



Cambridge City Council

**Licensing Act 2003 and Gambling Act 2005
Committee (Statutory Licensing Committee)**

Date: Monday, 26 January 2026

Time: 10.00 am

Venue: Council Chamber, The Guildhall, Market Square, Cambridge, CB2 3QJ [access the building via Peashill entrance]

Contact: democratic.services@cambridge.gov.uk, tel:01223 457000

Agenda

- 1 Apologies
- 2 Declarations of Interest
- 3 Public Questions
- 4 Statement of Licensing Policy

(Pages 3 - 76)

Licensing Act 2003 and Gambling Act 2005 Committee (Statutory Licensing Committee) Members: McPherson (Chair), Bick, Blackburn-Horgan, Clough, Divkovic, Lokhmotova, Moore, A. Smith, Swift and Wade

Alternates: Bennett, Flaubert, Illingworth and Thittala

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Further information on public speaking will be supplied once registration and the written question / statement has been received.

REPORT TITLE: Review of Statement of Licensing Policy

To:

Licensing Act 2003 and Gambling Act 2005 Committee - 26th January 2026

Report by:

Yvonne O'Donnell - Strategic Environmental Health and Public Safety Lead

Tel: 01223 - 457951 Email: yvonne.odonnell@cambridge.gov.uk

Wards affected:

All

Director Approval: Director Sam Scharf confirms that the report author has sought the advice of all appropriate colleagues and given due regard to that advice; that the equalities impacts and other implications of the recommended decisions have been assessed and accurately presented in the report; and that they are content for the report to be put to the Executive Councillor for decision.

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| 1. | Recommendations |
| 1.1 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Consider the results of the public consultation exercise as summarised in Appendix B and C of this report; - To endorse the amended Statement of Licensing Policy attached to this report as Appendix E. Appendix D includes tracked changes showing the amendments that have been made as part of the consultation and additional changes following consultation responses. If endorsed will go to Full Council on 26th February 2026 for final approval. |
| 2. | Purpose and reason for the report |
| 2.1 | <p>Section 5 of the Licensing Act 2003 requires a licensing authority to prepare and publish a statement of its licensing policy at least every five years. During the five-year period, the policy must be kept under review and the licensing authority may make any revisions to it as it considers appropriate.</p> |

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| | The existing Statement of Licensing Policy for Cambridge City Council became effective on 2 nd March October 2021. |
| | The process to start the review of the Statement of Licensing Policy began in September 2025 and a twelve-week public consultation took place between 22 nd September 2025 and 14 th December 2025. |
| | The current Statement of Licensing Policy expires on 1 st March 2026 and a new Statement of Licensing Policy must be in place by this date otherwise under the legislation, Cambridge City Council will not be able to process any applications covered by the Licensing Act 2003 until the policy is in place. |
| 3. | Alternative options considered |
| 3.1 | As the Statement of Licensing Policy is statutory requirement in order for Cambridge City Council to process any applications under the Licensing Act 2003, there are no alternative options. |
| 4. | Background and key issues |
| 4.1 | Under the Licensing Act 2003, each Council is required to produce, adopt and publish a Statement of Licensing Policy stating how it will exercise its functions under the Act. The statement must be kept under review and remains in existence for up to five years. This current Policy period ends on 1 st March 2026. |
| | Under the legislation, the Council is not able to process any applications unless a statement of licensing policy is in place. |
| | The issues raised in individual responses to the consultation affecting the |

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| | review are detailed in Appendix B. The 4 responders who were not in favour of the amended statement provided additional comments. These comments were considered, no amendments were required to be made to the policy in response. |
| | A response to the consultation was received from Public Health, attached to report as Appendix C. Response was considered, and amendments to the policy made. These can be found in Appendix D – Highlighted in yellow. |
| | The Policy must comply with the Licensing Act and Statutory Guidance. For this reason, it has not always been possible to adopt suggestions put forward. Appendix B and C indicates the consideration given to each comment received and provides reasons for the decision taken. |
| | In November 2025, during the consultation, revised guidance was issued under section 182 of the Licensing Act 2003. The main amendment was under the section of considering each application under its own merits, requiring all licensing authorities to consider the need to promote growth and deliver economic benefits. |
| 5. | Corporate plan |
| 5.1 | The Statement of Licensing Policy enables the council to fulfill its statutory duties under the Licensing Act 2003. Through this policy, the council can support local businesses and enhance the vibrancy of the city centre, while ensuring the city remains a safe place to live, work, and study, through the licences issued. |
| 6. | Consultation, engagement and communication |
| 6.1 | In accordance with Government Code of Practice on consultation, the draft Statement of Licensing Policy was submitted for public consultation over a 12-week period between 22 nd September 2025 and 14th December 2025. |

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| | Legislation requires that we undertake consultation with bodies prescribed in the Act for the review. |
| | Consultation was undertaken as widely as possible, with approximately 600 letters and emails being sent out, including to the Chief Officer of Police and all other parties as required by legislation, including persons/bodies representing holders of premises licences and club premises certificates, businesses and residents associations. The consultation was also available to view and responded to on the Cambridge City Council Consultation platform and appeared in the Cambridge News on Monday 22 nd September 2025. |
| | All comments received are listed in the attached Appendix B, which includes specific written comments received by those who opposed the draft policy. Consideration to all comments has been given in drawing up the Policy. The Appendix shows the nature of the comment and the evaluation of the comment. No changes were made in response to these comments. |
| | Comments and recommendations were considered from Public Health response detailed in Appendix C. Some changes to the policy were made in response, however some comments were matters that are picked up during the consultation process and partnerships which could be addressed outside the written policy. |
| | During the consultation, in November 2025, revised guidance was issued under section 182 of the Licensing Act 2003. The main amendment was under the section of considering each application under its own merits, requiring all licensing authorities to consider the need to promote growth and deliver economic benefits. This addition has been reflected within the proposed Statement of Licensing (Appendix E) in 8.3. |
| 7. | Anticipated outcomes, benefits or impact |
| 7.1 | The Licensing Authority will be able to carry out its Statutory Licensing |

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| | functions under The Licensing Act 2003, once the Statement of Licence policy is approved. |
| 8. | Implications |
| | Relevant risks |
| 8.1 | If a Statement of Policy is not in place before 1 st March 2026, the council will be unable to carry out its statutory function of processing applications under the Licensing Act 2003. |
| | Financial Implications |
| 8.2 | Provision has been made in the Council's budget to review the statement of licensing policy and the council will meet the cost of consultation. |
| | Legal Implications |
| 8.3 | <i>Nil.</i> |
| | Equalities and socio-economic Implications |
| 8.4 | An Equality Impact Assessment (EqIA) has been completed alongside the review of this policy and is contained within this report as Appendix F. |
| | Net Zero Carbon, Climate Change and Environmental implications |
| 8.5 | The Act requires the Licensing Authority to carry out its function with a view to promoting the four licensing objectives, one of which is the prevention of public nuisance, to protect the local environment and community. |

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| | Procurement Implications |
| 8.6 | <i>Nil.</i> |
| | Community Safety Implications |
| 8.7 | Cambridge City Council must fulfil its obligations under section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 to do all that it reasonably can to prevent crime and disorder in Cambridge. The policy promotes that fact and states that any decision by the Licensing Authority will be with a view to promoting the licensing objectives. |
| 9. | Background documents |
| 9.1 | Background papers used in the preparation of this report: (a) Licensing Act 2003 (b) Guidance published under section 182 of the Licensing Act 2003 (c) Policing and Crime Act 2017 (d) Cambridge City Council's Existing Statement of Licensing Policy |
| 10. | Appendices Appendix A – Current Statement of Licensing Policy Appendix B – Consultation responses received via consultation platform engage Appendix C – Public Health consultation response Appendix D – Draft Statement of policy with changes in red and further changes following consultation in yellow. Appendix E – Proposed Statement of Licensing Policy Appendix F – Equality Impact Assessment |
| | To inspect the background papers or if you have a query on the report please contact, Wangari Njiiri, Environmental Health and Licensing Support Team |

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| | Leader, tel: 01223 458533 Email: wangari.njiiri@cambridge.gov.uk |
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CAMBRIDGE CITY COUNCIL

STATEMENT OF LICENSING POLICY

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CAMBRIDGE CITY COUNCIL STATEMENT OF LICENSING POLICY

Cambridge is a unique blend of market town, sub-regional centre, national and international tourist attraction and centre of excellence for education and research. It is a city of great beauty and is renowned for the qualities of its streets, spaces and buildings.

Cambridge City Council (the Licensing Authority), in association with local partnerships, wants Cambridge to be vibrant, socially mixed, safe, convenient and enjoyable, where all residents feel integrated into the life of the City and a part of its success.

Cambridge City Council has a clear vision to lead a united city, 'One Cambridge – Fair for All', in which economic dynamism and prosperity are combined with social justice and equality. This is a vision shared with Cambridge citizens and partner organisations. Our vision includes:

- An international city which celebrates its diversity and actively tackles discrimination on gender, race, nationality, ethnic background, religion, age, disability, gender identity, and sexual orientation.
- A city in which all citizens feel that they are listened to and have the opportunity to influence public decision making, and which values, supports and responds to individual and community initiatives.
- A city where all citizens and organisations appreciate their duties as well as their rights, where people are free to enjoy themselves but also show consideration for others, and where the community works together to reduce harm and nuisance including by education and, where needed, robust enforcement of the law.

The overarching objectives of Cambridge City Council in licensing premises are to:

- Promote the Authority's visions and values
- Protect the rights and health and safety of the general public, workers, residents, businesses, minority and vulnerable groups
- Ensure the principles of consistency, transparency, accountability and the promotion of good standards in licensing
- Demonstrate compliance with statutory responsibilities in relation to procedures and enforcement
- Ensure consistent and transparent decision making

It is recognised that licensed entertainment provides a valuable contribution towards the economy of Cambridge and we seek to balance the needs of local business holders and licensees, whilst protecting those of local residents. The City of Cambridge was awarded purple flag status in September 2019. A Purple Flag helps members of the public to identify

town and city centres offering an entertaining, diverse, safe and enjoyable night out.

1. Introduction

- 1.1 This Licensing Policy Statement has been produced in accordance with the requirements of the Licensing Act 2003 ('the Act') and is in line with guidance issued under Section 182 of the Act.
- 1.2 The policy relates to all those licensing activities identified as falling within the provisions of the Act, namely: -
 - Retail sale of alcohol
 - Supply of alcohol by or on behalf of a club, or to the order to a member of the club
 - The provision of regulated entertainment
 - The provision of late night refreshment
- 1.3 The policy relates to all types of premises covered by the Act.
- 1.4 The Licensing Authority will take the policy into account where its discretion is engaged (i.e. at a hearing following representations).
- 1.5 Nothing in this policy will undermine the right of any individual to apply under the terms of the Act for a variety of permissions and to have any such application considered on its individual merits.
- 1.6 The Licensing Authority may depart from this policy if the individual circumstances of any case merit such a decision in the interest of the promotion of the licensing objectives. Full reasons will be given for departing from the policy.

2. Objectives

- 2.1 The Licensing Authority has a duty under the Act to carry out its licensing functions by promoting the licensing objectives, which are: -
 - The prevention of crime and disorder
 - Public safety
 - The prevention of public nuisance, and
 - The protection of children from harm.

Each objective has equal importance.

