos and bingo halls, and premises where a club certificate is in force and when activities are being carried on under the authority of that certificate).

10.2 There are also mandatory conditions relating to a code of conduct for holders of ON licensed premises, via the Licensing Act 2003 (Mandatory Licensing Conditions) Order 2010 - arising from the Policing and Crime Act 2009. The Secretary of State has powers to set further mandatory conditions and may use this power from time to time. The following conditions apply to ALL premises licensed for ON sales:

1. *The responsible person shall take all reasonable steps to ensure that staff on relevant premises do not carry out, arrange or participate in any irresponsible promotions in relation to the premises. In this [condition], 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 in a manner which*

*carries a significant risk of leading or contributing to crime and disorder, prejudice to public safety, public nuisance, or harm to children –*

- (1) games or other activities which require or encourage, or are designed to require or encourage, individuals to –*
  - 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*
  - drink as much alcohol as possible (whether within a time limit or otherwise);*
- (2) 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 (other than any promotion or discount available to an individual in respect of alcohol for consumption at a table meal, as defined in section 159 of the Act);*
- (3) 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;*
- (4) provision of free or discounted alcohol in relation to the viewing on the premises of a sporting event, where that provision is dependent on –*
  - the outcome of a race, competition or other event or process, or*
  - the likelihood of anything occurring or not occurring;*
- (5) 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.*
- 2. The responsible person shall ensure that no alcohol is dispensed directly by one person into the mouth of another (other than where that other person is unable to drink without assistance by reason of a disability).*
- 3. The responsible person shall ensure that free tap water is provided on request to customers where it is reasonably available.*
- 4. (1) The premises licence holder or club premises certificate holder shall ensure that an age verification policy applies to the premises in relation to the sale or supply of alcohol.*  
*(2) 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 a holographic mark.*
- 5. The responsible person shall ensure that –*
  - (1) 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; and

(2) customers are made aware of the availability of these measures.

6. 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.

6.1 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.

6.2 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.

6.3 (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.

10.3 The Licensing Authority may not attach to a licence authorising the performance of plays any condition which restricts the nature or manner of performing those plays (other than on the grounds of public safety).

- 10.4 With the exception of the above mandatory conditions, once its discretion is engaged the Licensing Authority will only attach necessary and proportionate conditions to a premises licence or club premises certificate or, in certain circumstances, a Temporary Event Notice where these:
- are consistent with the issues addressed in the operating schedule which the applicant submits as part of their application; and
  - are appropriate for the promotion of the licensing objectives.
- 10.5 In so far as conditions proposed by any applicant is concerned the Guidance states that it is not acceptable for the licensing authorities to simply replicate the wording from the operating schedule. The authority will endeavour to interpret any condition in accordance with the applicant's intention and to express any such conditions in unequivocal and unambiguous terms.
- 10.6 The Licensing Authority will avoid attaching standard conditions to premises licences or club premises certificates
- 10.7 In so far as conditions proposed by any applicant is concerned, the guidance states that it is not acceptable for the licensing authorities to simply replicate the wording from the operating schedule. The authority will endeavour to interpret any condition in accordance with the applicant's intention.
- 10.8 The Licensing Authority will avoid, as far as possible, attaching conditions to licences/certificates that duplicate the same or similar duties that are already placed on an employer or operator of a premises under other existing laws. However, where these general duties do not adequately address specific issues additional and supplementary measures may be necessary to promote the licensing objectives.
- 10.9 A committee or board of individuals with responsibility for the management of community premises ("the management committee") may apply to have an alternative licence condition included in a premises licence in place of the normal mandatory conditions. The alternative condition is that every supply of alcohol under the licence be made or authorised by the management committee.
- 10.10 Existing conditions relating to live music will not have effect in relation to the category of live music which is unregulated under the provisions of the Live Music Act 2012; unless on a review of the premises licence the authority adds a condition relating to live music as if it were regulated.

## **11. Appeals**

- 11.1 Entitlement to appeal against any decision of the Licensing Authority is set out in Schedule 5 of the Act.
- 11.2 There is no provision for appeals to Magistrates' court in respect of applications for minor variations or disapplication for requirement for Designated Premises Supervisors.

## **12. Enforcement**

- 12.1 Where necessary, enforcement action will be considered in accordance with the Compliance



Code and the Council's General Enforcement Policy. These guidelines are available direct from East Suffolk Council and may be subject to periodic amendment.

- 12.2 The emphasis will be upon a risk-assessed and targeted approach to inspections, concentrating on those premises which either:
- present a greater risk;
  - have a history of non-compliance with conditions/regulation; or
  - demonstrate poor management practice which undermines the licensing objectives.
- 12.3 In consultation with other Responsible Authorities, a decision will be made to use the most appropriate enforcement authority depending on the circumstances.
- 12.4 The Licensing Authority will not normally undertake inspections routinely but may do so when and if they are considered by the Authority as reasonably necessary. The 2003 Act does not require inspections to take place save at the discretion of those charged with an enforcement role.
- 12.5 The Council has adopted a joint enforcement protocol with the other Responsible Authorities, as named in the Act and will in all cases seek a collaborative and partnership approach to the promotion of the licensing objectives.

