



COUNCIL MEETING - 7 DECEMBER 2017

Councillors of the London Borough of Islington are summoned to attend a meeting of the Council to be held in the Council Chamber, Town Hall, Upper Street, N1 2UD on, **7 December 2017 at 7.30 pm.**

Lesley Seary

Chief Executive

AGENDA

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1. Minutes	1 - 22
2. Declarations of Interest	
If you have a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest* in an item of business:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ if it is not yet on the council's register, you must declare both the existence and details of it at the start of the meeting or when it becomes apparent;▪ you may choose to declare a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest that is already in the register in the interests of openness and transparency.	
In both the above cases, you must leave the room without participating in discussion of the item.	
If you have a personal interest in an item of business and you intend to speak or vote on the item you must declare both the existence and details of it at the start of the meeting or when it becomes apparent but you may participate in the discussion and vote on the item.	
*(a) Employment, etc - Any employment, office, trade, profession or vocation carried on for profit or gain.	
(b) Sponsorship - Any payment or other financial benefit in respect of your expenses in carrying out duties as a member, or of your election; including from a trade union.	
(c) Contracts - Any current contract for goods, services or works, between you or your partner (or a body in which one of you has a beneficial interest) and the council.	
(d) Land - Any beneficial interest in land which is within the council's area.	
(e) Licences - Any licence to occupy land in the council's area for a month or longer.	
(f) Corporate tenancies - Any tenancy between the council and a body in which you or your partner have a beneficial interest.	

- (g) Securities** - Any beneficial interest in securities of a body which has a place of business or land in the council's area, if the total nominal value of the securities exceeds £25,000 or one hundredth of the total issued share capital of that body or of any one class of its issued share capital.

This applies to **all** members present at the meeting.

3. Mayoral Announcements
 - (i) Apologies
 - (ii) Order of business
 - (iii) Declaration of discussion items by the Majority and Opposition parties
4. Leader's Announcements
5. Petitions
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12. Notices of Motion 297 - 300

Where a motion concerns an executive function, nothing passed can be actioned until approved by the Executive or an officer with the relevant delegated power.

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Despatched : 29 November 2017

LONDON BOROUGH OF ISLINGTON

COUNCIL MEETING - 21 SEPTEMBER 2017

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

At the meeting of the Council held at Council Chamber, Town Hall, Upper Street, N1 2UD on 21 September 2017 at 7.30 pm.

Councillors present:

Andrews	Greening	Picknell
Burgess	Hamitouche	Poole
Caluori	Heather	Poyser
Champion	Hull	Russell
Chowdhury	Ismail	Shaikh
Comer-Schwartz	Jeapes	Smith
Convery	Kay	Turan
Court	Klute	Ward
Debono	Ngongo	Ward
Donovan-Hart	Nicholls	Watts
Erdogan	O'Halloran	Wayne
Fletcher	O'Sullivan	Webbe
Gallagher	Parker	Williamson
Gantly	A Clarke-Perry	
Gill	R Perry	

The Mayor (Councillor Una O'Halloran) in the Chair

153 MINUTES

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the Council meeting on 29 June 2017 be confirmed as a correct record and the Mayor be authorised to sign them.

154 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

The Mayor advised that all members of the Council had a disclosable pecuniary interest in Motion 2 'End the Public Sector Pay Pinch'. The Monitoring Officer had granted a dispensation to all members to allow them to speak and vote on the motion.

As members of the GMB Union had an additional personal interest in the motion, the Mayor asked that members of the GMB Union declare their interest before speaking on the motion.

155 MAYORAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

(i) Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Doolan, Diner, Kaseki and Spall.

(ii) Order of Business

No changes were proposed to the order of business.

(iii) Declaration of Discussion Items

None.

(iv) Mayor's Announcements

The Mayor advised that she had attended many great events over the summer months. The Mayor highlighted the Angel Canal Festival, and thanked the organisers who had worked hard to make the event a success. The Mayor was pleased that the festival would continue in future years.

The Mayor had attended the Islington in Bloom awards ceremony the previous week. The Mayor said that it was important to celebrate the work of the local community to make the borough greener, especially as there was so little green space in Islington. The Mayor also noted the recent Eid Al Adha celebration at the Town Hall, which was very well attended. The Mayor thanked the local Muslim community, who had generously donated food for the evening.

The Mayor had been pleased to host a celebration for one of the council's longest serving officers, Maureen Collins, who had retired after 50 years of caring for Islington's elderly. The Mayor thanked Maureen for her dedication to the borough.

The Mayor had also been pleased to host a Thank You Tea for staff in recognition of their hard work following the Grenfell Tower fire. The Mayor commented that staff in Housing were working hard to reassure residents and to make sure that the council's housing stock was safe. The Mayor also thanked Councillor Diarmaid Ward, the Executive Member for Housing and Development, for his hard work.

The Mayor reminded all members that the Remembrance Sunday Parade and Inter-Faith Service would be taking place on Sunday 12 November. The Mayor also announced that the Mayor's Annual Charity Dinner would be taking place on Tuesday 5 December.

(v) Length of Speeches

The Mayor asked colleagues to do their utmost to keep speeches within the permitted length.

156 LEADER'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

Councillor Watts thanked the Mayor for her work in representing the borough at many events held over the summer.

Councillor Watts advised that the housing crisis was the most pressing issue affecting the borough, and a priority of the council was to build more genuinely affordable housing.

Councillor Watts said that the housing crisis was ruining lives, and commented that residents at his most recent ward surgery had the worst set of housing cases he had ever known. Given that Islington had 10,000 residents in serious housing need, Councillor Watts was particularly concerned that the Mount Pleasant site had been sold for 565% of what the site was valued at when Royal Mail was privatised and expressed disappointed that a public asset could be undervalued so significantly, as the proceeds from a more accurate sale value could have been used to fund essential public services. Councillor Watts was also disappointed that the residents of Clerkenwell had been denied much needed new affordable housing at the site. Councillor Watts noted a study that indicated that the site could have included 75% more affordable housing and still be a viable commercial housing scheme. Councillor Watts said that the former Mayor of London, Boris Johnson, had denied hundreds of people a home by only agreeing to a minimal amount of affordable housing on the site.

Councillor Watts said that difficult conversations were needed about where to site genuinely affordable council housing, but was clear that developing more council housing was a priority. Councillor Watts said that the council would work to solve the housing crisis by tackling rogue private landlords, making sure people with disabilities and learning difficulties had access to secure sheltered housing, and building more council housing.