- 2.2 In carrying out its licensing functions, the Licensing Authority must also have regard to the licensing objectives, its Policy Statement and any statutory guidance under the Act and is bound by The Human Rights Act 1998. The Council must also fulfill its obligations under section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 to do all that it reasonably can to prevent crime and disorder in Cambridge. The Statement of Licensing Policy recognises the Equality Act 2010 places a legal obligation on public authorities to have due regard to the need to eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimization; to advance equality of opportunity; and to foster good relations, between persons with different protected characteristics.
- 2.3 It is recognised that the licensing function is only one means of securing the delivery of the above objectives and should not be seen as a means for solving all problems within the community. However, the licensing function is an important means of achieving the objectives. The Licensing Authority will continue to work in partnership with its neighbouring authorities, the police, other agencies, local liaison groups, businesses and individuals towards the achievement of the licensing objectives through good practice.
- 2.4 The Licensing Authority will expect individual applicants to address the licensing objectives in their operating schedule having regard to the type of premises, the licensable activities to be provided, the operational procedures, the nature of the location and the needs of the local community. Applicants should include in their operating schedule the steps, which they consider necessary to promote the licensing objectives. If the steps are insufficient, or if the information given in the operating schedule does not enable a responsible authority or any other person to assess whether the steps proposed are satisfactory, it is more likely that relevant representations will be received, usually leading to a hearing.
- 2.5 All responsible authorities (listed in section 15) will have the chance to comment on all applications received and will provide evidence from their own areas of expertise if they believe an application would impact on one or more of the licensing objectives. All evidence provided will be taken into account by the Licensing Authority at any subsequent hearing.

3. Consultation

- 3.1 In preparing this policy statement the Licensing Authority has consulted with the following:
- the Chief Officer of Police for Cambridgeshire
 - the Chief Officer of the Cambridgeshire Fire and Rescue Service
 - persons/bodies representative of the Local Authority with the function of public health
 - persons/bodies representative of local holders of premises licences
 - persons/bodies representative of local holders of club premises

certificates

- persons/bodies representative of local holders of personal licences
- persons/bodies representative of businesses and residents in the City of Cambridge
- persons/bodies representative of Child Protection Services at Cambridgeshire County Council
- other organisations as appear to the Licensing Authority to be affected by licensing matters, including local community, cultural, educational and entertainment organisations.

3.2 We have considered the views of all those consulted prior to determining this policy.

4. Fundamental Principles

4.1 Licensing is about regulating licensable activities on premises, such as qualifying clubs, pubs and temporary events which fall within the terms of the Act. Any conditions imposed will focus on matters that individual licensees and others in possession of relevant authorisations are able to control.

4.2 In addressing these matters, the Licensing Authority will primarily focus on the direct impact the activities taking place at the licensed premises will have on those living, working or engaged in normal activity in the area concerned.

4.3 Licensing law is not the primary mechanism for the general control of nuisance and anti-social behaviour by individuals once they are away from the licensed premises and, therefore, beyond the direct control of the individual, club or business holding the licence, certificate or permission concerned. Nonetheless, it is a key aspect of such control and licensing law will always be part of a holistic approach to the management of the evening and night-time economy in Cambridge.

5. The cumulative impact of a concentration of licensed premises

5.1 Cumulative impact is the potential impact on the promotion of the licensing objectives of a significant number of licensed premises concentrated in one area e.g. the potential impact on crime and disorder or public nuisance.

5.2 The cumulative impact of licensed premises on the promotion of the licensing objectives is a matter that the Licensing Authority can take into account. This should not, however, be confused with 'need' which concerns the commercial demand for a particular type of premises e.g., a pub, restaurant or hotel. The issue of 'need' is therefore primarily a matter for the market to decide and does not form part of this licensing policy statement.

- 5.3 The Licensing Authority can only publish a Cumulative Impact Assessment if there is evidence that a significant number of licensed premises concentrated in one area is causing a cumulative impact on one or more of the licensing objectives. The Licensing Authority will keep the situation as to whether an area is nearing this point under review.
- 5.4 The absence of a Cumulative Impact Assessment does not prevent any responsible authority or other person 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.
- 5.5 Following previous consultations and representations received by Cambridge Constabulary, the Licensing Authority has adopted a special policy on cumulative effect that remains in place and is now the Cumulative Impact Assessment.
- 5.7 Having considered the available evidence and undertaken consultation, the Licensing Authority considers that it is appropriate and necessary to control cumulative impact. The Licensing Authority has adopted a Cumulative Impact Assessment, which is separate to this Statement of Licensing Policy. Further information on the Cumulative Impact Assessment and the areas which it covers can be found in the Cumulative Impact Assessment document.

6. Licensing Hours

- 6.1 Flexible licensing hours for the sale of alcohol can help to ensure that concentrations of customers leaving premises simultaneously are avoided. This can help to reduce the potential for disorder and disturbance. Licensing hours should not inhibit the development of a thriving and safe evening and night-time economy. This is important for investment, local employment, tourism and local services associated with the night-time economy. Providing customers with greater choice and flexibility is an important consideration but should always be balanced carefully against the duty to promote the four licensing objectives and the rights of local residents to peace and quiet.
- 6.2 Subject to the policies regarding cumulative impact in the areas of the City specified in paragraph 5.8, shops, stores and supermarkets will generally be permitted to provide sales of alcohol for consumption off the premises at any times when the retail outlet is open for shopping, unless representations raise good reasons based on the licensing objectives, for restricting those hours, for example, a limitation may be appropriate following police representations in the case of shops known to be a focus of disorder and disturbance.

- 6.3 The Licensing Authority will deal with the issue of licensing hours on the individual merits of each application. When issuing a licence, following receipt of relevant representations, stricter conditions on noise control are likely to be imposed in the case of premises that are situated in predominantly residential areas. However, this should not limit opening hours without regard to the individual merits of any application.

7. Children and Licensed Premises

- 7.1 Cambridge City Council will consider its Safeguarding for Children and Vulnerable Adults Policy when determining licensing applications. We are committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children, young people and vulnerable adults.

- 7.2 It is an offence under the 2003 Licensing Act 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 TEN; and
- 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 any premises licence, club premises certificate or TEN.

- 7.3 There are a great variety of premises for which licences may be sought including theatres, cinemas, restaurants, pubs, nightclubs, cafes, take away, community halls and schools. Access by children to any premises will not be limited unless it is considered necessary for the prevention of physical, moral or psychological harm to them.

- 7.4 Conditions requiring the admission of children to any premises cannot be attached to licences or certificates. Where no licensing restriction is necessary, this should remain a matter for the discretion of the individual licensee or club or person who has been given a temporary event notice.

- 7.5 When deciding whether to limit access to children, the Licensing Authority will consider each application on its merits. Particular areas that will give rise to concern in respect of children, would include premises –

- where entertainment or services of an adult or sexual nature are commonly provided
- where there is a strong element of gambling on the premises
- with a known association with drug taking or dealing
- where there have been convictions of members of the current staff at

the premises for serving alcohol to minors or with a reputation for underage drinking

- where the supply of alcohol for consumption on the premises is the exclusive or primary purpose of the services provided at the premises.
- where there is a known association with the provision of illicit tobacco and alcohol
- where the supply of alcohol is in close proximity to services where young vulnerable people may frequent

7.6 The range of alternatives which may be considered for limiting access to children where that is necessary for the prevention of harm to children are:

- restrictions on the hours when children may be present
- age restrictions (below 18)
- restrictions or exclusions on the presence of children under certain ages when particular specified activities are taking place
- restrictions or exclusions when certain activities are taking place
- requirements for accompanying adults
- full exclusion of those people under 18 from the premises when any licensable activities are taking place
- restrictions on the parts of premises to which children may have access.

7.7 In the case of premises which are used for film exhibitions Cambridge City Council will expect licence holders or clubs to include in their operating schedules arrangements for restricting children from viewing age-restricted films classified according to the recommendations of the British Board of Film Classification or, in specific cases, a certificate given to the film by the Council itself.

7.8 The Licensing Authority recognises the Child Protection Services of Cambridgeshire County Council as being competent to advise on matters relating to the protection of children from harm.

7.9 The Licensing Authority commends the Portman Group Code of Practice on the Naming, Packaging and Promotion of Alcoholic Drinks. The Code seeks to ensure that drinks are packaged and promoted in a socially responsible manner and only to those who are 18 years old or older.

8. Licence Conditions

8.1 A key concept of the Act is for conditions to be attached to licences and certificates, which are tailored to the individual style and characteristics of the premises and events concerned. This is essential to avoid the imposition of disproportionate and overly burdensome conditions on premises where there is no need for such conditions.

- 8.2 The Licensing Authority cannot attach conditions to premises licences and club premises certificates unless they are considered appropriate for the promotion of the licensing objectives. The Licensing Authority may only attach conditions (except for statutory mandatory conditions and conditions drawn from the operating schedule) if relevant representations have been received. Conditions will generally be considered unnecessary if they are already adequately covered by other legislation. Blanket standard conditions will not be imposed without regard to the merits of the individual case.
- 8.3 Conditions attached to premises licences and club premises certificates under prevention of crime and disorder will, so far as possible, reflect local crime prevention strategies.
- 8.4 In deciding what conditions should be attached to licences and certificates to promote the licensing objectives, the Licensing Authority will be aware of the need to avoid measures which might deter live music, dancing or theatre by imposing indirect costs of a substantial nature. Only appropriate conditions will be imposed on such events. Where there is any indication that such events are being deterred by licensing requirements, the policy will be revisited with a view to investigating how the situation might be reversed.
- 8.5 Applicants should consider the measures which they propose to control noise nuisance from the premises or from departing customers. Depending on the individual circumstances, this may include:
- Sound limitation devices
 - Acoustic lobbies
 - Acoustic double glazing
 - Noise insulation
 - Specifying non amplified or acoustic music only
 - Notices requesting customers to leave quietly
 - A dedicated taxi service
 - Use of door supervisors at exit points
 - A winding down period during which music is turned down and lights up, alcohol service ceases and sales of food and hot and cold soft drinks continues, and requests are made for customers to leave quietly.

9. Integrating Strategies and the avoidance of duplication

- 9.1 By consultation and liaison, the Licensing Authority will secure the proper integration of this licensing policy with local crime prevention, Cambridgeshire Health & Wellbeing Strategy, planning, transport, tourism, equality schemes, cultural strategies and any other plans introduced for the management of the city and the night-time economy. Many of these

strategies are not directly related to the promotion of the licensing objectives, but indirectly impact upon them.

- 9.2 Where any protocols to be agreed with the police identify a particular need to disperse people from the city swiftly and safely to avoid concentrations which could lead to disorder and disturbance, the Licensing Authority will aim to inform those responsible for providing local transportation so that arrangements can be made to reduce the potential for problems to occur.
- 9.3 The Council's Licensing Committee will receive, when appropriate, reports on:
- the needs of the local tourist economy for the area to ensure that these ~~are~~ are reflected in their considerations
 - the employment situation in the area and the need for new investment and employment where appropriate.
- 9.4 Planning, building control and the licensing regimes will be separated to avoid duplication and inefficiency. Licensing applications will not be a re-run of the planning application and will not cut across decisions taken by the planning committee or following appeals against decisions taken by that committee. When a terminal hour has been set as a condition of planning permission that is different from the licensing hours, the applicant must observe the earlier of the two closing times.
- 9.5 So far as is possible, the policy is not intended to duplicate existing legislation and regulatory regimes that already place obligations on employers and operators.
- 9.6 The Licensing Authority will monitor the impact of licensing on the provision of regulated entertainment, and particularly live music and dancing. As part of implementing cultural strategies, proper account will be taken of the need to encourage and promote a broad range of entertainment, particularly live music, dancing, circus activity, street art and theatre, including the performance of a wide range of traditional and historic plays for the wider cultural benefit of the community which also balances the evening economy. The Licensing Authority will balance the prevention of disturbance in neighbourhoods with these wider cultural benefits, particularly cultural benefits for children. Only appropriate conditions will be imposed on such events.
- 9.7 The absence of cultural provision in any area can lead to young people being diverted into anti-social activities that damage local communities and the young people involved themselves.
- 9.8 Cambridge City Council has an important role in coordinating events in the City and to ensure that cultural diversity thrives. The Council currently has five licensed open spaces. These are: Parkers Piece; Jesus Green; Midsummer Common; Coldhams Common and the grounds of Cherry Hinton Hall.

- 9.9 The Equality Act 2010 places a legal obligation on public authorities to have due regard to the need to eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimization; to advance equality of opportunity; and to foster good relations, between persons with different protected characteristics.
- 9.10 Applicants will be encouraged to make themselves aware of any relevant planning and transportation policies, tourism and cultural strategies or local crime prevention strategies and to have taken these into account, where appropriate, when formulating their operating schedule.
- 9.11 The Licensing Authority will have regard to equality and will expect an applicant to meet their statutory obligations in this area and not unlawfully discriminate or refuse service on grounds of age, disability, gender reassignment, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex and sexual orientation or display discriminatory signs.