Compliance support for licensed businesses includes:

- carrying out activities in a way that supports those they regulate to comply and grow;
  - providing simple and straightforward ways to engage with those they regulate and hear their views;
  - basing regulatory activities on risk;
  - sharing information about compliance and risk;
  - ensuring clear information, guidance and advice is available to help those they regulate meet their responsibilities to comply; and
  - ensuring the approach to regulatory activities are transparent.
- 12.6 The Licensing Authority will normally act as the enforcing authority in respect of offences under the Act, and for breaches of licence conditions, unless the circumstances of the particular case are such that it is appropriate for another responsible authority to act, in accordance with the agreed enforcement concordat, instead.
- 12.7 Suffolk Constabulary will retain responsibility as the enforcing authority in respect of the following offences under the Act:
- Section 97 Powers to enter and search
  - Section 143 Failure to leave licensed premises
  - Section 144 Keeping of smuggled goods
  - Section 155 Confiscation of alcohol;
  - Section 157 Power to prohibit sale of alcohol on a train; and
  - Part 8 offences with respect to closure of premises.

- 12.8 Suffolk County Council Trading Standards will retain responsibility as the enforcing authority in

respect of the following offences under the Act, and may work in partnership where appropriate with Suffolk Constabulary in relation to the investigation and enforcement of underage sales:

- Section 146 Sale of alcohol to children
- Section 147 Allowing the sale of alcohol to children
- Section 147A Persistently selling alcohol to underage persons
- Section 154 Weights and measures offences  
(which enable Trading Standards Officers to conduct test purchases and authorise other persons to do so).

12.9 Where expedient for the promotion or protection of the interests of the inhabitants of their area, the Council may also take action under Section 222 of the Local Government Act 1972, and other relevant provisions including Section 40 of the Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014. The Council will also have due regard to section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 whilst carrying out its functions.

### **13 Closure Orders and Notices**

13.1 Part 8 of the Licensing Act 2003 provides for the arrangements relating to closure orders, and there are also powers available to the Local Authority and/or responsible authorities/court to close premises via other legislation on grounds of serious crime or disorder, persistent nuisance or protection of children - for example under the Violent Crime Reduction Act 2006, Criminal Justice and Immigration Act 2008 and Anti-Social Behaviour and Policing Act 2014.

13.2 Where a Magistrates' Court has determined to exercise its powers in respect of a closure order, the Licensing Authority must conduct a review of the relevant premises licence in accordance with procedures prescribed by regulation. This will normally involve:

- serving notice on the premises licence holder and responsible authorities and advertising the review in accordance with the regulations;
- holding a hearing in accordance with the procedures outlined in section 9 of this Statement of Licensing Policy to review the premises licence; and
- determining the review no later than 28 days after the day on which it receives the notice of the closure order from the Magistrates' Court.

13.3 When determining a review following the notice of a closure order, the Licensing Authority will consider:

- the closure order and any extension to it
- any order under section 165(2) and
- any relevant representations; and will

take such steps as it considers appropriate to promote the licensing objectives as outlined in section 22.4 of this Statement of Licensing Policy.

13.4 The Licensing Authority will notify the licence holder, the Chief Officer of Police and any person who made relevant representations of the outcome of the review hearing, including reasons for the decision. The Licensing Authority may suspend the operation of its decision until the end of the period given to appeal, or until the appeal is disposed of (if not already suspended by the Magistrates' Court).

## **14.1 Addressing the Licensing Objectives**

- 14.1.1 In respect of addressing each of the four licensing objectives in their Operating Schedule, applicants should carefully consider what steps they believe are necessary to promote the licensing objectives, relevant to the individual style and characteristics of their premises and activities. Reference could be made as to whether additional measures will be taken on an occasional or specific basis such as when a special event or promotion is planned, which is intended to, or likely to attract larger audiences.
- 14.1.2 Whilst applicants are not required to seek the views of responsible authorities before formally submitting applications, the Licensing Authority strongly encourage applicants to do so when drafting their operating schedule as applicants may find this a source of useful advice when addressing the licensing objectives. This may in some instances reduce the possibility of responsible authorities, or other persons, raising representations against an application.
- 14.1.3 Applicants should be aware that any measures included in their operating schedule will be converted into conditions consistent with these measures attached to the licence. For this reason the applicant should, where possible, identify measures that specifically set out the action to be undertaken and who is responsible for that action. The Licensing Authority encourages applicants to state their proposed steps to promote the licensing objectives in unequivocal and unambiguous terms.
- 14.1.4 Organisers of large, temporary outdoor events (such as music festivals, fairs, shows and carnivals) are strongly encouraged to engage as early as possible with the responsible authorities to ensure that their planned event is developed in a way likely to promote the licensing objectives. They should also seek the advice of the district Safety Advisory Group.

## **14.2 Prevention of Crime and Disorder**

- 14.2.1 The Council is committed to further improving the quality of life in its area by continuing to help reduce crime and disorder and the fear of crime. To this end, the Licensing Authority strongly encourages applicants and licensees to ensure that relevant factors within their control which impact on crime and disorder have been considered, for example:
- underage drinking
  - drunkenness on the premises
  - drunkenness in public
  - drugs
  - violent behaviour
  - anti-social behaviour
  - firearms and weapons
- 14.2.2 Section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 imposes a duty on each Local Authority to exercise its various functions with due regard to the likely effect of the exercise of those functions on, and the need to do all that it reasonably can to prevent, crime and disorder in its area.
- 14.2.3 In order to promote the prevention of crime and disorder objective, the Licensing Authority encourages licence holders to become active partners with both the Licensing and Responsible Authorities. Applicants are encouraged to demonstrate in their operating schedule that relevant, suitable and sufficient measures within their control have been considered and

identified and will be implemented and maintained in order to reduce or prevent crime and disorder on, and in the vicinity of, their premises.