Councillor Watts was proud that in 2017/18 the council would deliver more new council homes than in any year over the previous 30 years. Councillor Watts emphasised that the current Labour administration was elected on a manifesto which prioritised delivering council housing and that is what the council would focus on.

Councillor Watts also spoke of the issues affecting EU citizens. Councillor Watts said that the government was playing politics with the lives of the 30,000 EU citizens residing in the borough. Councillor Watts thanked Councillor Comer-Schwartz for her work in supporting EU citizens, helping them to access legal advice and support. Councillor Watts said it was not good enough for the government negotiate with Brussels on the lives of our European neighbours and friends. Councillor Watts called on the government to act now to guarantee the rights of EU citizens after Brexit and said that the council would continue to campaign on this issue over the coming months and years.

Councillor Watts said that although he was a supporter of freedom of movement and cultural exchange, he recognised that 20,000 FC Köln fans arriving in the borough for the club's Europa League fixture with Arsenal was problematic. Councillor Watts thanked council staff for quickly cleaning up Highbury Fields and other areas. Councillor Watts said that the vast majority of FC Köln fans were not violent, however there were some instances of anti-social behaviour which were not acceptable. Councillor Watts was very grateful to Arsenal FC for agreeing to meet the council's additional costs associated with the clean-up.

Councillor Watts commented on the recent allegations of historic abuse of children in the care of Islington Council. Councillor Watts said that the abuse of children in the council's care was the biggest single failing in the council's history. Councillor Watts would re-iterate the council's apology to the victims of the abuse at the next meeting of the Executive. There was no doubt that the abuse was real and that the victims of the abuse were still suffering as a result. Councillor Watts said that the Executive would also agree a partial re-opening of the White Report review in light of the allegations made in the Islington Gazette about a former Mayor of Islington. Councillor Watts said that it was important to the victims of abuse that justice is done and is seen to be done.

157 PETITIONS

Councillor Greening presented a petition on behalf of residents of the Harvist Estate objecting to the new housing development.

Alastair Hazell presented a petition objecting to the use of barbeques on Highbury Fields.

158 QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

Question a) from Margaret Wolfe to Councillor Burgess, Executive Member for Health and Social Care:

Please inform us if you are aware that, as a consequence of this Council's decision to close Sotheby Mews Day Centre, a charge of indirect age discrimination and indirect disability discrimination could be brought against the Council because you have requested Highbury Roundhouse to accommodate the users of Sotheby Mews Day Centre at the new multi-purpose Highbury Roundhouse Community Centre on Ronalds Road; a location which for the majority of our users is impossible to access because the consequences of their age or disability. This is not the case for the majority of other users of the new Highbury Roundhouse Centre.

Reply:

Thank you for your question. In 2011, Age UK decided that they were going to pull out of providing services at the Sotheby Mews Day Centre. The Highbury Roundhouse Association agreed to provide services for older people at Sotheby Mews, but this was always going to be an interim arrangement.

The arrangement for HRA to run these services while the site at Ronald's Road was being built was a temporary solution for service users at both Sotheby Mews and Ronald's Road; indeed, approximately 15 clients of the old Highbury Roundhouse Centre made the move to Sotheby Mews. HRA were provided with funding under the proviso that this funding would move with the provider from the Sotheby Mews site to Highbury Roundhouse's new site at Ronald's Road when that was ready.

We have all been working very hard to ensure that services are relocated to Ronald's Road. The lunch club will continue, it will be as it is now, but it will be able to expand because the space at Ronald's Road is bigger. I can refute a rumour that there will be no kitchen at Ronald's Road, there will be.

We are working to resolve the issue of transport although I understand we haven't quite cracked that one yet. I will finish by endorsing the words of Councillor Watts about housing. Earlier this week I had the case of a family of six, two adults and four children, sharing a flat with one double and one single room. We cannot allow this kind of housing to continue, and I support this council's priority for housing. Councillor Ward will be saying more on this later.

However, I can assure you all that one of my major priorities is to ensure that your services continue, because they are wonderful services. I promise I will do all I can to make sure they continue.

Supplementary question:

I would like to give a short example of indirect disability discrimination. Sotheby Mews Day Centre has a very popular art room. At Sotheby Mews this is on the ground floor. At the new

centre it will be on the first floor. The majority of Sotheby Mews users cannot use of the stairs; they will have to use the lift. The majority of the general public, however, will be able to use the stairs. This difference between these two groups raises a serious question. In case of a fire, how would mobility impaired users evacuate from the first floor room?

Reply:

Thank you Margaret. I do not believe that moving services from one location to another is age discrimination or disability discrimination. With regard to the art room, this will be fully safety compliant, and I am sure that all of the points you raised will be covered. The building will be built well, and will not present a risk to people with disabilities.

Question b) from Jackie Noone to Councillor Ward, Executive Member for Housing and Development:

We have been told by Janet Burgess, that no plans have been made for the Sotheby Mews site, despite an Islington media centre release to the contrary.

Why have no innovative options been considered to support both social housing and continued use of the community centre? For example, the front car park could be used for housing and also keep the centre in use.

Reply:

Thank you very much for your question. The first thing to say is that this council administration is dedicated to delivering more genuinely affordable housing; it is the right thing to do. But, we do appreciate that this change will affect the users of Sotheby Mews. I can assure you, and the other users, that the services are moving to a brand new centre at Highbury Roundhouse. We are working very hard to make that happen, and we are meeting with Highbury Roundhouse next week.

Although there is the intention to look at the development of social housing on the site once the centre is closed, there is no viable proposal at the moment. We will of course consult residents prior to any planning application. Unfortunately, providing the maximum number of genuinely affordable homes and continuing to provide services at the site is not possible. We are in a housing crisis and we must deliver as much genuinely affordable housing as possible. But, if we can achieve this, whilst also delivering a brand new Highbury Roundhouse with existing services continuing, then that is a good outcome, and we are working very hard to make that happen.

Supplementary question:

Thank you for your response. The users of Sotheby Mews Community Centre do not object to social housing. We commend the council for looking at this issue. But, will you investigate solutions that will enable the Sotheby Mews lifeline community centre to remain open, and if so, if housing can co-exist on the Sotheby Mews site?

Reply:

Madam, I believe that there is a solution that will benefit everybody. We can build genuinely affordable social housing on the Sotheby Mews site, and the services that exist there can move to a brand new centre, and I will work with you to help make that happen.