10. Licence Reviews

- 10.1 The process set out in the Licensing Act 2003 for reviewing premises licences represents a key protection for the community where problems associated with the licensing objectives are occurring after the grant or variation of a premises licence.
- 10.2 Responsible authorities (including the Licensing Authority) and other parties can apply for the review of a licence.
- 10.3 The Licensing Authority will work in partnership with other responsible authorities to achieve the promotion of the licensing objectives and will give Licence or Certificate holders early warning of any concerns identified at a premises. The Licensing Authority will also encourage other responsible authorities to do the same.
- 10.4 When a review has been requested the role of the Licensing Authority will be to administer the process and determine its outcome at a hearing. Where the Licensing Authority has applied to review an authorisation, there will be a clear separation of responsibilities to ensure procedural fairness and eliminate conflicts of interest. (See paragraph 12.3).
- 10.5 The Licensing Authority may decide that no action is necessary if it finds that the review does not require it to take any appropriate steps to promote the licensing objectives. In appropriate cases the Authority may issue an informal warning to the licence holder and/or recommend improvement within a particular period of time. Any warnings or recommendations will be issued in writing.

- 10.6 Where the Licensing Authority considers that action under its statutory powers is appropriate it may take any of the following steps:
- to modify the conditions of the premises licence (which includes adding new conditions or any alteration or omission of an existing condition);
 - to exclude a licensable activity from the scope of the licence;
 - to remove the designated premises supervisor;
 - to suspend the licence for a period not exceeding three months;
 - to revoke the licence.
- 10.7 In cases where the crime prevention objective is being undermined the Licensing Authority will give serious consideration to revoking the licence even in the first instance.

11. Enforcement

- 11.1 The Licensing Authority intends to establish protocols with the police and any other relevant enforcement body on enforcement issues. These protocols will provide for the targeting of agreed problem and high-risk premises, which require greater attention, while providing a lighter touch approach in respect of low risk premises which are well run.
- 11.2 In general, action will only be taken in accordance with the Council's enforcement policy, as adopted at the time, which reflects the Council's obligations relating to enforcement and is consistent with the Regulators Compliance Code. To this end, the key principles of consistency, openness, proportionality, clear standards and practices, courtesy and helpfulness and training will be maintained.
- Cambridge City Council's enforcement policy is available on our website www.cambridge.gov.uk/content/enforcement-policy

12. Administration, exercise and delegation of functions

- 12.1 The functions of the Licensing Authority under the Act may be carried out by the Licensing Committee, by a Sub-Committee or by one or more officers acting under delegated authority.
- 12.2 Many of the decisions and functions will be largely administrative in nature. In the interests of speed, efficiency and cost-effectiveness these will, for the most part, be delegated to officers as set out in the Cambridge City Council Constitution
- 12.3 In determining applications where the Licensing Authority has acted as a responsible authority, there will be a clear separation of responsibilities to ensure procedural fairness and eliminate conflicts of interest. This will be achieved by allocating distinct functions to different Officers within the

authority, so the Officer presenting the report to the Sub-Committee and advising the Members will be a different individual to the Officer who is acting as the responsible authority. The Officer acting as the responsible authority will not be involved in the decision-making process.

13. Effective Date and Review

- 13.1 This policy statement will take effect from 2nd March 2021.
- 13.2 The policy statement will be kept under review and will remain in existence for a period of up to 5 years. It will be subject to review and further consultation before 1st March 2026, or as required by law.

14. Contact details, advice and guidance

- 14.1 Applicants can obtain further details about the licensing and application processes, including application forms and fees from:

website: www.cambridge.gov.uk

e-mail: commercial@cambridge.gov.uk

telephone: 01223 457879

fax: 01223 457909

post: Commercial & Licensing, –Environmental Services,
Cambridge City Council, PO Box 700,
Cambridge, CB1 0JH

in person: Customer Service Centre, Mandela House, 4,
Regent Street, Cambridge, CB2 1BY (Monday to
Friday 09:00- 17:15)

- 14.2 The Licensing Authority has also published further documents to accompany this policy containing additional details about each type of application and the review process. These can be viewed at <https://www.cambridge.gov.uk/guidance-for-applicants>
- 14.3 This policy can be made available in large print on request and similarly translations can be made available in a variety of languages. Please contact us for further help or assistance.
- 14.4 The Council, Police and Fire Authorities will be willing to give advice and guidance to applicants.
- 14.5 Informal discussion is encouraged prior to the application process in order to resolve any potential problems and avoid unnecessary hearings and appeals.

15. **Responsible Authorities** are:

The Licensing Authority

Commercial & Licensing, Environmental Services, Cambridge City Council,
PO Box 700, Cambridge, CB1 0JH

Tel: 01223 457879 Fax: 01223 457909 e-

mail: commercial@cambridge.gov.uk

The Chief Officer of Police

The Chief Officer, Cambridgeshire Constabulary, Southern Division,
Police Station, Parkside, Cambridge, CB1 1JG

Telephone: 01223 823397 Fax: 01223 823232

The Fire Authority

Fire Protection, Cambridge Fire Station, Parkside, Cambridge, CB1 1JF

Email: danny.hans@cambsfire.gov.uk

Planning

Environment & Planning, Cambridge City Council, The Guildhall,
Cambridge, CB2 3QJ

Telephone: 01223 457100

e-mail: planning@cambridge.gov.uk

Environmental Health

The Environmental Health Manager, Environmental Services, Cambridge
City Council, PO Box 700, Cambridge, CB1 0JH

Telephone: 01223 457890 Fax: 01223 457909 e-

mail: commercial@cambridge.gov.uk

Child Protection

Child Protection Services, Licensing Applications, OCYPS, PO Box 144, St
Ives, Cambs, PE27 9AU

Telephone: 03450455203

Referralcentre2.children@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

Trading Standards

Cambridgeshire County Council, PO Box 450, Great Cambourne,
Cambridge, CB23 6ZR

e-mail: trading.standards@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

Public Health

The Director of Public Health, C/O Head of Public Health Programmes, Cambridgeshire County Council, Scott House Box No, SC0 2213, 5 George Street, Huntingdon, PE29 3AD

Home Office – Immigration Enforcement

Alcohol Licensing Team, Lunar House, 40 Wellesley Road, Croydon, CR9 2BY

In addition, for vessels:

Environment Agency

The Team Leader, Great Ouse & Stour Waterways, The Environment Agency, Kingfisher House, Goldhay Way, Orton Goldhay, Peterborough, PE2 5ZR.

Telephone: 01733 464072

e-mail: enquiries@environment-agency.gov.uk, quoting Great Ouse & Stour Waterways

Conservators of the River Cam

The River Manager

Conservators of the River Cam

Baits Bite Lock, Fen Road, Milton, Cambridge, CB24 6AF

Telephone/Fax 01223 863785

e-mail river.manager@camconservators.org.uk

Maritime & Coastguard Agency

Surveyor in Charge, Harwich Marine Office, Maritime & Coastguard Agency, East Terrace, Walton-on-Naze, Essex, CO14 8PY

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Appendix B – Consultation responses received

Consultation was placed on the council consultation platform, Engage. A total of 25 responses were received via Engage.

Question 1. Are you in favour of the proposed draft Statement of Licensing Policy?

No: 4 (16%)

Yes: 21 (84%)

Additional comments from those who were not in favour of proposed Statement of Licensing Policy.

| | Additional comments | Consideration of comment |
|---|--|--|
| 1 | Noise nuisance from events for neighbours should be taken more seriously. | Noise Nuisance is covered under the Licensing Act Objectives and is taken into consideration during application process, and when relevant representations are received. Council procedures also investigate any complaints of noise nuisance. This is also covered under different legislation including Environmental Protection Act 1990. |
| 2 | Two things are omitted: 1. The “agent of change” principle, whereby the party that introduces a new use is responsible for mitigating any impacts between that new use and existing neighbouring uses. In practice, this means that if new housing is built near an existing pub, club or music venue, the developer (or future residents) must deal with noise or similar issues, rather than being able to force restrictions or closure on the established premises. 2. Any reference to the fact that, especially outside the City centre, Cambridge has lost and is still losing an alarming number of licensed venues, and those | Agent of Change is rather a Planning issue rather than Licensing. Guidance states Licensing can not take into consideration planning restrictions and these are to be dealt with by Planning. |

Appendix B – Consultation responses received

| | | |
|---|--|--|
| | that remain (or subsequently arrive) need to be protected, as important functions of the community. This should be one of the overriding principles. | |
| 3 | Too restrictive. I prefer a vibrant community without unnecessary, paternalistic, and puritanical rules. | Policy is based on Legislation and Statutory guidance. |
| 4 | From a public health standpoint they should be much more strict to limit damage associated with alcohol consumption | Public Health and other responsible authorities are consulted during consultation period, having the opportunity to respond with any concerns and measures applicant can take. |

| Public Health responses recommendations | Consideration of recommendations |
|---|---|
| | |
| <p>Guidance for applicants Public Health (PH) acknowledge that this is a policy document and not a procedural document. We note on the website that there is a ‘Guidance Notes for Licensing applicants’ and recommend that a hyperlink is included in your policy statement to improve accessibility and understanding for applicants. Microsoft Word - guidance for applicants October 09 version_1.doc.</p> | <p>The guidance for applicant can be found within the web page the policy is placed. Guidance is more of a procedural document and falls slightly out of the scope of the policy.</p> |
| <p>Licensing objectives PH recommend that the licensing objectives are clearly set out within the document e.g. as section headings as this makes it clearer for the reader.</p> | <p>Objectives are within section 2 of the policy.</p> |
| <p>Cumulative Impact of a concentration of licensed premises At paragraph 5.6 we feel that there is a missed opportunity. We recommend putting the link to the CIA document so that it is clear to applicants’ what they need to address in a licensing application, especially in the cumulative impact area. https://www.cambridge.gov.uk/media/vath1akl/statement-of-licensing-policy-cumulative-impactassessment.pdf</p> | <p>Included in policy.</p> |
| <p>Women’s safety and wider vulnerability PH are disappointed that there isn’t a section on Women’s safety and wider vulnerabilities. It is recommended that there is a specific focus on staff training and would recommend trauma-informed</p> | <p>Included to policy. Section 9.2</p> |

| | |
|--|--|
| <p>approaches to customer care. The public health team strongly supports the inclusion of schemes such as “Ask for Angela” / safe space as part of a wider strategy to reduce vulnerability and promote safety in licensed premises. These initiatives contribute to the prevention of violence against women and girls and support mental wellbeing by offering reassurance and practical help in potential harmful situations.</p> <p>Drink spiking is a serious public health concern with both physical and psychological consequences.</p> <p>We welcome the Government’s announcement in November 2024 that drink spiking will become a criminal offence and recommend this is referenced in the policy. Crime and Policing Bill: spiking factsheet (MoJ) - GOV.UK . We recommend the implementation of proactive measures such as drink covers, bottle stoppers and visible signage to raise awareness. These steps help reduce the risk and promote a culture of safety and responsibility.</p> <p>We encourage the development of a local protocol for reporting and sharing data on drink spiking incidents between licensed premises, police and public health teams, to support targeted prevention efforts.</p> | |
| <p>Links to Strategies and Plans</p> <p>At paragraph 9.1 the reference should be updated to the Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy, which prioritises reducing health inequalities. Licensing decisions can</p> | <p>Paragraph 9.1 has been amended to reflect updated name.</p> |