14.2.4 When addressing the issue of crime and disorder in their operating schedule, applicants may consider, but are not limited to, factors identified at paragraph 14.2.1 above.

14.2.5 Applicants may find it helpful to contact the local Police Licensing Officer or Safer Neighbourhood Team; in their role as a responsible authority, the police are an essential source of advice and information on the impact and potential impact of licensable activities, particularly on the crime and disorder objective and may be able to offer expert advice and guidance on local crime and disorder issues and promotion of this licensing objective.

14.2.6 The following examples of control measures are given purely to assist applicants with development their Operating Schedule, having regard to their particular type of premises and/or activities. These are not in any way to be regarded as standard conditions or mandatory requirements:

- (a) effective and responsible management of premises
- (b) prevention of overcrowding/congregation flashpoints
- (c) training and supervision of staff
- (d) adoption of best practice guidance and other industry codes of practice
- (e) use of accredited 'proof of age' schemes (for example Challenge 25) where it is intended to operate more stringent measures than those contained within mandatory conditions (see section 10 of this document)
- (f) signing up to, and participating in, a Pubwatch or Nightsafe scheme where it is in operation
- (g) provision and use of effective CCTV in and around premises (subject to relevant data protection codes of practice)
- (h) use of Security Industry Authority licensed door staff (during specified days/times)
- (i) provision of toughened, plastic, polycarbonate or Polyethylene Terephthalate (PET) glasses or the decanting of glass bottles into toughened, PET or plastic polycarbonate drinking glasses
- (j) provision of secure deposit boxes for confiscated items ('amnesty bins')
- (k) provision of litter bins and other security measures, such as lighting, outside premises
- (l) control or prevention of customers entering and leaving with opened bottles/glasses – for example whilst they are observing smoke-free regulations
- (m) demarcation, capacity control, supervision and monitoring of areas immediately in the vicinity of the premises, used by smokers
- (n) implementation of a searching policy
- (o) implementation of a dispersal policy
- (p) risk assessment process to consider the crime and disorder implications of individual DJ's and promoters.
- (q) effective and robust controls for third party hirings – for example hiring agreements and hirer vetting, premises supervision, signing-in books.

14.2.7 Within the operating schedule for premises from which alcohol will be sold, a premises supervisor must be designated (Designated Premises Supervisor or 'DPS'), unless a relevant community premises disapplication has been applied for/authorised. The DPS will often have been given the day-to-day responsibility for running the premises by the premises licence holder and, as such, will usually be the first point of contact for authorised officers. In exceptional circumstances, the police may object to the designation of a new DPS where they believe that such an appointment would undermine the crime prevention objective.

- 14.2.8 Where the police object to an individual being appointed as a Designated Premises Supervisor, or object to an application made by community premises management committee for the inclusion of the alternative licence condition, the Licensing Authority will arrange for a hearing at which the issue can be considered in accordance with the procedure outlined in section 9 of this Statement of Licensing Policy.
- 14.2.9 The Licensing Sub-Committee considering the matter will confine their consideration to the prevention of crime and disorder objective.
- 14.2.10 Certain temporary events (see section 18 of this Statement of Licensing Policy) must be notified to the Licensing Authority using the Temporary Event Notice procedure. Depending on the nature and location of such temporary events these may, on occasion, have crime and disorder implications. Organisers of such events are encouraged to submit their notification as soon as reasonably practicable in advance of the event in line with existing statutory requirements, to enable the Police, the Environmental Health Team and the Local Authority to work with them to identify and reduce the risk of crime and disorder.

### **14.3 Public Safety**

- 14.3.1 The Council is committed to ensuring that the physical safety of any person visiting or working in licensed premises is not compromised. To this end, the Licensing Authority encourages applicants and licensees to conduct a risk assessment prior to completion of their operating schedule to ensure that relevant factors within their control which impact on public safety have been considered and identified. These factors may include, but are not limited to:
- (a) the occupancy capacity of the premises (including staff and performers). Note: If a capacity has been imposed/set through other legislation, for example under Fire Safety legislation, it may not be appropriate to reproduce it in a premises licence. Anticipated maximum capacity/attendance for large, temporary outdoor events should be made clear.
  - (b) the age, design and layout of the premises, including means of escape in the event of fire or other emergency
  - (c) the nature of the licensable activities to be provided and whether those activities are of a temporary, occasional or permanent nature
  - (d) the hours of operation (differentiating the hours of opening from the hours when licensable activities are provided, if different)
  - (e) customer profile (such as age, disability or culture)
  - (f) the use of special effects such as lasers, pyrotechnics, smoke machines, foam machines, etc.
  - (g) demarcation, capacity control, supervision and monitoring of areas immediately in the vicinity of the premises, used by smokers.
- 14.3.2 The Licensing Authority shall not seek to impose fire safety conditions where the Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005 adequately controls such matters.
- 14.3.3 The following examples of possible control measures are given purely to assist applicants when preparing their operating schedules, having regard to their particular type of premises and/or activities. These are not in any way to be regarded as standard conditions or mandatory requirements:
- (a) suitable and sufficient risk-assessments. Some applicants may wish to consider a

commitment in their operating schedule to providing the relevant authorities with a full risk assessment prior to the commencement of licensable activities (this may be particular relevant to large temporary outdoor events).