Question c) from John Dear to Councillor Ward, Executive Member for Housing and Development:

Can the Councillors explain why the actual users of Sotheby Mews Day Centre were not consulted about its closure and why no mention of closure of Sotheby Mews had been in evidence until Feb this year when the "New" Highbury Roundhouse received further funding from Islington Council; particularly as residents and associations close to the New Highbury Roundhouse have been engaged since 2011. Was this a quick budgetary "kneejerk", a glaring mistake or lack of respect to the elderly users?

Reply:

Thank you very much for your question. As Councillor Burgess has already said, when the council commissioned the Highbury Roundhouse Association to provide services to older people from the Sotheby Mews site, this was on the proviso that it was an interim arrangement, and the services would move with Highbury Roundhouse Association, back to the new site.

We are sorry that this hasn't been as well communicated as it should have been. It was hoped that the Highbury Roundhouse Association would engage with service users and communicate this change, and also explain the opportunities here, the exciting and energetic new opportunities presented by a brand new site. We do believe in our priority to deliver more genuinely affordable housing, especially given the housing crisis that we face. As Councillor Watts pointed out earlier on, there are 10,000 people in dire need. However, we can achieve that, whilst also ensuring that the services from Sotheby Mews move to a brand new centre.

Supplementary question:

Thanks for your response. The users are appalled that they haven't been consulted about these changes, and they should have been. Will you commit to come and visit Sotheby Mews and actually learn what we value about the site?

Reply:

Absolutely, sir. I have already been to Sotheby Mews and I would visit again.

Question d) from Hannah Staab to Councillor Greening, Chair of the Policy and Performance Scrutiny Committee and the Pensions Sub-Committee:

I am a member of the group Fossil Free Islington. We're part of a wider campaign calling on public and private institutions to freeze new investments in fossil fuels, and divest from direct ownership or co-mingled funds which include fossil fuels within 5 years. This is vital to protect the pension fund from the carbon bubble and to send a strong public statement that the world is rapidly moving away from fossil fuels and towards a greener economy.

We appreciate that Islington pensions sub-committee has made some steps towards reducing the carbon footprint of the pension fund, in particular moving passive equities investments into low carbon funds. Please can you provide an update on the current status of this decarbonisation process - has this money been moved? What are your plans to further reduce the pension fund's exposure to climate risk and what concrete targets do you have for the coming year?

Reply:

Thank you for your question. The Pensions Fund has made a commitment to reduce its exposure to carbon intensive companies and assets and decided to change both the UK equity index benchmark for the Fund's internally managed passive equities and also the

global equity index benchmark for externally-managed passive assets, to low carbon variants of the standard index. As a result of these changes, the Fund has a very much lower carbon footprint than a 'normal' equity portfolio, and therefore a low carbon footprint at the Total Fund level.

These changes have enabled us reduce the carbon footprint on equities by 45%. However, we are now looking at the other assets the fund holds, for example property, in order to similarly investigate how the carbon footprint can be further reduced.

Supplementary question:

Thank you. Other London boroughs including Waltham Forest and Southwark have fully divested from fossil fuels. Are you willing to meet with your counterpart at Southwark Council by the end of this year to discuss how they are putting their policy into practice?

Reply:

I am certainly happy to meet with colleagues in Southwark and Waltham Forest. The issue I think where we differ from the divestment campaign is that we think there is some value in engaging with oil companies, for example, in order to get them to change their behaviour. We are also reducing our financial risk by moving away from those companies, and I think we are having the effect that the campaign wants to see, but I am not personally convinced, and the Sub-Committee is not convinced, that simply exiting the deal and allowing supporters, for example, of President Trump to be the owners of these organisations will actually result in a positive difference. But the example of Southwark that you cited is certainly of interest to us, and I would be happy to meet them.

Question e) from Roderik Gonggrijp to Councillor Webbe, Executive Member for Environment and Transport:

How many metres of protected cycle lanes has Islington Council installed since May 2014?

Reply:

Thank you for this question, it is very important. Islington is a pro-cycling borough. We have done a great deal in recent years to improve cycle safety; we are the first borough to implement the 20 miles an hour limit; we have campaigned for the removal of some very dangerous gyratories at Archway, Old Street, Highbury Corner, Kings Cross and Nags Head; and we have recently completed works to open up Archway to the public, to make it much safer for pedestrians and much safer for cyclists. We want more people to cycle, and we won't rest until every road is safe. We stand with those working hard for change.

We are working with Transport for London, who hold the funds for cycling in London. We are actively working for safer cycle routes, we want people to cycle away from dangerous roads, away from the main dangerous roads, and cycle on quieter roads. We are working hard to improve those around accident hotspots and sensitive junctions. In terms of actually how much segregated protected cycle lane we have installed since May 2014, we have installed five kilometres of cycle quiet-way, including 170 metres of widened segregated cycle lanes, and 20 metres of fully segregated lanes. We have also made Owen Street, a private road by Goswell Road, legally open to be used by cyclists and pedestrians.

We've also got further measures in the pipeline, including three new footway extensions to allow us to move the give way line at junctions and improve the position of waiting motor vehicles, and we also have many more cycle routes in the pipeline, including around Old Street and Clerkenwell, where we want to make those areas fully safe as well. We are

working hard with our neighbours, working hard with Transport for London, working hard with the Mayor of London to attract the necessary resources, and to really realise our ambitions we are working with Cycle Islington as well.

Supplementary question:

Thank you Madam Mayor. In light of the tragic death of Ardian Zagani three weeks ago, who was cycling to work as a school caretaker, will you now contact TFL and ask them to progress plans for segregated cycle lanes around Nags Head gyratory?

Reply:

As I indicated, we are working hard on those gyratory removals, we do believe they are dangerous to cyclists. Because of the fact that we have been campaigning hard, we have got five gyratories on TFL's agenda. We have been able to deliver one of those in Archway. We've got approval to go ahead with Highbury Corner and Old Street. We are working hard to get the consultation happening at Kings Cross, and we are working just as hard in relation to Nags Head. Admittedly, we haven't yet got to the point of consultation, but the reality is we are working hard with TFL, we haven't taken it off the table.

Our hearts go out to the family of the cyclist who lost his life. It shouldn't have happened, we are working very hard to make the necessary changes so that cyclists and pedestrians can operate freely in boroughs like ours and across London, and get from A to B without a fatality, without any dangers. It is vitally important that cyclists and pedestrians and everyone is able to move around this city safely and without fear of accident, injury, or fatality. This is our vision, that is our goal. We will not rest, we will stand with you as cycle activists, and with people who want to cycle, because we know there are more people in London who want to cycle. Thank you.

