

## MUNICIPAL YEAR 2014/2015 - REPORT NO.

### MEETING TITLE AND DATE

Licensing Committee  
9 July 2014

### REPORT OF:

Director of Regeneration &  
Environment  
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<b>Agenda - Part:</b>	<b>Item:</b>
<b>Subject:</b> <b>Licensing Act 2003 - Enfield's Policy</b>	
<b>Wards: All</b>	
<b>Cabinet Member consulted:</b> <b>Cllr. Chris Bond</b>	

## 1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1.1 To consider amendments to the Council's Licensing Policy before it is subject to full public consultation.

## 2. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 To consider the Cabinet Member for Environment & Community Safety recommendation that the Council consults on removing Enfield Town Cumulative Impact Policy.
- 2.2 To consider the Cabinet Member for Environment & Community Safety recommendation that the Council consults on extending core hours to either midnight or 1am.

### **3. BACKGROUND**

- 3.1 On its implementation, the Licensing Act 2003 provided that the Council must determine and publish a licensing policy statement every three years.
- 3.2 Accordingly, full Council approved our Licensing Policy Statement on 17 November 2004 (1<sup>st</sup> Edition), 7 November 2007 (2<sup>nd</sup> Edition) and 26 January 2010 (3<sup>rd</sup> Edition).
- 3.3 On 1 April 2012 full Council approved a Cumulative Impact Policy. This policy was inserted into our Licensing Policy Statement without otherwise amending the extant policy (4<sup>th</sup> Edition).
- 3.4 On 25 April 2012 the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 amended the Licensing Act 2003 to instead provide that the Council must determine and publish a licensing policy statement every five years.
- 3.5 Therefore full Council must approve a 5<sup>th</sup> Edition of our Licensing Policy Statement by/in January 2015.
- 3.6 In the period since the complete policy was last approved (i.e. since January 2010) we have received no representations from our partner agencies (or local residents or businesses) against any of the provisions of the Licensing Policy Statement. We are heartened that this indicates that interested parties are generally satisfied with the Council's existing licensing policy.
- 3.7 The time-table is as follows :
- 9 July 2014 - Licensing Committee meeting (to agree draft 5<sup>th</sup> Edition for consultation)
  - 21 July 2014 – Commence public consultation
  - 17 October 2014 – Cease public consultation
  - November 2014 – Cabinet Member Briefing (to consider responses to the consultation and draft 5<sup>th</sup> Edition for Committee)
  - November 2014 - Licensing Committee meeting (to consider responses to the consultation and approve final 5<sup>th</sup> Edition policy for Council)
  - January 2015 – full Council meeting (to adopt 5<sup>th</sup> Edition policy)
- 3.8 A copy of the current 4<sup>th</sup> Edition of Licensing Policy Statement is attached as Annex A.
- 3.9 We do not propose to radically alter the policy before commencing public consultation, however, as the Olympics & Paralympics have now passed, Section 15 of the current Licensing Policy Statement (please see page 18 of Annex A) should be removed from any new edition of the policy.

#### **4. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS TO BE CONSIDERED**

- 4.1 The current Licensing Policy Statement sets out four Cumulative Impact Policy ('CIP') areas being: Edmonton; Enfield Highway; Enfield Town; & Southgate (please see Section 9 of Annex A).
- 4.2 Within these four CIP areas, applications for new licences (and for extensions of existing licences) will generally be granted up to the Core Hours. Applications for new licences (and for extensions of existing licences) for hours beyond the Core Hours will generally be refused (please see page 13 of Annex A).
- 4.3 The Core Hours (please see page 13 of Annex A) are generally:
- Pubs/Bars & Off Licences – sale of alcohol approved up to 11pm;
  - Restaurants – sale of alcohol approved up to midnight;
  - Take Aways – sale of hot food approved up to midnight;
  - Music & Dancing – approved up to 11pm; &
  - Plays, Films & Sports – approved up to midnight.
- 4.4 In the remainder of the borough (i.e. everywhere outside the four CIP areas) applications for new licences (and for extensions of existing licences) will generally be granted without reference to the Core Hours.
- 4.5 The Cabinet Member recommends that Enfield Town Cumulative Impact Policy area now be removed and that licence applications in Enfield Town no longer be subject to the Core Hours. However the Edmonton, Enfield Highway and Southgate CIP areas will remain.
- 4.6 The Cabinet Member further recommends that the Core Hours in the three remaining CIP areas be extended to either midnight or 1am.

#### **5. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 5.1 The Assistant Director of Economic Development advises that:
- 5.2 Enfield Town centre has been suffering for some years with a gradual decline in terms of an attrition rate of local business and many have closed down. At present some 16 retail shop units lie vacant in Enfield. There is a need to look at a variety of options and improvement to revitalise the town centre to make it a more vibrant and appealing place to come and shop and socialise rather than be restricted, as it currently is, to mainly a 6 day a week 8am to 6pm operation. In addition the recent residential development in Enfield Town has meant that a high number of new residents are now located right in the centre of the town and to have a less restricted licensed economy offers these new people a wider choice and encourages local economic growth.
- 5.3 It is felt that the removal or relaxation of the CIP from Enfield Town (or any other Town Centre or business district) would go a long way

and play a vital role in revitalising the night-time economy which, in turn, is key to town centre business sustainability by attracting more people to the area and keeping them in the area for a longer period of time. This could also lead to the town centre business community being more likely to invest in expanding their own individual offer or look to hosting specific events to further attract people to the town as a destination.

## **6. COMMENTS OF THE DIRECTOR OF FINANCE, RESOURCES AND CUSTOMER SERVICES AND OTHER DEPARTMENTS**

### **6.1 Financial Implications**

None

### **6.2 Legal Implications**

None

### **6.3 Property Implications**

None

## **7. KEY RISKS**

None

## **8. IMPACT ON COUNCIL PRIORITIES**

### **8.1 Fairness for All**

### **8.2 Growth and Sustainability**

### **8.3 Strong Communities**

## **9. EQUALITIES IMPACT IMPLICATIONS**

No equality impact assessment is required.

## **10. PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS**

None

## **11. PUBLIC HEALTH IMPLICATIONS**

### **Background Papers**

None