- (b) effective and responsible management of premises
- (c) provision of a sufficient number of people employed or engaged to secure the safety of the premises and patrons/staff
- (d) appropriate instruction, training and supervision of those employed or engaged to secure the safety of the premises and patrons
- (e) adoption of best practice guidance and other voluntary codes of practice (Note: Applicants may wish to contact the local Health & Safety officers or HSE for advice)
- (f) provision and use of effective CCTV in and around premises
- (g) provision of toughened, plastic, polycarbonate or polyethylene terephthalate (PET) glasses or the decanting of glass bottles into toughened, PET or plastic polycarbonate drinking glasses
- (h) implementation of crowd management measures
- (i) monitoring arrangements such as door staff, ticketing, attendance clickers or maintenance of attendance records
- (j) regular/periodic review and testing (and certification where appropriate) of procedures, appliances, systems etc. pertinent to safety.

#### **14.4 Prevention of Public Nuisance**

14.4.1 Licensed premises can have significant potential to impact adversely on persons in the vicinity through public nuisances that arise from their operation.

14.4.2 Subject to case law, the Licensing Authority interprets 'public nuisance' in its widest sense, and takes it to include such issues as noise, light, odour, litter and anti-social behaviour, where these matters impact on those living, working or otherwise engaged in normal activity in the vicinity of a licensed premises.

14.4.3 The Licensing Authority encourages applicants and licensees to conduct a risk assessment prior to completion of their operating schedule to ensure that relevant factors within their control which impact on public nuisance have been considered and identified.

14.4.4 The Licensing Authority recommends that licensees apply a high standard of control to minimise the potential for any public nuisance that may arise from their operation of the premises, particularly where:

- they are situated in a residential or noise sensitive area; or
- extended opening hours are proposed.
- events include amplified outdoor music or speech.

14.4.5 When addressing the issue of prevention of public nuisance in their operating schedule, the applicant may identify steps to show that those factors that impact on the prevention of public nuisance objective have been considered. These may include, but are not limited to:

- the location of premises and proximity to residential and other noise sensitive premises, such as hospitals, care homes, hospices and places of worship
- the hours of operation, particularly between 23.00hrs and 07.00hrs
- the nature of activities to be provided, including whether those activities are of a temporary or permanent nature and whether they are to be held inside or outside
- the design and layout of premises and in particular the presence of noise limiting features
- the occupancy capacity of the premises

- the availability of public transport/taxi and private hire services to assist the speedy dispersal of patrons after an event;
- the hours during which licensable activities take place and closure of the premises
- last admission time

14.4.6 The following examples of control measures are given purely to assist applicants when preparing their operating schedules, having regard to their particular type of premises and/or activities. These are not exhaustive, and are not to be regarded in any way as standard conditions or mandatory requirements, but include:

- (a) effective and responsible management of premises
- (b) appropriate instruction, training and supervision of those employed or engaged to prevent incidents of public nuisance
- (c) control of operating hours for all or parts (such as garden, patio and terraced areas) of premises, including such matters as deliveries or the collection or disposal of glassware.
- (d) impact on neighbours due to customers opening doors/going outside to observe smokefree regulations
- (e) adoption of best practice guidance (such as the Good Practice Guide on the Control of Noise from Pubs and Clubs, produced by the Institute of Acoustics, Safer Clubbing, the National Alcohol Harm Reduction Strategy Toolkit and other industry codes of practice). The local Environmental Protection officer may be able to offer advice to assist in compliance with the Licensing Act objectives
- (f) installation and effective maintenance of soundproofing, air conditioning, acoustic lobbies and sound limitation devices
- (g) management of people, including staff, and traffic (and resulting queues) arriving and leaving premises
- (h) liaison with public transport/taxi and private hire service providers
- (i) siting of external lighting, including security lighting. The local Environmental Protection Officer may assist in ensuring any external lighting minimises the potential for light pollution nuisance
- (j) management arrangements for collection and disposal of litter
- (k) effective ventilation systems to prevent nuisance from odour
- (l) demarcation, capacity control, supervision and monitoring of areas immediately in the vicinity of the premises, used by smokers.
- (j) implementation of a dispersal policy

14.4.7 Please note that applicants should consider contacting the local Planning Authority for advice on whether any proposed installation of lighting, ventilation, soundproofing, smoking shelter or other works require planning consent from the Planning Authority. This may be particularly relevant if the premises is a listed building.

## 14.5 Protection of Children from Harm

The Licensing Authority, once its discretion is engaged concerning an application, shall not seek to limit the access of children to any premises unless it is necessary for the prevention of their physical, moral or psychological harm. Consideration shall be given to the individual merits of each application.

The Act places responsibilities upon licence holders, while recognising that parents and others accompanying children also have responsibilities. Licensees should be aware that children will normally see licensees and their staff as responsible adults – and that children are particularly

vulnerable to adults who are 'responsible' and 'in authority' if those adults use their position to develop inappropriate relationships or otherwise abuse children's trust

