

Appendix A

Statement of Licensing Policy: Consultation

Background

The consultation period ran from Wednesday 17 February 2016 to Wednesday 16 March 2016. The purpose of the consultation was to ascertain views on the proposed Statement of Licensing Policy which had been reviewed in light of changes to legislation and secretary of state guidance.

Methodology

A letter was sent to a range of stakeholders including businesses, representatives of existing license holders, responsible authorities and elected members (as representatives of residents). A full list of consultees is provided at the end of this section.

The letter asked stakeholders to review the proposed Statement of Licensing Policy on the website (paper copy available on request) and provide comments. In providing comments, stakeholders were asked to inform the council how the updated policy would impact on them or the organisation they represent, any impacts on particular vulnerable groups, any proposed mitigation measures to off-set these impacts and any further proposed changes to the statement.

Stakeholders were asked to submit comments by email or in writing (a pre-paid envelope was provided). A face-to-face meeting or telephone discussion was offered to anyone who preferred this.

Comments

CVS provided the following comments during the consultation period:

Our views

Bolton CVS are fully committed to working in partnership, engaging the voluntary and community sector and ensuring that communities are informed and aware of changes, actions and strategies which affect them.

Bolton CVS welcomes the council's commitment to;

“work creatively and innovatively by making full use of all available powers and legislation in its approach to administering licences and licensed premises within the borough.”

We note with interest point **1.28** *“In order to ensure compliance with this legislation, an equality impact assessment will be conducted”* and would welcome further information on how equality impact assessments are undertaken within licensing. We believe that engaging with diverse communities on the impact of licensing would be a positive approach and would be happy to support that with sector colleagues.

Furthermore, with regards to partnership working under point **1.29**, we would like to see a partnership approach that fully involves the voluntary and community sector in local decision making.

We are particularly keen to see positive action taken around ‘The Protection and Improvement of Public Health’.

Bolton CVS believes that a clear and positive public health campaign could have significant impact on reducing harmful alcohol intake across the borough, particularly considering that we have access to around 32,000 volunteers as a sector – we’re happy to help.

We believe that a clear investment in engaging individuals in responsible drinking that is borough wide is something that we could support.

With reference to 'the prevention of crime & disorder' alongside 'the protection and improvement of public health', Bolton CVS believes that work could be taken around new initiatives and spaces such as 'safe drinking space' in Bolton where people can go to drink in a safe place and there be clear access for seek medical advice from health professionals.

This could reduce crime and disorder if well managed and could also reduce the risk of abuse to vulnerable young adults being abused by others and it would hopefully give the opportunity for those individuals to learn more about the impact drink is having on their bodies and seek help. This idea comes from the popular model for safer drug use, which has been used in other European countries: <http://www.emcdda.europa.eu/topics/pods/drug-consumption-rooms>.

No comments were received from other stakeholders.

Stakeholders

Premises with ON license for alcohol:

Punch Taverns PLC
Joseph Holt Limited
Bolton Leisure Limited
Henighan's,
Thomas Egerton
Lamb Inn

Premises with OFF license for alcohol:

Co-Operative Group
Bargain Booze Head Office
Asda Stores Limited
Aldi Stores Limited
Tesco Stores Limited
Sainsburys Supermarkets Limited
Wm Morrison Supermarkets PLC
Crabtrees Off Licence
DM (Bolton) Ltd

Club certificates with alcohol:

Astley Bridge Bowling Green Co Ltd
Royal British Legion
Tonge Moor Cricket Club
Astley Bridge Cricket Club

Pub watch chairs

Sex establishments:

National Organisations

British Institute of Inn Keeping (BII)
British Beer and Pub Association
Association of Convenience Stores (ACS)
Association of Licensed Multiple Retailers (ALMR)
Association of Town Centre Managers (ACTM)
British Retail Consortium (BRC)
Licensed Victuallers Association (LVA)
Arts Development UK

National Pub Watch
SIA

Bolton Organisations

Bolton Town Centre Manager
Public Health
Faith leaders forum / Bolton Interfaith Council
GM Police
GM Fire and Rescue Service
Voluntary and Community organisations

Internal:

Regulatory Services
Staying Safe (Child Protection)
Economic Development and regeneration
Public Health
Child safeguarding
Community Safety
Legal and Democratic Services
Adult and Community Services Department
Other Directors of the council

Representatives of Residents

Elected members
Town Councillors