

REVIEW OF CUMULATIVE IMPACT ASSESSEMENT

**To:**

Licensing Committee 29/01/2024

Report by:

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Wards affected:

All

1. Introduction / Executive Summary

- 1.1 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. The existing Statement of Licensing Policy for Cambridge City Council became effective in March 2021. This is attached to the report as Appendix B.
- 1.2 In March 2021, the Cumulative Impact Assessment was published as a stand alone document, that needs reviewing within 3 years.
- 1.3 Whilst drafting the Cumulative Impact Assessment, evidence was provided by Cambridge Constabulary covering the current areas within the Cumulative Impact Assessment.
- 1.4 The draft Cumulative Impact Assessment is attached to this report as Appendix C. The current Cumulative Impact Assessment is attached to this report as Appendix A.

- 1.5 The process to review the Cumulative Impact Assessment began in April 2023 and a twelve-week public consultation took place between 21st August 2023 and 12th November 2023.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 Members are recommended to recommend to Council:

Consider the results of the public consultation exercise as summarised in Appendix D of this report and the information provided by Cambridge Constabulary and Public Health as attached to this report as Appendix E and approve the draft Cumulative Impact Assessment attached to this report as Appendix C;

3. Background

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- 3.1. The Policing and Crime Act 2017 amended the Licensing Act 2003 to place Cumulative Impact Assessments on a statutory footing.
- 3.2 We took the opportunity to create a stand-alone Cumulative Impact Assessment on 1st March 2021. This assessment must be reviewed at least every 3 years.
- 3.3 The term ‘Cumulative impact’ is defined in paragraph 14.20 of the Guidance issued under Section 182 of the Licensing Act 2003 as “the potential impact on the promotion of the licensing objectives of a significant number of licensed premises concentrated in one area”.
- 3.4 The guidance further states that a cumulative impact assessment may be published by a licensing authority to help it to limit the number or types of licence applications granted in areas where there is evidence to show that the number or density of licensed premises in the area is having a cumulative impact and leading to problems which are undermining the licensing objectives.
- 3.5 In considering whether to publish a Cumulative Impact Assessment, the authority needs to consider the following:
- Identify concern about crime and disorder; public safety; public nuisance or protection of children from harm in a particular location.

- Consider whether there is good evidence that crime and disorder or nuisance are occurring, or whether there are activities which pose a threat to public safety or the protection of children from harm.
- If there is evidence that such problems are occurring, identify whether these problems are being caused by the customers of licensed premises, or that cumulative impact is imminent.
- Identify the boundaries of the area where problems are occurring (this can involve mapping where the problems occur and identifying specific streets or localities where such problems arise).
- Consult those specified in section 5(3) of the 2003 Act. As with consultations in respect of the licensing policy statement as a whole, it is for each licensing authority to determine the extent of the consultation it should undertake in respect of a CIA (subject to the statutory requirements).

3.6 Ahead of the public consultation, Cambridge Constabulary provided data covering the previous 3 years showing the Alcohol Related Crime and Incidents broke down by wards within Cambridge City.

3.7 With the information provided by Cambridge Constabulary giving different figures for the different wards, the consultation we carried out was specific to each area and asked for people's thoughts on the different areas as well as the Cumulative Impact Assessment as a whole.

3.8 The 12-week public consultation was between 21st August 2023 and 12th November 2023. This was undertaken by directly contacting the relevant responsible authorities and residents' associations and publishing the consultation on our website and in the Cambridge News on Monday 21st August 2023. Additionally, all those holding a premises licence or club premises certificate were directly consulted.

3.9 The issues raised in individual responses to the consultation affecting the review are detailed in Appendix C and D. 51 responses were received as a result of the consultation exercise. All comments were evaluated and no amendments were required to be made to the policy.

3.10 To summarise the 49 responses made by members of the public, from the 7 questions answered, the majority for all 7 were in favour of keeping the Cumulative Impact Assessment and the areas as they are. A more detailed summary can be found attached to this report as Appendix E.

4. Implications

a) Financial Implications

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Provision has been made in the Council's budget to review the statement of licensing policy and to publish a Cumulative Impact Assessment, the council will meet the cost of consultation.

b) Staffing Implications

There are no additional staffing implications. Budget provision has been made for the publishing of the assessment.

c) Equality and Poverty Implications

An Equality Impact Assessment (EqIA) has been completed alongside the publishing of this assessment and has been attached to the report as Appendix F.

d) Net Zero Carbon, Climate Change and Environmental Implications

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.

e) Procurement Implications

Nil

f) Community Safety Implications

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 assessment promotes that fact and states that any decision by the Licensing Authority will be with a view to promoting the licensing objectives.

5. Consultation and communication considerations

- 5.1 In accordance with Government Code of Practice on consultation, the proposed Cumulative Impact Assessment was submitted for public consultation over a 12-week period between 21st August 2023 and 12th November 2023. Legislation requires that we undertake consultation with bodies prescribed in the Act for the review.
- 5.2 Consultation was undertaken as widely as possible, with approximately 600 letters and emails being sent out, including 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 comment on Cambridge City Council website and appeared in the Cambridge News on Monday 21st August 2023.
- 5.3 All comments received are listed in the attached Appendix C, which relates to specific written comments received in response to the proposed assessment. Consideration to all comments has been given in drawing up the assessment.

6. Background papers

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 and existing Cumulative Impact Assessment

7. Appendices

Appendix A – Current Cumulative Impact Assessment

Appendix B – Current Statement of Licensing Policy

Appendix C – Proposed Cumulative Impact Assessment

Appendix D – Responses to consultation from members of the public

Appendix E – Responses to consultation from Responsible Authorities

Appendix F – Equality Impact Assessment

8. Inspection of papers

To inspect the background papers or if you have a query on the report please contact Luke Catchpole, Environmental Health and Licensing Support Team Leader, tel: 01223 - 457818, email: luke.catchpole@cambridge.gov.uk.