- 14.5.1 Whilst the Licensing Authority cannot anticipate every possible issue of concern that could arise in respect of children in relation to individual premises, areas that will give rise to particular concern in respect of children would include premises:
- Where entertainment or services of an adult or sexual nature are provided (whether permanently or occasionally);
  - Where there have been convictions of members of the current staff at the premises for selling 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 (but not for example the simple presence of a small number of cash prize gaming machines); and
  - Where the supply of alcohol for consumption on the premises is the exclusive or primary purpose of the services provided at the premises.
- 14.5.2 Whilst it is not possible for the Licensing Authority to give an exhaustive list of what amounts to entertainment or services of an adult or sexual nature, examples would generally include topless bar staff, striptease, lap-dancing, table-dancing, pole-dancing, performances involving feigned violence or horrific incidents, feigned or actual sexual acts or fetishism, or entertainment involving strong and offensive language. It should be noted that premises deemed as 'sexual entertainment venues' under the Policing and Crime Act 2009 are also likely to require an additional licence under the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1982.
- 14.5.3 The 2003 Act made it an offence to permit children under the age of 16 who are not accompanied by an adult to be present on premises being used exclusively or primarily for supply of alcohol for consumption on those premises under the authorisation of a premises licence, club premises certificate or where that activity is carried on under the authority of a Temporary Event Notice (TEN). 'Exclusively or primarily' in relation to the consumption of alcohol will bear their ordinary and natural meaning in the context of the particular circumstances.
- 14.5.4 In addition, it is an offence to permit the presence of children under 16 who are not accompanied by an adult between midnight and 5am at other premises supplying alcohol for consumption on the premises under the authority of a premises licence, club premises certificate or where that activity is carried on under the authority of a Temporary Event Notice (TEN).
- 14.5.5 The Licensing Authority considers that, subject only to the provisions of the 2003 Act and unless restriction of access is necessary to protect children from harm, this is a matter for the discretion of the licensee.
- 14.5.6 The Licensing Authority shall not seek to impose any condition on any licence or certificate requiring the admission of children.
- 14.5.7 Applicants are strongly encouraged to demonstrate in their operating schedule that they have considered and identified any suitable and sufficient measures relevant to the style, character and activities of their individual premises to protect children from harm.



- 14.5.8 Where it is necessary for promotion of the protection of children from harm licensing objective, there are a range of alternatives which may be considered for limiting the access of children. These could include:
- (a) Limitations on the hours during which children may be present;
  - (b) Limitations excluding the presence of children under certain ages when particular activities are taking place;
  - (c) Limitations on the parts of premises to which children might be given access;
  - (d) Age limitations (below 18);
  - (e) Requirements for accompanying adults; and
  - (f) Full exclusion from those under 18 from the premises when any licensable activities are taking place.
- 14.5.9 The following examples of possible control measures are given purely to assist applicants with preparing their operating schedules, having regard to their particular type of premises and activities. These examples are not exhaustive, and are not in any way to be treated as standard conditions or mandatory requirements, but include:
- (a) provision of a sufficient number of people employed or engaged to secure the protection of children from harm
  - (b) appropriate instruction, training, supervision and background checks of those employed or engaged to secure the protection of children from harm
  - (c) adoption of best practice guidance
  - (d) limitations on the hours when children may be present in all or parts of the premises
  - (e) the presence of an adequate number of adult staff to control the access and egress of children and to protect them from harm whilst on the premises
  - (f) an adequate number of adult staff to be responsible for the child performers, checked by the Disclosure and Barring Service.
  - (g) use of accredited 'proof of age' schemes (for example Challenge 25) where it is intended to operate more stringent measures than those contained within mandatory conditions (see 10.2 of this document)
- 14.5.10 Where film exhibitions are authorised at a premises, the licence shall include a mandatory condition (section 20 of the Act) requiring that children are restricted from viewing age-restricted films in accordance with the British Board of Film Classification (BBFC), or in accordance with any recommendation made by the Licensing Authority.
- 14.5.11 The Licensing Authority recognise the British Board of Film Classification (BBFC), or any successor person or persons designated as the authority under section 4 of the Video Recordings Act 1984, as the relevant film classification body for these purposes.
- 14.5.12 Where film exhibitions are given at premises, licensees must ensure that children are restricted from viewing age-restricted films classified according to the British Board of Film Classification, or by the Licensing Authority. (see section 9).
- 14.5.13 The Licensing Authority recognises the Suffolk Safeguarding Partnership, or its designated nominee, as being competent to advise on matters relating to the protection of children from harm. The contact details are available from the Licensing Team or [www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk](http://www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk)
- 14.5.14 Suffolk County Council Trading Standards and Suffolk Constabulary may, in conjunction with other appropriate agencies, conduct test purchases to check the compliance of retailers with the prohibition on underage sales of alcohol.

## **15. Personal Licences**

- 15.1 The Licensing Authority will grant a personal licence if the applicant has met the requirements set out in the Act and no objections are received from the Suffolk Constabulary. All applicants must provide evidence of their right to work in the UK.
- 15.2 Where an applicant is found to have an unspent conviction for a relevant offence or a foreign offence, and the police object to the application on crime prevention grounds, the application will normally be referred to a Sub-Committee of the Licensing Committee.
- 15.3 The Licensing Authority also has the power to suspend or revoke a personal licence where it becomes aware that the holder has been convicted of a relevant offence, a foreign offence, or required to pay an immigration penalty.
- 15.4 Any hearing will be held in accordance with the procedure referred to in section 9 of this Statement of Licensing Policy.
- 15.5 All personal licence holders should ensure they are aware of the offences relating to personal licences, for example the duty of the holder to advise the Court of the existence of their personal licence if charged with a relevant offence and to advise the Licensing Authority of changes to name or address.
- 15.6 In accordance with the Guidance issued under section 182 of the Licensing Act 2003, the Licensing Authority recommends that personal licence holders (and DPSs/authorised community premises management committees) overtly authorise individuals in writing to sell alcohol under the authority of their personal licence/duty where the personal licence holder or DPS/management committee is unable to authorise the transaction(s) in person.
- 15.7 The Licensing Authority considers that, when establishing whether or not an authorisation has been given for the retail sale of alcohol, the following factors are relevant:
- there should be an overt act of authorisation, (this could, for example, be a specific written statement given to the individual being authorised);
  - the person(s) authorised to sell alcohol at any particular premises should be clearly identified;
  - the authorisation should specify the acts which may be carried out by the person authorised; and
  - there should be in place sensible arrangements for the personal licence holder to monitor the activity authorised on reasonably regular basis.
  - training records should be kept relevant to the training provided to each individual authorised by the personal licence holder

## **16. Applications for Premises Licences**

- 16.1 Guidance on making an application and information, such as contact details for responsible authorities, is available on the Council website at [www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk](http://www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk) or by contacting the Licensing Team.