| | |
|---|--|
| support these aims by promoting responsible alcohol retailing and creating safer environments. We also suggest referencing the Public Health Strategic Plan Public Health Strategic Plan and the NHS Long Term Plan [ARCHIVED CONTENT] NHS Long Term Plan The NHS Long Term Plan, which include commitments to reduce alcohol-related hospital admissions and improve access to treatment. Licensing policy can contribute to these goals through evidence-based decision making and partnership working. | The reference of specific strategic plans for different organisations are outside the scope of the policy content. |
| Licence Conditions Public Health welcome the information in this section, although it is recommended that the mandatory conditions are mentioned and included as an appendix to improve accessibility and understanding for applicants and enforcement officers. https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukdsi/2014/9780111116906 | Included within policy within section 8.2 |
| Equality and Inclusion in Licensed Premises PH recommend including a section highlighting the Equality Act 2010 to ensure that venues are inclusive and that applicants and licensees are familiar with the law and their responsibilities as set out in the Equality Act. Relevant Guidance for businesses can be found on the Equality and Human rights Commission website Homepage EHRC. PH recommend that a hyperlink is included to the Cambridge City Equality and Diversity policies and objectives. Our equality and diversity policies and plans - Cambridge City Council. | Reference to applicant obligations under the Equality Act 2010 has been added in Section 9.12 |

| | |
|--|---|
| <p>The Terrorism (Protection of Premises) Act PH recommend including a section highlighting The Terrorism (Protection of premises) Act 2025 Terrorism (Protection of Premises) Act 2025. It is also known as Martyn’s Law. The Act is intended to ensure public premises and events are better prepared for terrorist attacks. It will require them to take reasonably practicable actions to protect the public from the threat of terrorism and reduce physical harm.</p> | <p>This is outside current policy content, however where applicable advise to applicant is provided during pre-application advise sought with police or Licensing authority and during other parts of the application process – Large events may be advised to attend Safety Advisory Group.</p> |
| <p>Other special policies We note that there are no other special policies within Cambridge City. However, PH recommend a section describing Early Morning Restriction orders (EMRO), Late Night Levy, Temporary Event/Exemption Notices (TENs), and Public Spaces Protection Order (PSPOs) within your statement as this provides an opportunity for these to be implemented, if necessary, within the timeframe of the adopted Licensing policy. It would be useful to include any relevant hyperlinks to help signpost applicants to the relevant information. PH also recommend including a hyperlink for the ‘May Balls and June Events in Cambridge Organisers handbook 2025’ as this isn’t within the licensing section of your website (even though licensing is mentioned within the handbook) and instead is located under Pollution, noise and nuisance.</p> | <p>At present this information is slightly out of scope of current policy, however in the future if it becomes further required, further consideration will be made.</p> <p>The inclusion of hyperlinks to specific events is outside the scope of the policy. However the placement of relevant information will be looked at on council website to ensure information is more clearly accessible.</p> |

Appendix C – Public Health response with recommendations

| | |
|--|---------|
| May balls and June events in Cambridge - Cambridge City Council | |
| Responsible Authorities Please can you update the Public Heath contact email to: HealthinAllPolicies@cambridgeshire.gvo.uk. | Updated |

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CAMBRIDGE CITY COUNCIL

STATEMENT OF LICENSING POLICY

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CAMBRIDGE CITY COUNCIL STATEMENT OF LICENSING POLICY

Cambridge is a unique blend of market town, sub-regional centre, national and international tourist attraction and centre of excellence for education and research. It is a city of great beauty and is renowned for the qualities of its streets, spaces and buildings.

Cambridge City Council (the Licensing Authority), in association with local partnerships, wants Cambridge to be vibrant, socially mixed, safe, convenient and enjoyable, where all residents feel integrated into the life of the City and a part of its success.

Cambridge City Council has a clear vision for, 'One Cambridge – Fair for All'. It's a vision we will work towards cooperatively with our residents and partner organisations. Our vision includes:

- 1. Residents enjoy a high quality of life and exemplar public services**
 - Cambridge is a place of high employment where everyone has a warm, safe, and affordable home, and beautiful open spaces to enjoy.
 - Communities are thriving and empowered, supported by well-run public services, and drawing on shared prosperity with greater equality in health and educational outcomes.
- 2. Decarbonisation and sustainability are central to prosperity**
 - Cambridge is a net zero carbon city, where people and nature enjoy a clean river, clean air, and biodiverse green spaces.
 - Strong nature networks are coordinated between relevant bodies to combat the impacts of social and climate injustice.
- 3. Innovation benefits people and planet**
 - Cambridge champions pioneering discoveries which shape a better future for people and planet.
 - There is a lifelong citywide commitment to learning which enables every resident to develop their skills and fulfil their potential.
 - Businesses are key to the success of a thriving local economy which benefits residents and workers.
- 4. Development is sustainable and inclusive**
 - High-quality social housing, sustainable public transport alongside key infrastructure is prioritised to ensure Cambridge is a vibrant and caring city.
 - Cambridge's beautiful architecture and public realm,

with well-used community spaces, promotes pride and wellbeing and is accessible to all.

5. Arts, sports, and culture are thriving

- Cambridge celebrates the city's diversity through a vibrant arts and cultural scene, including music, festivals, sports, and food and drink.
- Accessible arts, sports and culture provide spaces for people of all ages to come together to enjoy the city, both during the day and at night.

6. Democratic accountability is genuine and accessible

- Residents actively participate in democratic life and transparent decisions are made by and for the people of Cambridge.
- There is genuine partnership between academic, business, and civic communities to enhance residents' prosperity.
- Local control, devolution, and community empowerment are championed through transparent and simplified local government.

The overarching objectives of Cambridge City Council in licensing premises are to:

- Promote the Authority's visions and values
- Protect the rights and health and safety of the general public, workers, residents, businesses, minority and vulnerable groups
- Ensure the principles of consistency, transparency, accountability and the promotion of good standards in licensing
- Demonstrate compliance with statutory responsibilities in relation to procedures and enforcement
- Ensure consistent and transparent decision making

It is recognised that licensed entertainment provides a valuable contribution towards the economy of Cambridge and we seek to balance the needs of local business holders and licensees, whilst protecting those of local residents. The City of Cambridge has been awarded purple flag status yearly since September 2019. A Purple Flag helps members of the public to identify town and city centres offering an entertaining, diverse, safe and enjoyable night out.

1. Introduction

- 1.1 This Licensing Policy Statement has been produced in accordance with the requirements of the Licensing Act 2003 ('the Act') and is in line with guidance issued under Section 182 of the Act.

- 1.2 The policy relates to all those licensing activities identified as falling within the provisions of the Act, namely: -
- Retail sale of alcohol
 - Supply of alcohol by or on behalf of a club, or to the order to a member of the club
 - The provision of regulated entertainment
 - The provision of late night refreshment
- 1.3 The policy relates to all types of premises covered by the Act.
- 1.4 The Licensing Authority will take the policy into account where its discretion is engaged (i.e. at a hearing following representations).
- 1.5 Nothing in this policy will undermine the right of any individual to apply under the terms of the Act for a variety of permissions and to have any such application considered on its individual merits.
- 1.6 The Licensing Authority may depart from this policy if the individual circumstances of any case merit such a decision in the interest of the promotion of the licensing objectives. Full reasons will be given for departing from the policy.

2. Objectives

- 2.1 The Licensing Authority has a duty under the Act to carry out its licensing functions by promoting the licensing objectives, which are: -
- The prevention of crime and disorder
 - Public safety
 - The prevention of public nuisance, and
 - The protection of children from harm.

Each objective has equal importance.

- 2.2 In carrying out its licensing functions, the Licensing Authority must also have regard to the licensing objectives, its Policy Statement and any statutory guidance under the Act and is bound by The Human Rights Act 1998. The Council must also fulfill its obligations under section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 to do all that it reasonably can to prevent crime and disorder in Cambridge. The Statement of Licensing Policy recognises the Equality Act 2010 places a legal obligation on public authorities to have due regard to the need to eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimization; to advance equality of opportunity; and to foster good relations, between persons with different protected characteristics.
- 2.3 It is recognised that the licensing function is only one means of securing the delivery of the above objectives and should not be seen as a means for

solving all problems within the community. However, the licensing function is an important means of achieving the objectives. The Licensing Authority will continue to work in partnership with its neighbouring authorities, the police, other agencies, local liaison groups, businesses and individuals towards the achievement of the licensing objectives through good practice.

- 2.4 The Licensing Authority will expect individual applicants to address the licensing objectives in their operating schedule having regard to the type of premises, the licensable activities to be provided, the operational procedures, the nature of the location and the needs of the local community. Applicants should include in their operating schedule the steps, which they consider necessary to promote the licensing objectives. If the steps are insufficient, or if the information given in the operating schedule does not enable a responsible authority or any other person to assess whether the steps proposed are satisfactory, it is more likely that relevant representations will be received, usually leading to a hearing.
- 2.5 All responsible authorities (listed in section 15) will have the chance to comment on all applications received and will provide evidence from their own areas of expertise if they believe an application would impact on one or more of the licensing objectives. All evidence provided will be taken into account by the Licensing Authority at any subsequent hearing.

3. Consultation

- 3.1 In preparing this policy statement the Licensing Authority has consulted with the following:
- the Chief Officer of Police for Cambridgeshire
 - the Chief Officer of the Cambridgeshire Fire and Rescue Service
 - persons/bodies representative of the Local Authority with the function of public health
 - persons/bodies representative of local holders of premises licences
 - persons/bodies representative of local holders of club premises certificates
 - persons/bodies representative of local holders of personal licences
 - persons/bodies representative of businesses and residents in the City of Cambridge
 - persons/bodies representative of Child Protection Services at Cambridgeshire County Council
 - other organisations as appear to the Licensing Authority to be affected by licensing matters, including local community, cultural, educational and entertainment organisations.
- 3.2 We have considered the views of all those consulted prior to determining this policy.

4. Fundamental Principles

- 4.1 Licensing is about regulating licensable activities on premises, such as qualifying clubs, pubs and temporary events which fall within the terms of the Act. Any conditions imposed will focus on matters that individual licensees and others in possession of relevant authorisations are able to control.
- 4.2 In addressing these matters, the Licensing Authority will primarily focus on the direct impact the activities taking place at the licensed premises will have on those living, working or engaged in normal activity in the area concerned.
- 4.3 Licensing law is not the primary mechanism for the general control of nuisance and anti-social behaviour by individuals once they are away from the licensed premises and, therefore, beyond the direct control of the individual, club or business holding the licence, certificate or permission concerned. Nonetheless, it is a key aspect of such control and licensing law will always be part of a holistic approach to the management of the evening and night-time economy in Cambridge.

5. The cumulative impact of a concentration of licensed premises

- 5.1 Cumulative impact is the potential impact on the promotion of the licensing objectives of a significant number of licensed premises concentrated in one area e.g. the potential impact on crime and disorder or public nuisance.
- 5.2 The cumulative impact of licensed premises on the promotion of the licensing objectives is a matter that the Licensing Authority can take into account. This should not, however, be confused with 'need' which concerns the commercial demand for a particular type of premises e.g., a pub, restaurant or hotel. The issue of 'need' is therefore primarily a matter for the market to decide and does not form part of this licensing policy statement.
- 5.3 The Licensing Authority can only publish a Cumulative Impact Assessment if there is evidence that a significant number of licensed premises concentrated in one area is causing a cumulative impact on one or more of the licensing objectives. The Licensing Authority will keep the situation as to whether an area is nearing this point under review.
- 5.4 The absence of a Cumulative Impact Assessment does not prevent any responsible authority or other person 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.
- 5.5 Following previous consultations and representations received by Cambridge Constabulary, the Licensing Authority has adopted a special policy on cumulative effect that remains in place and is now the Cumulative Impact Assessment.

