

6. Licensing Objectives

Each of the four licensing objectives is of equal importance and no one objective will take precedence over others when considering applications.

The Licensing Authority considers the effective and responsible management of premises, instruction, training and supervision of staff and the adoption of best practice to be amongst the most essential control measures for the achievement of all the licensing objectives. For this reason these elements should be specifically considered and addressed within the applicants operating schedule.

The Licensing Authority recommends that applicants carry out their own risk assessments in relation to the four licensing objectives in order to assist them in deciding whether any steps are required to be taken in order to meet those objectives.

In accordance with the Home Office Guidance to Licensing Authorities, this Authority expects applicants to demonstrate knowledge of the area within which the licensed premises is situated. This would include, for example, proximity to residential properties, areas where children congregate and any risk posed to the local area by the applicant's proposed licensable activity.

6.1 Prevention of crime and disorder

- 6.1.1 The Licensing Authority will carry out its licensing functions with a view to promoting the prevention of crime and disorder and will seek to ensure that licensees/certificate holders/designated premises supervisors take measures to regulate the behaviour of persons whilst on their premises, or in the immediate vicinity of the premises.
- 6.1.2 In addition to the requirement for the Licensing Authority to promote this licensing objective, it also has a duty under Section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 to exercise its functions with due regard to the likely effect on, and do all it reasonably can to prevent, crime and disorder in the Borough.
- 6.1.3 When addressing crime and disorder the applicant should initially identify any particular issues (having regard to their type of premises and/or activities) which are likely to adversely affect the promotion of the crime and disorder objective. Such steps as are required to deal with these identified issues should be included within the applicant's operating schedule.

The Licensing Authority encourages applicants to include in their operating schedule the steps they propose to take to reduce/deter crime and disorder. These steps will vary from premises to premises according to the type of licensable activities that are to be carried on. Examples of measures the Licensing Authority encourage applicants to consider and address include

- Physical security features e.g. use of toughened, polycarbonate or plastic drinking glasses
- Procedure for risk assessment of alcohol promotions to ensure they do not promote irresponsible drinking or potentially breach the mandatory condition on irresponsible drinks promotions
- The use and number of Security Industry Authority (SIA) registered door supervisors
- Amount of seating to be provided to reduce the risk of high volume vertical drinking
- Training given to staff in crime prevention and drug awareness measures
- Measures agreed with the Police to reduce crime and disorder
- Measures to prevent the use or supply of illegal drugs
- Search procedures
- Participation in the use of the radio network scheme
- Membership of Boston Pubwatch or a similar scheme
- Formalisation of a dispersal policy
- Measures to prevent glasses and bottles being taken away from the premises
- Training given to staff to prevent the sale of alcohol to those who are under age or appear drunk

CCTV remains one of the most effective measures for reducing crime and disorder. The Licensing Authority expects premises that retail alcohol for consumption on or off the premises will have an effective CCTV system installed that operates in compliance with the requirements of Lincolnshire Police

- 6.1.4 The British Beer and Pub Association (BBPA) has consolidated good practice on combating violence in licensed premises into a guide to risk assessment. This is available on the BBPA's website: www.beerandpub.com.
- 6.1.5 Pub Watch – The Licensing Authority recognises the important role of licensees working together to create a safe and secure environment for customers, thereby reducing crime and disorder in the area. The Licensing Authority will therefore do all that it can to support the effective working of Pub Watch and other trade associations in the borough.

6.2 Public Safety

- 6.2.1 The Licensing Authority will carry out their licensing functions with a view to promoting public safety and will seek to ensure that licensees/certificate holders/designated premises supervisors take measures to protect the safety of performers and persons attending licensable activities. The risk to public safety will vary according to the type of premises and the activities carried out.

The Licensing Authority encourages applicants to include in their operating schedules the steps they propose to take to promote public safety.

6.2.2 Where an applicant identifies an issue in regard to public safety, which is not covered by existing legislation, the applicant should identify in their operating schedule the steps which will be taken to ensure public safety.

6.2.3 Depending on the individual style and characteristics of the premises and/or events the following issues may be of relevance:

- Use of equipment and effects
- Levels of door supervision
- Measures to prevent the supply and use of illegal drugs
- Free availability of potable water where this is not covered by the mandatory condition.
- Physical safety features e.g. use of toughened glass, polycarbonate and plastic containers
- Fire evacuation procedures
- Provision of CCTV (see para 6.1.3)

N.B. In relation to free potable water applicants and licence holders are reminded of the mandatory licence condition, in relation to on licensed alcohol premises, which require the provision of free potable water to customers.

6.2.4 It will be the responsibility of licence/certificate holders/designated premises supervisors to ensure they have complied with all Health and Safety legislation.

6.2.5 Where a premise is on a vessel for which a current Passenger Ship Certificate is in force, the public safety objective can generally be considered to be met in respect of the layout, structure, access arrangements and operation of the vessel.

6.2.6 Whilst the Licensing Authority cannot require documentation regarding risk assessments to be attached to the operating schedule, it considers such risk assessments to be good practice. Risk assessments are a useful tool in the instruction and training of staff, as well as a sound basis for review by the licence holder, in the event of needing to make an application for variation of a premises licence or in response to changing circumstances/conditions at the premises.

14. Review of Premises Licences and Club Premises Certificates

- 14.1 The Licensing Authority will consider the full range of powers available to it when an application for review of a licence or club premises certificate is heard. It will however be mindful of the need to prevent the review process being used as an opportunity by Responsible Authorities and other persons to re-run earlier representations without due cause. The power to review premises licences represents a crucial protection for the community, especially with regards to the promotion of the four licensing objectives. Reviews of licences may be triggered at any stage by Responsible Authorities or other persons due to a matter arising at the licensed premises and relating to one of the four licensing objectives. Reviews will become necessary following the service of a closure order. It is the Licensing Authority's belief that the promotion of the licensing objectives is best achieved in an atmosphere of mutual co-operation between all stakeholders. Reviews should therefore be mainly reserved for circumstances where early warnings of concerns and the need for improvement have gone unheeded by the management of the licensed premises.
- 14.2 This Authority emphasises the importance of all parties working in partnership to achieve the promotion of licensing objectives; the Authority expects that Responsible Authorities will aim to give licensees early warning of any concerns identified at a premises.
- 14.3 Responsible Authorities and other persons (e.g. local residents, local organisations and Boston Borough Council Councillors) can apply for the review of a licence; the Licensing Authority itself can also initiate the review process.
- 14.4 When acting as a Responsible Authority the Licensing Authority will operate in accordance with the Home Office Guidelines to Licensing Authorities. There will be a clear and identifiable separation of responsibilities. The Head of Service for the area of concern leading to the need for review (or an officer so directed by them) will initiate any premises reviews or make any relevant representations in relation to licence applications. Reviews will not be initiated, or representations made, by the licensing team who shall process applications, administer application and review hearings and offer advice to the Licensing Authority.
- 14.5 The Licensing Authority will seek to establish the cause or causes of the concern and remedial action will be targeted at such causes. Any action will be proportionate to the problems involved.