- 16.2 Individuals applying for a premises licence for the sale of alcohol or late night refreshment must be entitled to work in the UK and must provide evidence accordingly. This includes applications made by more than one individual applicant. An application made by an individual without the entitlement to work in the UK must be rejected.
- 16.3 Pre-application discussions with responsible authorities are strongly encouraged to assist applicants with development of their operating schedule in a way which is likely to promote the licensing objectives.
- 16.4 The Licensing Act 2003 provides for a mediation process between parties. Where it is appropriate for the Licensing Authority to do so, following a relevant representation being made, the Authority shall make all reasonable efforts to facilitate mediation. In doing so the Licensing Authority will be mindful of the legislative framework and any relevant government guidance. It may also extend the normal time limits for hearings where it is considered in the public interest to do so (for example where all parties are on the point of reaching agreement, or so as to ensure that it is possible for a party to attend the hearing).
- 16.5 An application may be made to the Licensing Authority for any place within its area to be used for licensable activities or recognised club activities. The application requirements are prescribed by regulation and will normally include:
- a) the completed application form;
  - b) the prescribed fee;
  - c) an operating schedule;
  - d) plan of the premises, in accordance with regulatory requirements; and
  - e) if it is intended that the premises be authorised to sell alcohol, a form of consent given by the person the applicant wishes to have specified in the Premises Licence as the Designated Premises Supervisor (DPS), or else request to dis-apply this usual requirement if for an eligible 'community premises'.
  - f) for individual applicants, evidence to right to work in the UK.
- 16.6 The Operating Schedule will include a statement of:
- a) the relevant licensable activities, including a description of the style and character of the business and activities to be conducted on the premises;
  - b) the times during which the applicant proposes that the relevant licensable activities are to take place;
  - c) any other times during which the applicant proposes that the premises are to be open to the public;
  - d) where the applicant wishes the licence to have effect for a limited period, that period;
  - e) where the relevant licensable activities include the sale by retail of alcohol, the name and address of the individual whom the applicant wishes to have specified as the Designated Premises Supervisor and a consent form signed by that person including details of their personal licence (or else a 'community premises' disapplication request may be applicable);
  - f) where the relevant licensable activities include the sale by retail of alcohol, whether such sales are proposed to be for consumption on the premises or off the premises, or both;
  - g) the steps which the applicant proposes to take to promote the licensing objectives; and
  - h) any other prescribed matters.
- 16.7 Where relevant representations are received about an application, and those representations

are not withdrawn, the application will normally be referred to a Sub-Committee of the Licensing Committee, which will be held in accordance with the procedure referred to in section 9 of this Statement of Licensing Policy.

16.8 Where a premises licence application is being applied for to authorise a large scale outdoor event of a temporary nature (for example a music concert, street fair, show or carnival) the Licensing Authority strongly recommends that applicants contact the responsible authorities as soon as possible in advance of making their application in order to seek expert advice and guidance on formulation of their operating schedule to ensure that the event runs safely and with a view to promoting the four licensing objectives.

16.9 In the event that an application relates to the sale or supply of alcohol from premises that are used as a garage, or are part of the premises used as a garage, and where there is doubt over whether Section 176 of the 2003 Act is called into question, it will be the responsibility of the Licensing Authority to determine the intensity of use and whether it is used primarily as a garage. Where there is insufficient evidence to establish primary use, it will be the responsibility of the Licensing Authority to decide whether to grant the licence and deal with any issues through enforcement action or to defer granting the licence until the primary use issue can be resolved.

16.10 Applications and notices can be submitted on any working day as defined in the Act.

16.11 Applicants may be required to provide written confirmation that applications have been advertised as required by regulations.

## **17. Club Premises Certificates**

17.1 Paragraphs 16.1 to 16.3 above apply

17.2. The application requirements for a Club Premises Certificate are set by regulation and will normally include provision of:

- a) the relevant fee;
- b) the Club Operating Schedule;
- c) a plan of the premises in accordance with regulatory requirements;
- d) a copy of the rules of the Club; and
- e) details to verify that the Club is a qualifying Club

17.3 The Club Operating Schedule will contain the following information:

- a) details of the recognised Club activities to which the application relates;
- b) the times during which it is proposed the recognised Club activities take place;
- c) any other times during which it is proposed the premises are open to members and their guests;
- d) the steps which it is proposed to take to promote the licensing objectives; and
- e) any other prescribed matters.

17.4. Where relevant representations are received in respect of an application, and those representations are not withdrawn, the application will normally be referred to a Sub-Committee of the Licensing Committee, and the hearing will be held in accordance with the procedure referred to in section 9 of this Statement of Licensing Policy.