- 5.6 Having considered the available evidence and undertaken consultation, the Licensing Authority considers that it is appropriate and necessary to control cumulative impact. The Licensing Authority has adopted a Cumulative Impact Assessment, which is separate to this Statement of Licensing Policy. Further information on the Cumulative Impact Assessment and the areas which it covers can be found in the Cumulative Impact Assessment document [found at https://www.cambridge.gov.uk/media/vath1akl/statement-of-licensing-policy-cumulative-impact-assessment.pdf](https://www.cambridge.gov.uk/media/vath1akl/statement-of-licensing-policy-cumulative-impact-assessment.pdf)

6. Licensing Hours

- 6.1 Flexible licensing hours for the sale of alcohol can help to ensure that concentrations of customers leaving premises simultaneously are avoided. This can help to reduce the potential for disorder and disturbance. Licensing hours should not inhibit the development of a thriving and safe evening and night-time economy. This is important for investment, local employment, tourism and local services associated with the night-time economy. Providing customers with greater choice and flexibility is an important consideration but should always be balanced carefully against the duty to promote the four licensing objectives and the rights of local residents to peace and quiet.
- 6.2 Subject to the policies regarding cumulative impact in the areas of the City, shops, stores and supermarkets will generally be permitted to provide sales of alcohol for consumption off the premises at any times when the retail outlet is open for shopping, unless representations raise good reasons based on the licensing objectives, for restricting those hours, for example, a limitation may be appropriate following police representations in the case of shops known to be a focus of disorder and disturbance.
- 6.3 The Licensing Authority will deal with the issue of licensing hours on the individual merits of each application. When issuing a licence, following receipt of relevant representations, stricter conditions on noise control are likely to be imposed in the case of premises that are situated in predominantly residential areas. However, this should not limit opening hours without regard to the individual merits of any application.

7. Children and Licensed Premises

- 7.1 Cambridge City Council will consider its Safeguarding for Children and Vulnerable Adults Policy when determining licensing applications. We are committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children, young people and vulnerable adults.
- 7.2 It is an offence under the 2003 Licensing Act 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 TEN; and
 - 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 any premises licence, club premises certificate or TEN.
- 7.3 There are a great variety of premises for which licences may be sought including theatres, cinemas, restaurants, pubs, nightclubs, cafes, take away, community halls and schools. Access by children to any premises will not be limited unless it is considered necessary for the prevention of physical, moral or psychological harm to them.
- 7.4 Conditions requiring the admission of children to any premises cannot be attached to licences or certificates. Where no licensing restriction is necessary, this should remain a matter for the discretion of the individual licensee or club or person who has been given a temporary event notice.
- 7.5 When deciding whether to limit access to children, the Licensing Authority will consider each application on its merits. Particular areas that will give rise to concern in respect of children, would include premises –
- where entertainment or services of an adult or sexual nature are commonly provided
 - where there is a strong element of gambling on the premises
 - with a known association with drug taking or dealing
 - where there have been convictions of members of the current staff at the premises for serving alcohol to minors or with a reputation for underage drinking
 - where the supply of alcohol for consumption on the premises is the exclusive or primary purpose of the services provided at the premises.
 - where there is a known association with the provision of illicit tobacco and alcohol
 - where the supply of alcohol is in close proximity to services where young vulnerable people may frequent
- 7.6 The range of alternatives which may be considered for limiting access to children where that is necessary for the prevention of harm to children are:
- restrictions on the hours when children may be present
 - age restrictions (below 18)
 - restrictions or exclusions on the presence of children under certain ages when particular specified activities are taking place
 - restrictions or exclusions when certain activities are taking place

- requirements for accompanying adults
- full exclusion of those people under 18 from the premises when any licensable activities are taking place
- restrictions on the parts of premises to which children may have access.

7.7 In the case of premises which are used for film exhibitions Cambridge City Council will expect licence holders or clubs to include in their operating schedules arrangements for restricting children from viewing age-restricted films classified according to the recommendations of the British Board of Film Classification or, in specific cases, a certificate given to the film by the Council itself.

7.8 The Licensing Authority recognises the Child Protection Services of Cambridgeshire County Council as being competent to advise on matters relating to the protection of children from harm.

7.9 The Licensing Authority commends the Portman Group Code of Practice on the Naming, Packaging and Promotion of Alcoholic Drinks. The Code seeks to ensure that drinks are packaged and promoted in a socially responsible manner and only to those who are 18 years old or older.

8. Licence Conditions

8.1 A key concept of the Act is for conditions to be attached to licences and certificates, which are tailored to the individual style and characteristics of the premises and events concerned. This is essential to avoid the imposition of disproportionate and overly burdensome conditions on premises where there is no need for such conditions.

8.2 The Licensing Authority cannot attach conditions to premises licences and club premises certificates unless they are considered appropriate for the promotion of the licensing objectives. The Licensing Authority may only attach conditions (except for statutory mandatory conditions and conditions drawn from the operating schedule) if relevant representations have been received. Conditions will generally be considered unnecessary if they are already adequately covered by other legislation. Blanket standard conditions will not be imposed without regard to the merits of the individual case.

Mandatory conditions can be found on council webpage - <https://www.cambridge.gov.uk/alcohol-and-entertainment-licence-guidance>

8.3 The Licensing Authority when making licensing decisions shall consider the need to promote growth and deliver economic benefits

8.4 Conditions attached to premises licences and club premises certificates under prevention of crime and disorder will, so far as possible, reflect local crime

prevention strategies.

- 8.5 In deciding what conditions should be attached to licences and certificates to promote the licensing objectives, the Licensing Authority will be aware of the need to avoid measures which might deter live music, dancing or theatre by imposing indirect costs of a substantial nature. Only appropriate conditions will be imposed on such events. Where there is any indication that such events are being deterred by licensing requirements, the policy will be revisited with a view to investigating how the situation might be reversed.
- 8.6 Applicants should consider the measures which they propose to control noise nuisance from the premises or from departing customers. Depending on the individual circumstances, this may include:
- Sound limitation devices
 - Acoustic lobbies
 - Acoustic double glazing
 - Noise insulation
 - Specifying non amplified or acoustic music only
 - Notices requesting customers to leave quietly
 - A dedicated taxi service
 - Use of door supervisors at exit points
 - A winding down period during which music is turned down and lights up, alcohol service ceases and sales of food and hot and cold soft drinks continues, and requests are made for customers to leave quietly.

9. Integrating Strategies and the avoidance of duplication

- 9.1 By consultation and liaison, the Licensing Authority will secure the proper integration of this licensing policy with local crime prevention, Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Joint Health & Wellbeing Strategy (which priorities reducing health inequalities), planning, transport, tourism, equality schemes, cultural strategies and any other plans introduced for the management of the city and the night-time economy. Many of these strategies are not directly related to the promotion of the licensing objectives, but indirectly impact upon them.

- 9.2 The Licensing Authority is committed to ensuring safe and inclusive environments within licensed premises and promoting the safety of those using the nighttime economy. This policy recognises the need to address sexual harassment, misconduct, and broader violence against women and girls. Licence holders are encouraged to adopt measures that enhance customer safety and engage with recognised national schemes, such as *Ask for Angela*, and those tackling drink spiking, to support and protect vulnerable individuals.

- 9.2 Where any protocols to be agreed with the police identify a particular need to disperse people from the city swiftly and safely to avoid concentrations which could lead to disorder and disturbance, the Licensing Authority will aim to inform those responsible for providing local transportation so that arrangements can be made to reduce the potential for problems to occur.
- 9.3 The Council's Licensing Committee will receive, when appropriate, reports on:
- the needs of the local tourist economy for the area to ensure that these are reflected in their considerations
 - the employment situation in the area and the need for new investment and employment where appropriate.
- 9.4 Planning, building control and the licensing regimes will be separated to avoid duplication and inefficiency. Licensing applications will not be a re-run of the planning application and will not cut across decisions taken by the planning committee or following appeals against decisions taken by that committee. When a terminal hour has been set as a condition of planning permission that is different from the licensing hours, the applicant must observe the earlier of the two closing times.
- 9.5 So far as is possible, the policy is not intended to duplicate existing legislation and regulatory regimes that already place obligations on employers and operators.
- 9.6 The Licensing Authority will monitor the impact of licensing on the provision of regulated entertainment, and particularly live music and dancing. As part of implementing cultural strategies, proper account will be taken of the need to encourage and promote a broad range of entertainment, particularly live music, dancing, circus activity, street art and theatre, including the performance of a wide range of traditional and historic plays for the wider cultural benefit of the community which also balances the evening economy. The Licensing Authority will balance the prevention of disturbance in neighbourhoods with these wider cultural benefits, particularly cultural benefits for children. Only appropriate conditions will be imposed on such events.
- 9.7 The absence of cultural provision in any area can lead to young people being diverted into anti-social activities that damage local communities and the young people involved themselves.
- 9.8 Cambridge City Council has an important role in coordinating events in the City and to ensure that cultural diversity thrives. The Council currently has five licensed open spaces. These are: Parkers Piece; Jesus Green; Midsummer Common; Coldhams Common and the grounds of Cherry Hinton Hall.
- 9.9 The Equality Act 2010 places a legal obligation on public authorities to have due regard to the need to eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and

victimization; to advance equality of opportunity; and to foster good relations, between persons with different protected characteristics.

- 9.10 Applicants will be encouraged to make themselves aware of any relevant planning and transportation policies, tourism and cultural strategies or local crime prevention strategies and to have taken these into account, where appropriate, when formulating their operating schedule.
- 9.11 The Licensing Authority will have regard to equality and will expect an applicant to meet their statutory **obligations under the Equality Act 2010** and not unlawfully discriminate or refuse service on grounds of age, disability, gender reassignment, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex and sexual orientation or display discriminatory signs.

10. Licence Reviews

- 10.1 The process set out in the Licensing Act 2003 for reviewing premises licences represents a key protection for the community where problems associated with the licensing objectives are occurring after the grant or variation of a premises licence.
- 10.2 Responsible authorities (including the Licensing Authority) and other parties can apply for the review of a licence.
- 10.3 The Licensing Authority will work in partnership with other responsible authorities to achieve the promotion of the licensing objectives and will give Licence or Certificate holders early warning of any concerns identified at a premises. The Licensing Authority will also encourage other responsible authorities to do the same.
- 10.4 When a review has been requested the role of the Licensing Authority will be to administer the process and determine its outcome at a hearing. Where the Licensing Authority has applied to review an authorisation, there will be a clear separation of responsibilities to ensure procedural fairness and eliminate conflicts of interest. (See paragraph 12.3).
- 10.5 The Licensing Authority may decide that no action is necessary if it finds that the review does not require it to take any appropriate steps to promote the licensing objectives. In appropriate cases the Authority may issue an informal warning to the licence holder and/or recommend improvement within a particular period of time. Any warnings or recommendations will be issued in writing.
- 10.6 Where the Licensing Authority considers that action under its statutory powers is appropriate it may take any of the following steps:

- to modify the conditions of the premises licence (which includes adding new conditions or any alteration or omission of an existing condition);
- to exclude a licensable activity from the scope of the licence;
- to remove the designated premises supervisor;
- to suspend the licence for a period not exceeding three months;
- to revoke the licence.

10.7 In cases where the crime prevention objective is being undermined the Licensing Authority will give serious consideration to revoking the licence even in the first instance.

11. Enforcement

11.1 The Licensing Authority intends to establish protocols with the police and any other relevant enforcement body on enforcement issues. These protocols will provide for the targeting of agreed problem and high-risk premises, which require greater attention, while providing a lighter touch approach in respect of low risk premises which are well run.

11.2 In general, action will only be taken in accordance with the Council's enforcement policy, as adopted at the time, which reflects the Council's obligations relating to enforcement and is consistent with the Regulators Compliance Code. To this end, the key principles of consistency, openness, proportionality, clear standards and practices, courtesy and helpfulness and training will be maintained.

Cambridge City Council's enforcement policy is available on our website www.cambridge.gov.uk/content/enforcement-policy

12. Administration, exercise and delegation of functions

12.1 The functions of the Licensing Authority under the Act may be carried out by the Licensing Committee, by a Sub-Committee or by one or more officers acting under delegated authority.

12.2 Many of the decisions and functions will be largely administrative in nature. In the interests of speed, efficiency and cost-effectiveness these will, for the most part, be delegated to officers as set out in the Cambridge City Council Constitution

12.3 In determining applications where the Licensing Authority has acted as a responsible authority, there will be a clear separation of responsibilities to ensure procedural fairness and eliminate conflicts of interest. This will be achieved by allocating distinct functions to different Officers within the authority, so the Officer presenting the report to the Sub-Committee and advising the Members will be a different individual to the Officer who is acting as the responsible authority. The Officer acting as the responsible authority will not be involved in the decision-making process.

13. Effective Date and Review

- 13.1 This policy statement will take effect from March 2026.
- 13.2 The policy statement will be kept under review and will remain in existence for a period of up to 5 years. It will be subject to review and further consultation before March 2031, or as required by law.