Question f) from Michael Kuhn to Councillor Watts, Leader of the Council:

Please tell us when faced with swingeing cuts in funding, whether the Council gives equal priority to housing the homeless and maintaining Islington's open spaces?

Reply:

Thank you Mr Kuhn. Firstly, let me agree with your analysis about swingeing cuts. The council has seen a 70% cut to its budget from the government, the biggest cut ever in its history, approaching something like the cash spending power of £200 million a year in cuts over the course of this decade. However, as I said at the beginning of the meeting, the Council was elected in 2014 on a manifesto that clearly prioritised housing, jobs, and helping our residents with the cost of living. We also maintained how vital it was to protect good quality services on the kind of tight budgets we are seeing after the government cuts, and also the importance of protecting our residents' quality of life.

Although we have universal public spaces for all of our residents to enjoy, in such a densely populated borough only one in six or seven of our residents are fortunate enough to have their own garden, and therefore for the vast majority of Islington residents the parks are effectively their garden, and we should value them as a publicly owned democratic spaces for residents of our borough to enjoy.

Supplementary question:

Why does the council spend scarce funds on failing to abate the nuisance on Highbury Fields? We estimate that the council has spent £60,000 so far, and will now have to spend a good deal more on legal action brought by the Highbury Fields campaign.

Reply:

As you are threatening legal action I am not going to address the issue about public nuisance in order to protect the council's position, however, I did ask the Environment and Regeneration department today what the marginal cost of clearing up after barbeques this year was. The costs were met this year by staff who were already scheduled to be clearing up litter, and therefore the net cost to the public purse this year was zero, and there was no trade-off between barbeques and the housing crisis.

Question g) from Joanna Greatwich to Councillor Watts, Leader of the Council:

Are you, the members of our elected council - charged to protect all the inhabitants of the London Borough of Islington from:

- a) unnecessary harm,
- b) preventable- or potentially preventable ill health resulting from unnecessary and controllable actions of its inhabitants or visitors, and
- c) any unnecessary hazards and nuisances that it has the authority to prevent?

Yes or no?

Reply:

Thank you for your question. The council has various statutory duties to protect residents, particularly in relation to child protection, children with disabilities, protecting vulnerable adults, and duties of care under housing legislation.

We also have a wide range of ways to enforce these protections where the health and safety of residents or visitors is put at risk by the action of others, for example food safety, anti-social behaviour and statutory nuisances.

Supplementary question:

Thank you. Perhaps some explanation may help you in relation to my question. From your own scientific reports, current research suggests there is no safe level of exposure to PM2.5, which is emitted from barbeques. This particle is likely to cause the most serious health effects. Speaking as someone who has lived around Highbury Fields for 19 years as a council tenant, why are barbeques an exception to protecting the residents of Islington from the potential causes of ill health, what scientific evidence have you used to ensure that this is a completely safe exception in terms of the long term health of residents, and if there is such evidence, could it be put on the website please?

Reply:

Thank you very much. I need to be quite careful on this as Mr Kuhn has just threatened legal action and I can't do anything to prejudice the council's position. It is always regrettable when people threaten legal action as it curtails public debate on important issues like this. I'm afraid all I can say in response to your question, and I accept that this may get a further hearing

elsewhere, is that there is a test for statutory nuisance as the council is very clear on its position that barbeques on Highbury Fields do not meet it.

159 QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL

Question a) from Councillor Court to Councillor Shaikh, Executive Member for Economic Development:

What is the council policy around Islington's Heritage Plaques, and does the executive member share my concerns over multiple voting distorting the awarding of Heritage Plaques?

Reply:

Thank you for your question. As Councillor Court knows, Islington People's Plaques is an important scheme that allows our residents to recognise and celebrate our heritage. We do this through an open and democratic process. IPP votes come from two sources – online voting and printed voting cards in council buildings including all Islington libraries and the Municipal Offices at 222 Upper Street.

However, we are aware that there is potential for voting irregularities, especially with online voting. When the scheme originally went live in 2010 the system was set up to only allow one vote from any device, using the IP address as the limiter. But we did see a large number of complaints from public bodies, such as schools and libraries, because it stopped people who didn't have their own device from voting. The system also asked for a post code, but this breached data protection so it was removed.

Since 2011, the IPP public vote system has been that the IP address is no longer the limiter and people can vote more than once on a single device. This allows families and devices in public institutions and communal areas to be used more than once. But, to control any irregular multiple voting, at the end of the voting period the votes are analysed. So any block voting, or over use of particular IP addresses, is picked up and removed from the final numbers. This means that all multiple voting is scrutinised and any possible issues are picked up and corrected. I hope this provides some reassurance to Councillor Court that the Islington People's Plaques do indeed reflect local views.

Supplementary question:

I would like to thank Councillor Shaikh for her answer. I think many councillors know the history of the performing arts and theatres this wonderful borough has. Still currently, we have the Almedia, Sadler's Wells, Park Theatre, our cherished Chickenshed, The Kings Head, The Old Red Lion. We have champions even within this chamber, our Arts Champion is Councillor Khan.

What people may not know, is that Islington's first theatre was indeed in Clerkenwell. The Red Bull was just by St John's Street. It was set up in 1605 as a rival to Shakespeare's Globe. This theatre deserves recognition, one of my constituents is even willing to put their own money into this, but unfortunately I am told this is not allowed. I myself would be willing to allocate my Local Initiatives Fund money, and I hope Councillor Shaikh and the rest of the Council can support the recognition of this great theatre.

The Mayor indicated that Councillor Shaikh may wish to take up this matter with Councillor Court outside of the meeting.

Question b) from Councillor Poole to Councillor Watts, Leader of the Council:

With the centenary of the end of WW1 fast approaching what progress has the Council made on securing the memorial arch at the site of former Royal Northern Hospital, and facilitating public access?

Reply:

Thank you for your question. I was lucky enough a few years ago to actually go inside the arch before it was closed up. It is a fantastic tribute to the 1,307 Islingtonians who made the ultimate sacrifice in the First World War. It is vital for our collective memory, and to pay due respect to those who gave their lives, that such memorials are kept in the best possible condition.

The memorial is located on a private housing estate at what once was the entrance to the old A&E department of the Royal Northern Hospital, and I am aware that many complaints have been raised about its state and its upkeep. Frankly, I think the standard it is in is a disgrace, and the owners – Bellway Homes – who are responsible for its upkeep should be ashamed of themselves. They have a legal duty, and frankly a moral duty, to maintain the memorial to a high standard.

The council wrote to Bellway Homes last year and they are now working with the council's Heritage Service to conserve and restore the war memorial.