## **18. Temporary Events Notices (TENS)**

18.1 The Act sets out the terms and conditions under which an application for a TEN may be made. A standard TEN must be applied for a minimum of 10 working days prior to the first day of the event, and the Licensing Authority recommend that wherever possible notice-givers submit their TEN a minimum of 28 days prior to the commencement of the event. Should any statutory modifications be made to the TENS system, for example relating to service requirements, then the Licensing Authority shall have due regard to these and publicise any such changes including via its website at [www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk](http://www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk)

There also is provision for making an application for a late TEN. Such application may be made no earlier than 9 working days before the event and no less than 5 working days before the event. Again, the Licensing Authority understands this to mean 9 or 5 days exclusive of the day on which the event is to start and exclusive of the day on which the notice is given.

18.2 Where either a standard TEN or a late TEN is given and one or more of the relevant statutory limits are exceeded, the Licensing Authority will serve a Counter-Notice on the notice giver in accordance with section 107 of the Licensing Act 2003 to prevent the licensable activities from going ahead. There is no provision under the Act to appeal against the issue of a Counter-Notice.

18.3 Where a TEN complies with the statutory requirements, and neither the Suffolk Constabulary nor Environmental Health have not submitted an objection notice to the Licensing Authority within the prescribed time, the Licensing Authority shall record the notice in its licensing register and send an acknowledgement to the premises user. The event may then proceed in accordance with the submission within the Temporary Event Notice.

18.4 Where the Suffolk Constabulary or Environmental Health have issued an objection notice, to a standard TEN, the Licensing Authority will normally consider this at a hearing (unless the objection notice is withdrawn before the hearing date). The system of permitted temporary activities gives the police and Environmental Health the opportunity to consider whether they should object to a TEN on the basis of any of the licensing objectives.

18.5 If the TEN is submitted, and there is an objection notice, for an event that is a premises that has either a premises licence or club premises certificate for all or part of the premises then the licensing authority can add conditions to the TEN provided such conditions are appropriate for the promotion of the licensing objectives and are consistent with the carrying out of the licensable activities under the TEN.

18.6 Where either the Suffolk Constabulary or Environmental Health issue an objection notice to a late TEN, there is no provision either for the Licensing Authority to consider a hearing or add conditions and therefore the event cannot proceed.

18.7 The Licensing Authority will notify the applicant of its decision at least 24 hours before the beginning of the event period specified in the temporary event notice.

## **19. Provisional Statements**

19.1. The Act sets out the terms and conditions under which an application for a provisional statement may be made.

19.2 Where a Provisional Statement has been issued and a person subsequently applies for a Premises Licence in respect of the premises in accordance with the provisions of the Licensing

Act, representations made by a person to the Licensing Authority will not be taken into account if:

- (a) Given the information in the application for a Provisional Statement, the person objecting could have made the same, or substantially the same, representations about the application but failed to do so without reasonable excuse; and,
- (b) There has been no material change in circumstances relating either to the relevant premises or to the area in the vicinity of those premises.

## **20. Variations of Licences**

- 20.1 Where a premises licence holder wishes to amend the licence the Act allows, in most cases, for an application to be made to vary the licence rather than requiring an application to be made for a new licence. It should be noted that 'substantial variations' may not be applied for using the variation procedures prescribed by section 34 of the Act, instead substantial changes, for example an amendment to the duration of the licence or transfer of the licence from one premises to another, will require a new application under section 17 of the Act.
- 20.2 In the case of a change of name or address of someone named in the licence (section 33) or application to vary the individual specified in the licence as DPS (section 37) there are simplified processes for making such applications.
- 20.3 The Legislative Reform (Supervision of Alcohol Sales in Church and Village Halls etc.) Order 2009 (SI 2009/1724) amends the 2003 Act to allow certain 'community premises' which have, or are applying for, a premises licence that authorises alcohol sales to also apply to include the alternative licence condition in sections 25A(2) and 41D(3) of the 2003 Act in the licence instead of the usual mandatory conditions in sections 19(2) and 19(3) of the 2003 Act.
- 20.4 The Act and Guidance set out the terms, conditions and considerations under which an application for a minor variation, or request from the management of 'community premises' to disapply the usual mandatory conditions, may be made. Minor variation processes may be applied for in some circumstances, subject to some specific exclusions, to reduce the normal service, advertising and consultation requirements (and associated financial impacts in cost and time).
- 20.5 The minor variation process is intended for some small variations to licences/certificates that will not adversely impact on promotion of the licensing objectives (for example small variations to layout or some minor alterations to activities, timing or conditions). In each case the Licensing Authority will consult the relevant Responsible Authorities and make a decision on whether the variation could impact adversely on the licensing objectives. This process also makes a more limited provision for other persons to make comment on the proposals.
- 20.6 In determining these applications, under his/her delegated authority on behalf of the Licensing Authority, the Licensing Officer shall carefully assess each application on a case-by-case basis in the light of government guidance and all relevant factors. The licence/certificate holder may wish to seek advice from responsible authorities, in advance of submitting an application, as to whether the licensing objectives are likely to be affected by the proposals.
- 20.7 If relevant representations are made and not withdrawn the Licensing Authority will normally hold a hearing in accordance with the procedure referred to in section 9 of this Statement of

Licensing Policy, and at that hearing the Licensing Authority may:

- a) Grant the application as applied for, subject only to any conditions consistent with the operating schedule and any relevant mandatory conditions;
- b) Modify the conditions (either by means of omission, inclusion or amendment) of the licence; or
- c) Reject the application in whole or in part.