14. Contact details, advice and guidance

- 14.1 Applicants can obtain further details about the licensing and application processes, including application forms and fees from:

website: www.cambridge.gov.uk

e-mail: Licensing@cambridge.gov.uk

telephone: 01223 457000

post: Commercial & Licensing, Environmental and Public Health,
Cambridge City Council, PO Box 700,
Cambridge, CB1 0JH

in person: Customer Service Centre, Mandela House, 4, Regent
Street, Cambridge, CB2 1BY (Wednesday to Friday
09:00- 17:15 by appointment only)

- 14.2 The Licensing Authority has also published further documents to accompany this policy containing additional details about each type of application and the review process. These can be viewed at <https://www.cambridge.gov.uk/guidance-for-applicants>
- 14.3 This policy can be made available in large print on request and similarly translations can be made available in a variety of languages. Please contact us for further help or assistance.
- 14.4 The Council, Police and Fire Authorities will be willing to give advice and guidance to applicants.
- 14.5 Informal discussion is encouraged prior to the application process in order to resolve any potential problems and avoid unnecessary hearings and appeals.

15. **Responsible Authorities are:**

The Licensing Authority

Commercial & Licensing, Environmental and Public Health,
Communities, Cambridge City Council, PO Box 700, Cambridge, CB1 0JH
Tel: 01223 457879

E-mail: licensing@cambridge.gov.uk

The Chief Officer of Police

The Chief Officer, Cambridgeshire Police Headquarters, Hinchbrook Park,
Huntingdon, PE29 6NP

E-mail: licensingouth@cambs.police.uk

The Fire Authority

Fire Protection, Cambridge Fire Station, Parkside, Cambridge, CB1 1JF

Email: danny.hans@cambsfire.gov.uk

Planning

Greater Cambridge Shared Planning Service (GCSP), Cambridge City
Council, The Guildhall, Cambridge, CB2 3QJ

Telephone: 01954 713 000

E-mail: planning@greatercambridgeplanning.org

Environmental Health

Strategic Environmental Health and Public Safety Lead, , Environmental
and Public Health, Communities, Cambridge City Council, PO Box 700,
Cambridge, CB1 0JH

Telephone: 01223 457890 Fax: 01223 457909 e-

mail: commercial@cambridge.gov.uk

Child Protection

Child Protection Services, Licensing Applications, OCYPS, PO Box 144, St
Ives, Cambs, PE27 9AU

Telephone: 03450455203

E-mail: Referralcentre2.children@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

Trading Standards

Cambridgeshire County Council, PO Box 450, Great Cambourne,
Cambridge, CB23 6ZR

E-mail: trading.standards@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

Public Health

Director of Public Health, Cambridgeshire County
Council,

ALC 2629, PO Box 761 Huntingdon PE29 9QR

New Shire Hall, Emery Crescent, Enterprise Campus,
Alconbury Weald, Huntingdon, PE28 4YE

E:mail: HealthinAllPolicies@cambridgeshire.gvo.uk

Home Office – Immigration Enforcement

Licensing Compliance Team (LCT), Home Office, 2
Ruskin Square, Dingwall Road, Croydon, CR0 2WF
Email: IE.licensing.applications@homeoffice.gov.uk

In addition, for vessels:

Environment Agency

The Team Leader, Great Ouse & Stour Waterways, The Environment
Agency, Waterside House, Goldhay Way, Orton Goldhay, Peterborough,
PE2 5ZRTelephone:03708506506

E-mail: enquiries@environment-agency.gov.uk, quoting Great Ouse &
Stour Waterways

Conservators of the River Cam

The River Manager
Conservators of the River Cam
Clayhithe Office, Clayhithe Road,
Horningsea, Cambridge, CB25 9JB
Tel: 01223 863785
Email: info@camconservators.org.uk

Maritime & Coastguard Agency

Surveyor in Charge, Harwich Marine Office, Maritime & Coastguard
Agency, East Terrace, Walton-on-Naze, Essex, CO14 8PY

CAMBRIDGE CITY COUNCIL STATEMENT OF LICENSING POLICY

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CAMBRIDGE CITY COUNCIL

STATEMENT OF LICENSING POLICY

Cambridge is a unique blend of market town, sub-regional centre, national and international tourist attraction and centre of excellence for education and research. It is a city of great beauty and is renowned for the qualities of its streets, spaces and buildings.

Cambridge City Council (the Licensing Authority), in association with local partnerships, wants Cambridge to be vibrant, socially mixed, safe, convenient and enjoyable, where all residents feel integrated into the life of the City and a part of its success.

Cambridge City Council has a clear vision for, 'One Cambridge – Fair for All'. It's a vision we will work towards cooperatively with our residents and partner organisations. Our vision includes:

- 1. Residents enjoy a high quality of life and exemplar public services**
 - Cambridge is a place of high employment where everyone has a warm, safe, and affordable home, and beautiful open spaces to enjoy.
 - Communities are thriving and empowered, supported by well-run public services, and drawing on shared prosperity with greater equality in health and educational outcomes.
- 2. Decarbonisation and sustainability are central to prosperity**
 - Cambridge is a net zero carbon city, where people and nature enjoy a clean river, clean air, and biodiverse green spaces.
 - Strong nature networks are coordinated between relevant bodies to combat the impacts of social and climate injustice.
- 3. Innovation benefits people and planet**
 - Cambridge champions pioneering discoveries which shape a better future for people and planet.
 - There is a lifelong citywide commitment to learning which enables every resident to develop their skills and fulfil their potential.
 - Businesses are key to the success of a thriving local economy which benefits residents and workers.
- 4. Development is sustainable and inclusive**
 - High-quality social housing, sustainable public transport alongside key infrastructure is prioritised to ensure Cambridge is a vibrant and caring city.
 - Cambridge's beautiful architecture and public realm, with well-used community spaces, promotes pride and wellbeing

and is accessible to all.

5. Arts, sports, and culture are thriving

- Cambridge celebrates the city's diversity through a vibrant arts and cultural scene, including music, festivals, sports, and food and drink.
- Accessible arts, sports and culture provide spaces for people of all ages to come together to enjoy the city, both during the day and at night.

6. Democratic accountability is genuine and accessible

- Residents actively participate in democratic life and transparent decisions are made by and for the people of Cambridge.
- There is genuine partnership between academic, business, and civic communities to enhance residents' prosperity.
- Local control, devolution, and community empowerment are championed through transparent and simplified local government.

The overarching objectives of Cambridge City Council in licensing premises are to:

- Promote the Authority's visions and values
- Protect the rights and health and safety of the general public, workers, residents, businesses, minority and vulnerable groups
- Ensure the principles of consistency, transparency, accountability and the promotion of good standards in licensing
- Demonstrate compliance with statutory responsibilities in relation to procedures and enforcement
- Ensure consistent and transparent decision making

It is recognised that licensed entertainment provides a valuable contribution towards the economy of Cambridge and we seek to balance the needs of local business holders and licensees, whilst protecting those of local residents. The City of Cambridge has been awarded purple flag status yearly since September 2019. A Purple Flag helps members of the public to identify town and city centres offering an entertaining, diverse, safe and enjoyable night out.

1. Introduction

- 1.1 This Licensing Policy Statement has been produced in accordance with the requirements of the Licensing Act 2003 ('the Act') and is in line with guidance issued under Section 182 of the Act.
- 1.2 The policy relates to all those licensing activities identified as falling within the provisions of the Act, namely: -
 - Retail sale of alcohol
 - Supply of alcohol by or on behalf of a club, or to the order to a member of the club
 - The provision of regulated entertainment
 - The provision of late night refreshment
- 1.3 The policy relates to all types of premises covered by the Act.
- 1.4 The Licensing Authority will take the policy into account where its discretion is engaged (i.e. at a hearing following representations).
- 1.5 Nothing in this policy will undermine the right of any individual to apply under the terms of the Act for a variety of permissions and to have any such application considered on its individual merits.
- 1.6 The Licensing Authority may depart from this policy if the individual circumstances of any case merit such a decision in the interest of the promotion of the licensing objectives. Full reasons will be given for departing from the policy.

2. Objectives

- 2.1. The Licensing Authority has a duty under the Act to carry out its licensing functions by promoting the licensing objectives, which are: -
 - The prevention of crime and disorder
 - Public safety
 - The prevention of public nuisance, and
 - The protection of children from harm.

Each objective has equal importance.

- 2.2 In carrying out its licensing functions, the Licensing Authority must also have regard to the licensing objectives, its Policy Statement and any statutory

guidance under the Act and is bound by The Human Rights Act 1998. The Council must also fulfill its obligations under section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 to do all that it reasonably can to prevent crime and disorder in Cambridge. The Statement of Licensing Policy recognises the Equality Act 2010 places a legal obligation on public authorities to have due regard to the need to eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimization; to advance equality of opportunity; and to foster good relations, between persons with different protected characteristics.

- 2.3 It is recognised that the licensing function is only one means of securing the delivery of the above objectives and should not be seen as a means for solving all problems within the community. However, the licensing function is an important means of achieving the objectives. The Licensing Authority will continue to work in partnership with its neighbouring authorities, the police, other agencies, local liaison groups, businesses and individuals towards the achievement of the licensing objectives through good practice.
- 2.4 The Licensing Authority will expect individual applicants to address the licensing objectives in their operating schedule having regard to the type of premises, the licensable activities to be provided, the operational procedures, the nature of the location and the needs of the local community. Applicants should include in their operating schedule the steps, which they consider necessary to promote the licensing objectives. If the steps are insufficient, or if the information given in the operating schedule does not enable a responsible authority or any other person to assess whether the steps proposed are satisfactory, it is more likely that relevant representations will be received, usually leading to a hearing.
- 2.5 All responsible authorities (listed in section 15) will have the chance to comment on all applications received and will provide evidence from their own areas of expertise if they believe an application would impact on one or more of the licensing objectives. All evidence provided will be taken into account by the Licensing Authority at any subsequent hearing.

3. Consultation

- 3.1. In preparing this policy statement the Licensing Authority has consulted with the following:
- the Chief Officer of Police for Cambridgeshire
 - the Chief Officer of the Cambridgeshire Fire and Rescue Service
 - persons/bodies representative of the Local Authority with the function of public health
 - persons/bodies representative of local holders of premises licences
 - persons/bodies representative of local holders of club premises certificates
 - persons/bodies representative of local holders of personal licences
 - persons/bodies representative of businesses and residents in the City of Cambridge

- persons/bodies representative of Child Protection Services at Cambridgeshire County Council
- other organisations as appear to the Licensing Authority to be affected by licensing matters, including local community, cultural, educational and entertainment organisations.

3.2. We have considered the views of all those consulted prior to determining this policy.

4. Fundamental Principles

- 4.1. Licensing is about regulating licensable activities on premises, such as qualifying clubs, pubs and temporary events which fall within the terms of the Act. Any conditions imposed will focus on matters that individual licensees and others in possession of relevant authorisations are able to control.
- 4.2. In addressing these matters, the Licensing Authority will primarily focus on the direct impact the activities taking place at the licensed premises will have on those living, working or engaged in normal activity in the area concerned.
- 4.3. Licensing law is not the primary mechanism for the general control of nuisance and anti-social behaviour by individuals once they are away from the licensed premises and, therefore, beyond the direct control of the individual, club or business holding the licence, certificate or permission concerned. Nonetheless, it is a key aspect of such control and licensing law will always be part of a holistic approach to the management of the evening and night-time economy in Cambridge.

5. The cumulative impact of a concentration of licensed premises

- 5.1. Cumulative impact is the potential impact on the promotion of the licensing objectives of a significant number of licensed premises concentrated in one area e.g. the potential impact on crime and disorder or public nuisance.
- 5.2. The cumulative impact of licensed premises on the promotion of the licensing objectives is a matter that the Licensing Authority can take into account. This should not, however, be confused with 'need' which concerns the commercial demand for a particular type of premises e.g., a pub, restaurant or hotel. The issue of 'need' is therefore primarily a matter for the market to decide and does not form part of this licensing policy statement.
- 5.3. The Licensing Authority can only publish a Cumulative Impact Assessment if there is evidence that a significant number of licensed premises concentrated in one area is causing a cumulative impact on one or more of the licensing

objectives. The Licensing Authority will keep the situation as to whether an area is nearing this point under review.