However, I am currently writing again to the Chair of Bellway Homes to express my disappointment at the lack of progress and ask them to invest what is for them a small amount of money, so that the Memorial is fully restored before the centenary of the end of World War One next year.

I want to give you my assurance that we will continue to chase this as it is a serious matter, and would suggest that if we do not receive satisfaction from this angle, then I would be very happy to join Cllr Poole and the Islington Veterans Association in person to take the issue directly to Bellway Homes' office.

Supplementary question:

Thank you Councillor Watts. I would like to put on record my thanks to you. This is not the first time I have raised this issue of war memorials in this chamber, and you gave personal considerable energy and commitment to restoring the Islington Green memorial. Thank you for your response, and I will certainly wish to be involved in any meeting with Bellway Homes. The question I wish to ask is, presumably when the hospital site was given over to the developers, Section 106 money would have been forthcoming. Was Section 106 money in place to enshrine this memorial, and if so, have the developers followed through on that commitment?

Reply:

Thank you. The development on that site is at least 20 years old and I don't know the precise legal position on what commitment has been made, however, my clear understanding is that Bellway Homes have a legal and moral duty to maintain that memorial. I am not sure if this is through a Section 106 agreement or some other agreement, but they do have a duty.

Question c) from Councillor Poole to Councillor Webbe, Executive Member for Environment and Transport:

Will the Council offer free parking for members of the Armed Forces who are home on leave or visiting relatives in Islington?

Reply:

Thank you for your question. The Council is supportive and appreciative of the sacrifices the members of the Armed Forces make. Your question is a good example of how the council could support members of the Armed Forces. But I think there is an issue about setting a precedent, and I think based on the evidence available, there is not sufficient demand to justify a specific Armed Forces permit. I am very happy to have a conversation with you to look in more detail if there is in fact further evidence that the council has not yet considered. As you know, residents can already purchase unlimited amounts of visitor parking vouchers, and council officers are able to use their considerable discretion and grant waivers on a case by case basis. I think it is probably better, given the fact that every Armed Forces member will have individual needs, to look at this on a case by case basis. I would personally advocate speaking to the parking team, so they are mindful of these exceptions and expectations.

Supplementary question:

Thank you. This is a real issue that came to me as Armed Forces Champion from a resident of Islington, whose daughter was giving birth and her partner was home on leave from service, and who had considerable difficulty getting to the property where his child was about to enter the world. Members of the Armed Forces, by nature of their work, are not necessarily routed in any one area, they are sent all around the world at short notice, but still face bureaucracy on their return to the United Kingdom. What I would hope that we could do as a council, is at least make our parking regulations explicit, to contain a principle that members of the Armed Forces returning to visit relatives in the borough, where there is a genuine local connection, are offered free parking.

Reply:

I think you make an excellent point. But I think that the issue you highlighted is an example of where we were able to use discretion. I know the case well, if I recall, the returning Armed Forces member had a permit for another zone, but that wasn't enough for his needs. But we used our discretion, which enabled him to visit his partner. I think we should make decisions on this case by case basis.

One concession we do offer for Armed Forces members is free parking at the time of the Poppy Appeal for those carrying out Poppy Appeal duties. I would be happy to have a conversation with you on what more we could do to supported Armed Forces members in Islington.

Question d) from Councillor Wayne to Councillor Webbe, Executive Member for Environment and Transport:

The stretch of Essex Road between Essex Road Station and the Balls Pond Road is a busy main road that divides Canonbury Ward in half. There is no dedicated safe cycle crossing point on this stretch of Essex Road. Will the Executive member for Transport confirm that a dedicated safe cycle crossing point along Essex Road is something that she supports, and that she will seek external funding from TFL for this crossing?

Reply:

Thank you for your question. What you propose is something we ought to welcome in terms of ensuring that people cycle safely. I am very pleased to be able to confirm that I support that request wholeheartedly. I would be keen to see necessary research for us to know exactly what is required, and then the necessary detail for us to transform that crossing. The council is already working in partnership with TFL on a programme of cycle improvements, we are also working with our neighbours in Hackney to make cycle improvements around our border. The council will seek the necessary funding to take this forward, and I would be happy to work with you to make sure we improve cycling in the borough.

Supplementary question:

I am very grateful for the support of Councillor Webbe, and I am very grateful for the work of Councillor Webbe in promoting cycling in the borough. The best way to ensure that the maximum number of our residents cycle is to ensure that there is safe storage for cyclists. In Canonbury we have secured funding to install a bike hangar along the New River Green Estate which is free of charge for our most deprived residents. Will you seek funding from the Mayor's Office and from TFL to ensure there is affordable, secure cycle storage for our most deprived residents?

Reply:

Thank you Councillor Wayne. Safe and secure cycle storage does encourage more people to cycle. I have previously stated my commitment to installing many more cycle stores on our highways, using car spaces where necessary. In terms of our estates, we have started a programme of providing secure cycle storage and I want that to continue. I want our Environment and Regeneration department to work with Housing to make sure that we increase the amount of safe cycle storage on our estates.

I was pleased to see the cycle storage on the New River Green Estate, I want more of that, and I am also pleased with the tremendous response that we received to the pilot of cycle storage in the St George's and Tollington wards, because without advertising that generated 600 requests for cycle storage. I hope we will not wait too long for funding from TFL, but in any case, I want us to make sure we install cycle storage sooner rather than later.

Question e) from Councillor Ismail to Councillor Watts, Leader of the Council:

In terms of BAME officers working in the Council in the last year there have been some positive increases, but we have long way to go yet. The breakdown of internal promotions by ethnicity for the year 1st June 2016 to 30th May 2017, shows that of those members of staff being promoted 52.36% were White, 42.93% BAME, 3.66% in the 'any other' category, with 1.05% failing to declare.

Can you share with Full Council how long those people who have been promoted have been in post for before their promotion; whether they have been promoted to senior staff or corporate management team positions; and what the breakdown of those people being appointed to such positions is by ethnicity and gender.

Reply:

Thank you for your question. You will forgive me for not going into the individual detail of everyone who has been promoted, but Cllr Hull and I are happy to meet you to discuss this in more detail. What I do want to say, is that the council has made progress on recruiting BAME staff, although we do have more work to do. Of the seven staff recently recruited to senior

management positions, six were women, and two were BAME. Tracking this data is more difficult, because of data protection laws give the council a deadline for deleting this information, and also because the council has an anonymised recruitment policy. It is only when someone is offered an interview that their name, gender and other details are revealed. This is to ensure that all candidates get a fair chance of being interviewed, regardless of what their background is.