20.8 The Licensing Authority may determine a licence so that different conditions may apply to:

- a) different parts of the premises concerned; and
- b) different licensable activities,

where to do so would be considered necessary and proportionate for promotion of the licensing objectives.

20.9 Where the police submit an objection to an application to vary a Designated Premises Supervisor (DPS), or from a community premises to disapply the usual mandatory conditions, because they consider that the circumstances are such that granting it would undermine the crime and disorder objective then a hearing will normally be held in accordance with the procedure referred to in section 9 of this Statement of Licensing Policy.

## **21. Transfer of Premises Licences**

21.1. Where an application is lawfully made under the Act for the transfer of a licence and the Police submit an objection to the application, the Licensing Authority will normally hold a hearing in accordance with the procedure referred to in section 9 of this Statement of Licensing Policy. This hearing will be confined to consideration of the crime and disorder objective and the application may be rejected where the Licensing Authority considers it appropriate for the promotion of the crime prevention objective to do so. All individual applicants must provide evidence of their right to work in the UK.

## **22. Reviews**

22.1 The review of a premises licence or club premises certificate is a key protection for local communities where problems associated with one or more of the licensing objectives are occurring and these are linked to the operation of licensed premises.

22.2 Where relevant representations are made about an existing licence the Licensing Authority will normally hold a hearing which will be held in accordance with the procedure referred to in section 9 of this Statement of Licensing Policy to consider them unless:

- a) the representation is considered frivolous, vexatious or to be repetitious (that is, identical or substantially similar to a ground specified in an earlier application for a licence, provisional statement or review); or
- b) All parties to the hearing, including those persons making representations, agree that the hearing is not necessary.

22.3 A review of the premises licence will normally also follow:

- a) any action instigated by the Police to close down the premises for up to 24 hours on grounds of disorder or public nuisance;

- b) summary review powers of the Police pursuant to section 21 (regarding serious crime and disorder) of the Violent Crime Reduction Act 2006 ; or
- c) any exercise of the closure order powers available to the magistrates' court.

22.4 In determining a review application at a hearing, the Licensing Authority may take such steps as it considers appropriate to promote the licensing objectives, which include:

- a) modifying the conditions of the licence (by inclusion, amendment or omission);
- b) excluding a licensable activity from the scope of a licence;
- c) removing a designated premises supervisor;
- d) suspending the licence for a period not exceeding three months; or
- e) revoking the licence.

22.5 Where the Police make application for summary review under section 53A of the Licensing Act 2003 the relevant licensing authority will normally consider whether it is necessary to take interim steps pending the determination of the review applied for. Such consideration may take place without the holder of the premises licence having been given an opportunity to make representations to the relevant licensing authority. The interim steps the relevant licensing authority must consider taking are -

- (a) modification of the conditions of the premises licence;
- (b) exclusion of the sale of alcohol by retail from the scope of the licence;
- (c) removal of the designated premises supervisor from the licence; and
- (d) suspension of the licence.

Should a summary review be instigated, the Licensing Authority shall follow the procedures as set out in the Licensing Act 2003 (Summary Review of Premises Licences) Regulations 2007.

22.6 Applications may also be made for the review of licences which are held by a management committee in respect of community premises, and which include the alternative licence condition instead of the normal mandatory conditions. In relation to such applications, the licensing authority may determine that the normal mandatory conditions should apply instead of the alternative condition if it considers this to be appropriate for the promotion of the licensing objectives. Such a determination may be reached following the usual procedure for review applications set out in sections 51 to 53 of the Act.

22.7 The outcome of a review hearing will not ordinarily have effect until such time as the period given for appealing (normally 21 days) expires or an appeal is disposed of.

## **23 Fees**

23.1 Section 55A of the Licensing Act 2003 allows Licensing authorities to suspend licences due to non-payment of the annual fee. The licence will be reinstated as soon as the fee is paid and the licensing authority must notify the licence holder of receipt of the fee. If an administrative error has occurred, then the suspension of a licence will become invalid.

23.2 The late night levy (LNL) is another power for licensing authorities. An additional fee may be charged for premises that have a late alcohol licence. Whether or not to implement the levy will be left entirely at the discretion of the licensing authority that will make the decision based on the situation in its local area.



## 24 Ancillary Delivery of Alcohol and/or Late Night Refreshment

24.1 Applications for premises that intend to sell alcohol and/or late-night refreshment for delivery to customers at a residential or workplace address, which is ancillary to the main use of the premises, will generally be granted subject to not being contrary to other policies within this Statement of Licensing Policy and that it meets the criteria below:

- The hours when delivery will take place is within the relevant operating hours for that premises use
- The delivery of alcohol and/or late-night refreshment to customers at their residential address or workplace will be ancillary to the main premises use

That the applicant will:

- implement their own age verification procedures for the sale and supply of alcohol for their delivery staff and ensure that they receive regular training in the company's age verification procedures, or
- ensure that any third party, to which they have contracted the delivery of alcohol and/or food has sufficient age verification procedures in place for the sale of alcohol and has regular training for its delivery personnel on their age verification procedures.

That the applicant will:

- implement their own procedures and provide mitigation to reduce the risk that their delivery service and delivery personnel will create public nuisance either at the premises where the delivery originates and at the delivery destination, or
- ensure that any third party, to which they have contracted their delivery service to have sufficient procedures and mitigation in place to ensure that their delivery personnel do not create public nuisance either at the premises where the delivery originates and at the delivery destination.

Applications that do not meet the above criteria will be considered on their own merits, subject to other relevant information within this statement.