- 5.4. The absence of a Cumulative Impact Assessment does not prevent any responsible authority or other person 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.
- 5.5. Following previous consultations and representations received by Cambridge Constabulary, the Licensing Authority has adopted a special policy on cumulative effect that remains in place and is now the Cumulative Impact Assessment.
- 5.6. Having considered the available evidence and undertaken consultation, the Licensing Authority considers that it is appropriate and necessary to control cumulative impact. The Licensing Authority has adopted a Cumulative Impact Assessment, which is separate to this Statement of Licensing Policy. Further information on the Cumulative Impact Assessment and the areas which it covers can be found in the Cumulative Impact Assessment document, found at - <https://www.cambridge.gov.uk/media/vath1akl/statement-of-licensing-policy-cumulative-impact-assessment.pdf>

6. Licensing Hours

- 6.1. Flexible licensing hours for the sale of alcohol can help to ensure that concentrations of customers leaving premises simultaneously are avoided. This can help to reduce the potential for disorder and disturbance. Licensing hours should not inhibit the development of a thriving and safe evening and night-time economy. This is important for investment, local employment, tourism and local services associated with the night-time economy. Providing customers with greater choice and flexibility is an important consideration but should always be balanced carefully against the duty to promote the four licensing objectives and the rights of local residents to peace and quiet.
- 6.2. Subject to the policies regarding cumulative impact in the areas of the City, shops, stores and supermarkets will generally be permitted to provide sales of alcohol for consumption off the premises at any times when the retail outlet is open for shopping, unless representations raise good reasons based on the licensing objectives, for restricting those hours, for example, a limitation may be appropriate following police representations in the case of shops known to be a focus of disorder and disturbance.
- 6.3. The Licensing Authority will deal with the issue of licensing hours on the individual merits of each application. When issuing a licence, following receipt of relevant representations, stricter conditions on noise control are likely to be imposed in the case of premises that are situated in predominantly residential areas. However, this should not limit opening hours without regard to the

individual merits of any application.

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7. Children and Licensed Premises

7.1. Cambridge City Council will consider its Safeguarding for Children and Vulnerable Adults Policy when determining licensing applications. We are committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children, young people and vulnerable adults.

7.2. It is an offence under the 2003 Licensing Act 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 TEN; and
- 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 any premises licence, club premises certificate or TEN.

7.3. There are a great variety of premises for which licences may be sought including theatres, cinemas, restaurants, pubs, nightclubs, cafes, take away, community halls and schools. Access by children to any premises will not be limited unless it is considered necessary for the prevention of physical, moral or psychological harm to them.

7.4. Conditions requiring the admission of children to any premises cannot be attached to licences or certificates. Where no licensing restriction is necessary, this should remain a matter for the discretion of the individual licensee or club or person who has been given a temporary event notice.

7.5. When deciding whether to limit access to children, the Licensing Authority will consider each application on its merits. Particular areas that will give rise to concern in respect of children, would include premises –

- where entertainment or services of an adult or sexual nature are commonly provided
- where there is a strong element of gambling on the premises
- with a known association with drug taking or dealing
- where there have been convictions of members of the current staff at the premises for serving alcohol to minors or with a reputation for underage drinking
- where the supply of alcohol for consumption on the premises is the exclusive or primary purpose of the services provided at the premises.
- where there is a known association with the provision of illicit tobacco and alcohol
- where the supply of alcohol is in close proximity to services where young vulnerable people may frequent

7.6. The range of alternatives which may be considered for limiting access to children where that is necessary for the prevention of harm to children are:

- restrictions on the hours when children may be present
- age restrictions (below 18)
- restrictions or exclusions on the presence of children under certain ages when particular specified activities are taking place
- restrictions or exclusions when certain activities are taking place
- requirements for accompanying adults
- full exclusion of those people under 18 from the premises when any licensable activities are taking place
- restrictions on the parts of premises to which children may have access.

7.7. In the case of premises which are used for film exhibitions Cambridge City Council will expect licence holders or clubs to include in their operating schedules arrangements for restricting children from viewing age-restricted films classified according to the recommendations of the British Board of Film Classification or, in specific cases, a certificate given to the film by the Council itself.

7.8. The Licensing Authority recognises the Child Protection Services of Cambridgeshire County Council as being competent to advise on matters relating to the protection of children from harm.

7.9. The Licensing Authority commends the Portman Group Code of Practice on the Naming, Packaging and Promotion of Alcoholic Drinks. The Code seeks to ensure that drinks are packaged and promoted in a socially responsible manner and only to those who are 18 years old or older.

8. Licence Conditions

8.1. A key concept of the Act is for conditions to be attached to licences and certificates, which are tailored to the individual style and characteristics of the premises and events concerned. This is essential to avoid the imposition of disproportionate and overly burdensome conditions on premises where there is no need for such conditions.

8.2. The Licensing Authority cannot attach conditions to premises licences and club premises certificates unless they are considered appropriate for the promotion of the licensing objectives. The Licensing Authority may only attach conditions (except for statutory mandatory conditions and conditions drawn from the operating schedule) if relevant representations have been received. Conditions will generally be considered unnecessary if they are

already adequately covered by other legislation. Blanket standard conditions will not be imposed without regard to the merits of the individual case.

Mandatory conditions can be found on council webpage -
<https://www.cambridge.gov.uk/alcohol-and-entertainment-licence-guidance>

- 8.3. The Licensing Authority when making licensing decisions shall consider the need to promote growth and deliver economic benefits
- 8.4. Conditions attached to premises licences and club premises certificates under prevention of crime and disorder will, so far as possible, reflect local crime prevention strategies.
- 8.5. In deciding what conditions should be attached to licences and certificates to promote the licensing objectives, the Licensing Authority will be aware of the need to avoid measures which might deter live music, dancing or theatre by imposing indirect costs of a substantial nature. Only appropriate conditions will be imposed on such events. Where there is any indication that such events are being deterred by licensing requirements, the policy will be revisited with a view to investigating how the situation might be reversed.
- 8.6. Applicants should consider the measures which they propose to control noise nuisance from the premises or from departing customers. Depending on the individual circumstances, this may include:
 - Sound limitation devices
 - Acoustic lobbies
 - Acoustic double glazing
 - Noise insulation
 - Specifying non amplified or acoustic music only
 - Notices requesting customers to leave quietly
 - A dedicated taxi service
 - Use of door supervisors at exit points
 - A winding down period during which music is turned down and lights up, alcohol service ceases and sales of food and hot and cold soft drinks continues, and requests are made for customers to leave quietly.

9. Integrating Strategies and the avoidance of duplication

- 9.1. By consultation and liaison, the Licensing Authority will secure the proper integration of this licensing policy with local crime prevention, Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Joint Health & Wellbeing Strategy (which priorities reducing health inequalities), planning, transport, tourism, equality schemes, cultural strategies and any other plans introduced for the management of the city and the night-time economy. Many of these strategies are not directly related to

the promotion of the licensing objectives, but indirectly impact upon them.

- 9.2. The Licensing Authority is committed to ensuring safe and inclusive environments within licensed premises and promoting the safety of those using the nighttime economy. This policy recognises the need to address sexual harassment, misconduct, and broader violence against women and girls. Licence holders are encouraged to adopt measures that enhance customer safety and engage with recognised national schemes, such as *Ask for Angela*, and those tackling drink spiking, to support and protect vulnerable individuals.
- 9.3. Where any protocols to be agreed with the police identify a particular need to disperse people from the city swiftly and safely to avoid concentrations which could lead to disorder and disturbance, the Licensing Authority will aim

to inform those responsible for providing local transportation so that arrangements can be made to reduce the potential for problems to occur.

9.4. The Council's Licensing Committee will receive, when appropriate, reports on:

- the needs of the local tourist economy for the area to ensure that these are reflected in their considerations
- the employment situation in the area and the need for new investment and employment where appropriate.

9.5. Planning, building control and the licensing regimes will be separated to avoid duplication and inefficiency. Licensing applications will not be a re-run of the planning application and will not cut across decisions taken by the planning committee or following appeals against decisions taken by that committee. When a terminal hour has been set as a condition of planning permission that is different from the licensing hours, the applicant must observe the earlier of the two closing times.

9.6. So far as is possible, the policy is not intended to duplicate existing legislation and regulatory regimes that already place obligations on employers and operators.

9.7. The Licensing Authority will monitor the impact of licensing on the provision of regulated entertainment, and particularly live music and dancing. As part of implementing cultural strategies, proper account will be taken of the need to encourage and promote a broad range of entertainment, particularly live music, dancing, circus activity, street art and theatre, including the performance of a wide range of traditional and historic plays for the wider cultural benefit of the community which also balances the evening economy. The Licensing Authority will balance the prevention of disturbance in neighbourhoods with these wider cultural benefits, particularly cultural benefits for children. Only appropriate conditions will be imposed on such events.

9.8. The absence of cultural provision in any area can lead to young people being diverted into anti-social activities that damage local communities and the young people involved themselves.

9.9. Cambridge City Council has an important role in coordinating events in the City and to ensure that cultural diversity thrives. The Council currently has five licensed open spaces. These are: Parkers Piece; Jesus Green; Midsummer Common; Coldhams Common and the grounds of Cherry Hinton Hall.

9.10. The Equality Act 2010 places a legal obligation on public authorities to have due regard to the need to eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimization; to advance equality of opportunity; and to foster good relations, between persons with different protected characteristics.

- 9.11. Applicants will be encouraged to make themselves aware of any relevant planning and transportation policies, tourism and cultural strategies or local crime prevention strategies and to have taken these into account, where appropriate, when formulating their operating schedule.
- 9.12. The Licensing Authority will have regard to equality and will expect an applicant to meet their statutory obligations under the Equality Act 2010 and not unlawfully discriminate or refuse service on grounds of age, disability, gender reassignment, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex and sexual orientation or display discriminatory signs.

10. Licence Reviews

- 10.1. The process set out in the Licensing Act 2003 for reviewing premises licences represents a key protection for the community where problems associated with the licensing objectives are occurring after the grant or variation of a premises licence.
- 10.2. Responsible authorities (including the Licensing Authority) and other parties can apply for the review of a licence.
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- 10.4. When a review has been requested the role of the Licensing Authority will be to administer the process and determine its outcome at a hearing. Where the Licensing Authority has applied to review an authorisation, there will be a clear separation of responsibilities to ensure procedural fairness and eliminate conflicts of interest. (See paragraph 12.3).
- 10.5. The Licensing Authority may decide that no action is necessary if it finds that the review does not require it to take any appropriate steps to promote the licensing objectives. In appropriate cases the Authority may issue an informal warning to the licence holder and/or recommend improvement within a particular period of time. Any warnings or recommendations will be issued in writing.
- 10.6. Where the Licensing Authority considers that action under its statutory powers is appropriate it may take any of the following steps:
- to modify the conditions of the premises licence (which includes adding new conditions or any alteration or omission of an existing condition);
 - to exclude a licensable activity from the scope of the licence;
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- to suspend the licence for a period not exceeding three months;
- to revoke the licence.

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11.1. The Licensing Authority intends to establish protocols with the police and any other relevant enforcement body on enforcement issues. These protocols will provide for the targeting of agreed problem and high-risk premises, which require greater attention, while providing a lighter touch approach in respect of low risk premises which are well run.

11.2. In general, action will only be taken in accordance with the Council's enforcement policy, as adopted at the time, which reflects the Council's obligations relating to enforcement and is consistent with the Regulators Compliance Code. To this end, the key principles of consistency, openness, proportionality, clear standards and practices, courtesy and helpfulness and training will be maintained.

Cambridge City Council's enforcement policy is available on our website <https://www.cambridge.gov.uk/enforcement-policy>.

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12.2. Many of the decisions and functions will be largely administrative in nature. In the interests of speed, efficiency and cost-effectiveness these will, for the most part, be delegated to officers as set out in the Cambridge City Council Constitution.