We are currently exploring what we can do to get more equalities data out of our HR system, and we are also looking at what we can do to give staff from BAME backgrounds a helping hand on the career ladder, as we know it is important that our senior staff, as well as our junior staff, genuinely reflect the borough.

Supplementary question:

Thank you. I would be glad to meet you and Cllr Hull. I am sad to be asking again a question about equalities in this chamber; it is depressing for young people in the borough, especially as part of our work on the Fairness Commission was to consider the views of young BAME people. My question is, have you made any plans to replace the former Assistant Chief Executive (Strategy and Community Partnerships)?

Reply:

I understand your point of view, and in one sense you are completely right, there are inequalities in our borough. Information from the Office of National Statistics tells us that people of the Muslim faith are less likely to get a well-paying job nationwide. I know there are issues.

You will recall that there was a senior level restructure in the council, a number of people left and a number of people were recruited into new posts. At that time two senior BAME staff members left, and two senior BAME staff members were recruited. The people who were recruited were both at more senior grades than the people who left, so there was actually a net improvement in the position as a result. In terms of the replacement of individuals, we have previously discussed in detail that the restructure did delete certain posts, but did create other similar jobs elsewhere in the council.

Question f) from Councillor Ismail to Councillor Hull, Executive Member for Finance, Performance and Community Safety:

How does the Council promote and prepare training for BAME staff with potential to take on leadership and corporate management positions, and what plans for the current financial year does the council have to promote BAME staff and staff identifying in the 'any other' ethnicity category?

Reply:

Thank you Councillor Ismail. Before I talk about how we support existing BAME staff, I would like to mention how we recruit our staff in the first place. Recruitment is anonymised before the interview stage, as Councillor Watts mentioned, and has been since 2013, with levels of anonymity increased since 2015. In exceptional cases we do target certain media, such as The Voice, by way of positive action, and in a forthcoming advertisement for Shared Digital we will focus on women, with three senior women featured with quotations in the advert itself.

But, in terms of progression, we have the Inspiring Leadership Programme. The council introduced the Inspiring Leadership development programme in 2014. The programme aims to help high potential employees from under-represented groups to develop the skills and

confidence to move to a more senior level. The programme is promoted through information sessions; written communications including publicity on Izzi, in IC Bulletin and the Manager's Update and posters; and at senior management team meetings as well.

A second cohort of 8 members of staff commenced the programme in 2016 and will run throughout the current financial year. This intake was open to disabled employees in addition to employees from ethnic groups under-represented in senior management positions. The programme is designed to develop participant's leadership capability and promote their readiness for progression.

The programme assists participants to develop core skills including self-awareness, knowledge and self-confidence to better position them to progress. A range of development opportunities are also available to all employees, including courses to move into management roles and to support career development. Data indicates BAME employees access slightly higher levels of training in comparison to the overall workforce profile. We also have active Staff Forums. Members of the Corporate Workforce Development Team attend staff forums, including the BAME Forum, to promote awareness and encourage participation in development activities.

In the end, appointment to jobs within the council must be secured through the normal recruitment process and will be based on merit, as is required by the law. Currently, about a fifth of the council's top 5% of earners are BAME.

Question g) from Councillor Russell to Councillor Burgess, Executive Member for Health and Social Care:

Councillor Hull was quoted in Government Business on 3rd November 2015 saying "no-one should have to do a hard day's work – whether for the council, a local business, football club, or charity – for less than they can live on. Every employer in Islington should do the right thing, pay the Living Wage and stop using zero hours contracts"

The Islington Tribune on the 1st of September reported that GLL staff working at the Sobell Centre on zero hours contracts would lose pay for two weeks during the construction of a wall dividing the sports hall. Is it fair that people working as sports coaches in Islington Council sports facilities have so little job security?

Reply:

Thank you for your question, I am delighted to have this opportunity to set the record straight. During the week of the sports hall closure, a small number of affected casual staff were offered alternative hours at the Sobell in the ice rink, the holiday programme, the studios, outdoor pitches and soft play. This was in addition to hours offered at other centres.

GLL's staff who were advised of these arrangements in person and with more than two weeks' notice. 20 staff were affected and 14 worked on other activities. The majority were fully understanding of the temporary situation, and staff were also offered extra hours beforehand to make up for any lost hours.

We are confident that the long-term benefits to the borough of the new trampoline park will significantly outweigh the short-term disruption. The new trampoline park will create seven new permanent jobs, including two apprenticeship roles and around 15 - 20 casual posts. Additionally, the junior programme has grown significantly, offering more hours than ever before.

In 2016, 59% of the workforce in Islington was made up of local people from within the borough. This will increase as the services increase at Sobell. This year GLL has employed more staff in Islington than ever before. They have also tried to turn casual roles into full time permanent positions, giving local people more opportunities to choose the career pathways most suited to them.

Casual contracts are a key component of how the Leisure industry delivers its services. Staff on casual contracts do not have to work exclusively for GLL, nor do they have to accept the hours offered. For many people – carers, parents, students - casual contracts offer a flexible employment option, they don't have to accept work if it does not suit them, and they are not penalised if they do not want that particular shift. Also, of course, all staff are paid the London Living Wage. Not only that, but casual staff are paid for four weeks' holiday – this is done by paying extra, above the London Living Wage, to cover the relevant cost.

Supplementary question:

I'm just amazed that in Islington Council we have workers in our sports centres who are described as 'casual workers'. We know the precarious situation that so many workers are in. Will you ensure that sports coaches employed by GLL are not employed on zero hours' contracts?

Reply:

I'm absolutely delighted to say that this is not the situation. Zero hours' contacts are when you have to work for only one particular company, you have to turn up and hope there's work there, otherwise you don't get paid. These are not zero hours' contracts. In addition, Unison recognise workers like this, and have a special category for them.

As the 30 minutes allocated for questions from members of the Council had elapsed, the Mayor advised that the remaining question would be responded to in writing. The following response was issued subsequent to the meeting:

Question h) Councillor Russell to Councillor Watts, Leader of the Council:

At the last Full Council meeting we passed a motion on Fire Safety, resolving to:

- To make public all existing fire safety risk assessments of high rise towers in Islington;
- To reassure residents in Islington about fire safety and work with local residents to hear and address any concerns;
- To assist London level efforts to support the victims of the Grenfell Tower.

What progress has been made since 29th June on each of these three commitments?