12.3. In determining applications where the Licensing Authority has acted as a responsible authority, there will be a clear separation of responsibilities to ensure procedural fairness and eliminate conflicts of interest. This will be achieved by allocating distinct functions to different Officers within the authority, so the Officer presenting the report to the Sub-Committee and advising the Members will be a different individual to the Officer who is acting as the responsible authority. The Officer acting as the responsible authority will not be involved in the decision-making process.

13. Effective Date and Review

- 13.1. This policy statement will take effect from 1st March 2026.
- 13.2. The policy statement will be kept under review and will remain in existence for a period of up to 5 years. It will be subject to review and further consultation before 1st March 2031, or as required by law.

14. Contact details, advice and guidance

- 14.1. Applicants can obtain further details about the licensing and application processes, including application forms and fees from:

website: www.cambridge.gov.uk

e-mail: licensing@cambridge.gov.uk

telephone: 01223 457000

post: Commercial & Licensing, Environmental and Public Health,
Cambridge City Council, PO Box 700,
Cambridge, CB1 0JH

in person: Customer Service Centre, Mandela House, 4, Regent
Street, Cambridge, CB2 1BY (Wednesday to Friday 09:00-
17:15 by appointment only)

- 14.2. The Licensing Authority has also published further documents to accompany this policy containing additional details about each type of application and the review process. These can be viewed at <https://www.cambridge.gov.uk/guidance-for-applicants>
- 14.3. This policy can be made available in large print on request and similarly translations can be made available in a variety of languages. Please contact us for further help or assistance.
- 14.4. The Council, Police and Fire Authorities will be willing to give advice and guidance to applicants.
- 14.5. Informal discussion is encouraged prior to the application process in order to resolve any potential problems and avoid unnecessary hearings and appeals.

15. Responsible Authorities are:

The Licensing Authority

Commercial & Licensing, Environmental and Public Health, Communities,
Cambridge City Council, PO Box 700, Cambridge, CB1 0JH

Tel: 01223 457879

E-mail: licensing@cambridge.gov.uk

The Chief Officer of Police

The Chief Officer, Cambridgeshire Police Headquarters, Hinchbrook Park,
Huntingdon, PE29 6NP

E-mail: licensing@cambs.police.uk

The Fire Authority

Fire Protection, Cambridge Fire Station, Parkside, Cambridge, CB1 1JF

Email: danny.hans@cambsfire.gov.uk

Planning

Greater Cambridge Shared Planning Service (GCSP), Cambridge City
Council, The Guildhall, Cambridge, CB2 3QJ

Telephone: [01954 713 000](tel:01954713000)

E-mail: planning@gretercambridgeplanning.org

Environmental Health

Strategic Environmental Health and Public Safety Lead, Environmental and
Public Health, Communities, Cambridge City Council, PO Box 700,
Cambridge, CB1 0JH

Telephone: 01223 457890 Fax: 01223 457909

E-mail: commercial@cambridge.gov.uk

Child Protection

Child Protection Services, Licensing Applications, OCYPS, PO Box 144, St
Ives, Cambs, PE27 9AU

Telephone: 03450455203

E-mail: Referralcentre2.children@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

Trading Standards

Cambridgeshire County Council, PO Box 450, Great Cambourne,
Cambridge, CB23 6ZR

E-mail: trading.standards@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

Public Health

Director of Public Health, Cambridgeshire County Council, ALC 2629, PO Box 761 Huntingdon PE29 9QR
New Shire Hall, Emery Crescent, Enterprise Campus, Alconbury Weald, Huntingdon, PE28 4YE
E-mail: HealthinAllPolicies@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

Home Office – Immigration Enforcement

Licensing Compliance Team (LCT), Home Office, 2 Ruskin Square, Dingwall Road, Croydon, CR0 2WF
E-mail: IE.licensing.applications@homeoffice.gov.uk

In addition, for vessels:

Environment Agency

The Team Leader, Great Ouse & Stour Waterways, The Environment Agency, Waterside House, Goldhay Way, Orton Goldhay, Peterborough, PE2 5ZR
Telephone: 03708506506
E-mail: enquiries@environment-agency.gov.uk, quoting Great Ouse & Stour Waterways

Conservators of the River Cam

The River Manager
Conservators of the River Cam,
Clayhithe Office, Clayhithe Road,,
Horningsea, Cambridge, CB25 9JB
Tel: 01223 863785
E-mail: info@camconservators.org.uk

Maritime & Coastguard Agency

Surveyor in Charge, Harwich Marine Office, Maritime & Coastguard Agency, East Terrace, Walton-on-Naze, Essex, CO14 8PY

Cambridge City Council Equality Impact Assessment (EqIA)

This tool helps the Council ensure that we fulfil legal obligations of the [Public Sector Equality Duty](#) to have due regard to the need to –

- (a) eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct that is prohibited by or under the Equality Act 2010;
- (b) advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it;
- (c) foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it.

Guidance on how to complete this tool can be found on the Cambridge City Council intranet. For specific questions on the tool please contact the Community Equity Team at equalities@cambridge.gov.uk.

Also, once you have drafted the EqIA please send this to equalities@cambridge.gov.uk for checking.

| |
|--|
| 1. Title of strategy, policy, plan, project, contract or major change to your service |
| Statement of Licensing Policy |

| |
|--|
| 2. Webpage link to full details of the strategy, policy, plan, project, contract or major change to your service (if available) |
| Alcohol and entertainment licence overview - Cambridge City Council https://www.cambridge.gov.uk/alcohol-and-entertainment-licence-overview |

| |
|--|
| 3. What is the objective or purpose of your strategy, policy, plan, project, contract or major change to your service? |
| To enable the council to exercise its functions under Section 5 of the Licensing Act 2003. The Council is required to produce, adopt and publish a Statement of Licensing Policy. The statement must be reviewed every 5 years. |

4. Responsible Team and Group

Environmental health

5. Who will be affected by this strategy, policy, plan, project, contract or major change to your service?

(Please tick all that apply)

- ☒ Residents
- ☒ Visitors
- ☒ Staff

Please state any specific client group or groups (e.g. City Council tenants, tourists, people who work in the city but do not live here):

[Click here to enter text.](#)

6. What type of strategy, policy, plan, project, contract or major change to your service is this?

- ☐ New
- ☐ Major change
- ☒ Minor change

7. Are other departments or partners involved in delivering this strategy, policy, plan, project, contract or major change to your service? (Please tick)

- ☒ Yes
- ☐ No

If 'Yes' please provide details below:

Responsible authorities play a part in delivering the policy, these include the Police, Environmental Health, Public Health, Planning, Child Protection Services and Trading Standards.

The review of the policy has been sent to responsible authorities, those directly affected by the policy and has been open to a public consultation. All responses received have been considered when reviewing the policy.

8. What research methods/ evidence have you used in order to identify equality impacts of your strategy, policy, plan, project, contract or major change to your service?

The policy has been subject to a 12 week public consultation., results can be found within the report, as Appendix B and C. The policy recognises the Equality Act 2010 which places a legal obligation on public authorities to have due regard to the need to eliminate unlawful

discrimination, harassment and victimisation; to advance equality of opportunity; and to foster good relations, between persons with different protected characteristics.

9. Potential impacts

For each category below, please explain if the strategy, policy, plan, project, contract or major change to your service could have a positive/ negative impact or no impact. Where an impact has been identified, please explain what it is. Consider impacts on service users, visitors and staff members separately.

(a) Age - Please also consider any safeguarding issues for children and adults at risk

One of the licensing objectives is the protection of children from harm. The policy helps support this objective and section 7 of the policy details how the council support in the protection of children from harm.

The Child Protection Services of Cambridgeshire County Council is a responsible authority and is recognised as being competent to advise on matters relating to the protection of children from harm. They are consulted on for every application submitted.

During the review of the policy, they were consulted as a responsible authority and no response was received.

(b) Disability

We do not believe that the policy will impact negatively on this target group. The policy has been open to a public consultation and no responses have been received in regards to the policy impacting on those with a disability.

The Licensing Authority will have regard to equality and will expect an applicant to meet their statutory obligations under the Equality Act 2010 in this area and not unlawfully discriminate or refuse service on grounds of disability. – Section 9.12 of the Statement of Licensing Policy.

(c) Gender reassignment

We do not believe that the policy will have an impact on this target group. The policy has been open to a public consultation and no responses have been received in regards to the policy impacting on gender.

The Licensing Authority will have regard to equality and will expect an applicant to meet their statutory obligations in this area and not unlawfully discriminate or refuse service on grounds of gender.

(d) Marriage and civil partnership

We do not believe that the policy will impact negatively on this target group. The policy has been open to a public consultation and no responses have been received in regards to the policy impacting on marriage or civil partnership.

(e) Pregnancy and maternity

We do not believe that the policy will impact negatively on this target group. The policy has been open to a public consultation and no responses have been received in regards to the policy impacting on pregnancy or maternity.

(f) Race – Note that the protected characteristic ‘race’ refers to a group of people defined by their race, colour, and nationality (including citizenship) ethnic or national origins.

We do not believe that the policy will impact negatively on this target group. The policy has been open to a public consultation and no responses have been received in regards to the policy impacting on race.

The Licensing Authority will have regard to equality and will expect an applicant to meet their statutory obligations in this area and not unlawfully discriminate or refuse service on grounds of race.

(g) Religion or belief

We do not believe that the policy will impact negatively on this target group. The policy has been open to a public consultation and no responses have been received in regards to the policy impacting on religion.

The Licensing Authority will have regard to equality and will expect an applicant to meet their statutory obligations in this area and not unlawfully discriminate or refuse service on grounds of religion.

(h) Sex

We do not believe that the policy will impact negatively on this target group. The policy has been open to a public consultation and no responses have been received in regards to the policy impacting on gender.

The Licensing Authority will have regard to equality and will expect an applicant to meet their statutory obligations in this area and not unlawfully discriminate or refuse service on grounds of gender.

(i) Sexual orientation

We do not believe that the policy will impact negatively on this target group. The policy has been open to a public consultation and no responses have been received in regards to the policy impacting on sexual orientation.

The Licensing Authority will have regard to equality and will expect an applicant to meet their statutory obligations in this area and not unlawfully discriminate or refuse service on grounds of sexual orientation.

(j) Other factors that may lead to inequality – in particular, please consider the impact of any changes on:

- Low-income groups or those experiencing the impacts of poverty.
- People of any age with care experience – this refers to individuals who spent part of their childhood in the care system due to situations beyond their control, primarily arising from abuse and neglect within their families. The term “Care experience” is a description of a definition in law, it includes anyone that had the state as its corporate parent by virtue of a care order in accordance with the Children Act 1989 and amendments.
- Groups who have more than one protected characteristic that taken together create overlapping and interdependent systems of discrimination or disadvantage. (Here you are being asked to consider intersectionality, and for more information see: https://media.ed.ac.uk/media/1_159kt25q).

The policy will have no impact on any other factors that may lead to inequality.

10. Action plan – New equality impacts will be identified in different stages throughout the planning and implementation stages of changes to your strategy, policy, plan, project, contract or major change to your service. How will you monitor these going forward? Also, how will you ensure that any potential negative impacts of the changes will be mitigated? (Please include dates where possible for when you will update this EqIA accordingly.)

The policy statement will be kept under review and will remain in existence for a period of up to 5 years. It will be subject to review and further consultation before February 2031 or as required by changes in law or other policies.

11. Do you have any additional comments?

None.

12. Sign off

Name and job title of lead officer for this equality impact assessment: Wangari Njiiri,
Environmental Health and Licensing Support Team Leader

Names and job titles of other assessment team members and people consulted: Yvonne
O'Donnell, Strategic Environmental Health and Public Safety Lead; Graham Lewis & Lily
Simmonite, Community Equity Officers

Date of EqlA sign off: 14 January 2026

Date of next review of the equalities impact assessment: January 2031 or before if review of
policy is required.

Date to be published on Cambridge City Council website: January 2026

**All EqlAs need to be sent to the Community Equity Team at
equalities@cambridge.gov.uk**

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