Written reply:

The Council agreed to make public all existing fire risk assessments (FRAs) of high rise towers in Islington. I am pleased to confirm that the FRAs for Islington's 49 blocks that are 10 storeys or over have now been published on the Council website, which can be viewed at <https://www.islington.gov.uk/about-the-council/emergency-planning-and-business-continuity/fire-safety-in-islington/fire-risk-assessments>

Uploading the FRAs for all 126 blocks of 6 storeys or over will take slightly longer and these are expected to be available on the Council website by the end of December this year. While this is later than I would prefer, the scale of the task in processing and redacting information where necessary is considerable. The FRAs involve entering residents' homes, taking

photographs and recording personal information, which legally cannot be shared with the public as it would be a breach of the Data Protection Act. The Council's priority is to be transparent and make its residents feel safe, so rushing to upload information that may be incomplete or inaccurate would be neither sensible nor responsible. However, I have been advised by officers that the Council's progress in publishing its FRAs is ahead of many other landlords, both local authorities and those in the private sector.

Since the tragic Grenfell Tower fire, both in the immediate aftermath and beyond, the Council has been working hard to reassure Islington residents about fire safety and listening to and addressing their concerns. In the case of Braithwaite House, where ACM type cladding was found on the sides of the building on Wednesday 22 June, a letter was immediately sent to residents and 24-hour fire patrols were installed and are still in place. A digital information board was installed on the estate to provide live information on the progress of the works and fire safety advice. Cllr Diarmaid Ward, Executive Member for Housing and Development, and I attended two resident meetings on Friday 23 and Tuesday 27 June to reassure residents and answer their questions, as well as take away concerns that required follow-up. Work to remove the cladding on Braithwaite House began on Monday 26 June and has now been completed. Cllr Ward and local Bunhill ward councillor Cllr Troy Gallagher revisited Braithwaite House on Sunday 2 July to knock on every door and ensure that all residents were informed.

Two other council properties, the Harvist Estate and Brunswick Estate, were tested for ACM type cladding but were found to be non-flammable. Residents were kept informed both of the fact that testing was being conducted and the results of the tests.

Letters have also been sent to all tenants, resident leaseholders and tenants of leaseholders to inform them of their safe plan of action in the event of a fire, provide safety advice and instruct how to report fire safety concerns to the Council. This week, letters were sent to non-resident leaseholders to remind them of their responsibilities as landlords.

Regarding private properties, ACM type cladding has been found at the Guinness Trust Buildings at Hungerford Road and Percival Street. The Trust has installed 24-hour safety patrols at both sites and we are continuing to liaise with them about these buildings. I am disappointed that student providers have not been more forthcoming in providing information about their buildings and we will continue to pressure them to share this with us. We are also in the process of identifying privately-owned high rise residential accommodation to check that fire safety measures have been reviewed and cladding tested following the Grenfell Tower fire.

The Council has set up a dedicated fire safety email address, Firesafety@islington.gov.uk, so residents can easily report concerns or ask questions. Regular social media activity, primarily through the @IslingtonBC Twitter account, directs followers to our fire safety pages, which can be viewed at: <https://www.islington.gov.uk/housing/repairs-and-estate-management/home-safety/fire-safety>

An FAQ document, which aims to provide as much information and reassurance as possible to residents, is also available on our website at:

<http://www.islington.gov.uk/~media/sharepoint-lists/public-records/housing/information/adviceandinformation/20172018/20170706firesafetyfags.pdf>

We recognise that our fire safety information must be accessible to all our residents. To this end, the Council is providing tailored information to deaf residents. This includes a signed meeting with Cllr Ward and officers at the Town Hall on Thursday 5th October and a fire safety update produced as part of the Summer Signpost British Language magazine, which can be accessed at <https://www.islington.gov.uk/accessibility/bsl>

Since the tragic Grenfell Tower fire, Cllr Ward has spoken at 12 fire safety meetings and is keen to continue meeting with other residents who have concerns. I am also very grateful to the Council's emergency planning team and officers (LALO), who have been a constant presence, visiting Islington properties and neighbouring boroughs, including at weekends, to support fire safety efforts.

I am heartened by the extensive levels of support the Council has given to the victims of the Grenfell Tower fire. A number of our staff were relocated to Kensington and Chelsea following the fire and many are still there providing much-needed support. Our Service Director for Housing Needs and Strategy, Maxine Holdsworth, has been working with the Grenfell Response Team since July and will be until the end of September. Two workers from our Adult Social Care team have been stationed in Kensington and Chelsea since the week after the fire to provide practical and emotional support. Adult Social Care and Children's Services also staffed the family and friends support centre at Kensington and Chelsea for a week and the Emergency Planning team helped to run the emergency centre in the days after the fire.

The Council has also been playing its part to ensure that victims are rehoused as soon as possible. At the end of July, a family who had lost their home in the fire moved into a decorated and furnished flat in Islington, provided by the Council's housing stock. Wherever possible, we of course wish to see victims rehoused in their own home borough. Three officers from housing needs attended Kensington and Chelsea for two weeks following the incident to give assistance and housing advice. Housing Operations staff have been working with Kensington and Chelsea to conduct viewings at properties and work with families, and a specific request was made for one of our staff members to return there for a month, as the victims specifically asked for him.

The safety and security of our residents is an absolute priority and we will continue to do all we can to reassure residents, be transparent and take action wherever necessary in our community. I hope my response addresses your concerns. Please do not hesitate to contact me if I can provide further information.

160 RESOLUTION TO EXTEND 6 MONTH RULE - SECTION 85 LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972

Councillor Gill moved the recommendations. Councillor Picknell seconded. The Mayor passed on her best wishes to Councillor Doolan.

The recommendations were put to the vote and **CARRIED**.

RESOLVED:

That in accordance with Section 85 of the Local Government Act 1972, Councillor Gary Doolan's non-attendance at meetings be approved until the end of the municipal year on the grounds of continued ill health and that the Council's best wishes be conveyed to him.

161 CONSTITUTION UPDATE

Councillor Gill moved the recommendations. Councillor Picknell seconded.

The recommendations were put to the vote and **CARRIED**.

RESOLVED:

- (i) That the amendments to the Islington Code of Conduct for Members as set out in the appendix to the report submitted be approved;
- (ii) That the Director of Law and Governance be authorised to make any consequential amendments to the Constitution considered necessary.

162 REPORT OF THE CHIEF WHIP

Councillor Gill moved the recommendations in the revised report set out in the additional despatch of papers. Councillor Picknell seconded.

The recommendations were put to the vote and **CARRIED**.

RESOLVED:

1. APPOINTMENTS TO THE HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD

- (i) That Jennifer Kent be appointed as the Healthwatch Islington substitute member on the Health and Wellbeing Board for the remainder of the municipal year 2017/18 or until a successor is appointed.
- (ii) That Siobhan Harrington be appointed as The Whittington Hospital NHS Trust member of the Health and Wellbeing Board for the remainder of the municipal year 2017/18 or until a successor is appointed.
- (iii) That Carol Gillen be appointed as the substitute member for Siobhan Harrington on the Health and Wellbeing Board for the remainder of the municipal year 2017/18 or until a successor is appointed.
- (iv) That the above appointments also be made to the Haringey and Islington Health and Wellbeing Boards Joint Sub-Committee.

2. APPOINTMENTS TO THE PLANNING COMMITTEE

- (v) That Councillor Picknell be appointed as the Vice-Chair of the Planning Committee for the remainder of the municipal year 2017/18 or until a successor is appointed.
- (vi) That Councillor Convery be appointed to the Planning Committee for the remainder of the municipal year 2017/18 or until a successor is appointed.

3. APPOINTMENT TO OUTSIDE BODY

- (vii) That Councillor Hamitouche be appointed as a trustee of the St Luke's Trust for a one year term from 5 December 2017.

4. OTHER APPONTMENT

- (viii) That Councillor Hamitouche be appointed as Recycling Champion for the remainder of the 2017/18 municipal year or until a successor is appointed.

163 QUARTERLY MONITORING REPORT

Councillor Gill moved the recommendations in the revised report set out in the additional despatch of papers. Councillor Picknell seconded.

The recommendations were put to the vote and **CARRIED**.

RESOLVED:

That the decision on Innovation Project Funding detailed in the report submitted be noted.

164 NOTICES OF MOTION

MOTION 1: PROTECTING PRIVATE RENTERS

Councillor Donovan-Hart moved the motion. Councillor Clarke-Perry seconded. Councillor Russell moved the amendment circulated in the additional despatch of papers. Councillor Convery contributed to the debate.

The amendment was put to the vote and **LOST**.

The motion was put to the vote and **CARRIED**.

RESOLVED:

- (i) To back the Labour Party's campaign for stronger regulation of the private sector in order to protect renters.
- (ii) To make representations to Government to urge them to introduce further regulations to ensure proper protection of renters' rights, including preventing letting agencies imposing rip-off fees by introducing a Tenants' Fees Bill that is properly enforced.
- (iii) To continue to use all powers available to it to identify and fine bad landlords and letting agencies who are breaking the law and endangering tenants, and ensure they are prosecuted where possible.
- (iv) To encourage private renters to report unscrupulous landlords and letting agencies to the Council so their concerns can be followed up where appropriate.

MOTION 2: END THE PUBLIC SECTOR PAY PINCH

Councillor Gantly declared an interest as a member of the GMB Union and moved the motion.

Councillor Heather declared an interest as a member of the Communication Workers Union and seconded the motion.

Councillor Watts declared as interest as a member of the GMB Union and conveyed the Council's thanks to Councillor Doolan, who campaigned on public sector pay and supported the motion.

The motion was put to the vote and **CARRIED**.

RESOLVED:

To support the GMB's campaign to end the public sector pay pinch, and call on the Government to commit to:

- Real-terms pay increases for all public sector workers, fully funded by Central Government;
- Proper funding for public services;
- Restoration of independence for the Pay Review Bodies;
- A real Living Wage of at least £10 an hour for all public sector workers.

The meeting closed at 9.15 pm

MAYOR

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COUNCIL MEETING – 7 DECEMBER 2017

QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE YOUTH COUNCIL

- a Question to Councillor Kaya Comer-Schwartz from Youth Councillor Iqra

What can be done to further foster and embed a culture of respect in the borough, so that males, females, trans, gender variant and questioning young people can feel safe at school and in the work place, free from inappropriate behaviour and reassured that any concerns will be taken seriously by those in a position of power?

- b Question to Councillor Richard Watts from Youth Councillor Mohamed

We recently organised a “Careers Expo”, working in partnership with a neighbouring youth council at Google’s UK HQ. Over 150 young people attended and signed up to a variety of masterclasses focusing on employability skills. What impact does Cllr Watts feel the Employment Commission has made 2 years on, particularly on the lives of young people?

- c Question to Councillor Joe Caluori from Youth Councillor Tega

In September 2017, the Evening Standard printed an article stating that Londoners living in the borough of Islington find their lives the least worthwhile than almost anywhere else in the UK. How will the Fair Futures Commission help to change the lives of its young residents for the better?

- d Question to Cllr Janet Burgess from Youth Councillor Honey

It’s great that Islington is leading the next wave of projects funded by NHS Digital to get more young people using digital healthcare tools, with a focus on mental health. What support and help is there for young people who need to access help off-line, particularly those who are suffering from cyber bullying or would prefer to receive support face to face?

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COUNCIL MEETING – 7 DECEMBER 2017

QUESTIONS FROM MEMBER OF THE PUBLIC

- a Question from Martin Rutherford to Councillor Ward, Executive Member for Housing and Development:

I would like to propose that Islington Council ban all residents allowing the use of Air BnB and similar companies in their properties, but particularly the council estates that have a security gate system.

We never know who are using these properties, and whilst the tenant or leaseholder holds responsibility for the strangers on our estates, we do not feel safe that these strangers have access to our security fobs which they can pass around as they like. There have been numerous reports of people abusing this system to have parties and cause disruption to the residents in neighbouring properties.

Security and safety should be paramount in our homes, and with a 'free for all' attitude to allow anyone free reign on our secure estates, this is not the case. Could Islington Council please say whether they would consider this ban?

- b Question from Marianna Johnson to Councillor Ward, Executive Member for Housing and Development:

Can the Executive Member for Planning provide evidence that specifically demonstrates how the winning design for the development of the Finsbury Leisure Centre site has evolved since the public exhibition of 30th June to take into account and reflect all or any of the comments and concerns put forward by the Burnhill House residents and provide a full written rationale as to why they disagree with the points raised?

- c Question from Benali Hamdache to Councillor Hull, Executive Member for Finance, Performance and Community Safety:

Residents on Whistler Street have raised concerns about crowding on Arsenal match days in the small passage onto Framfield Road.

Residents have had to personally intervene to stop pushing and crushing, whilst stewards haven't been around to intervene. What is the council doing to ensure fans and residents are safe?

- d Question from Ernestas Jegorovas to Councillor Ward, Executive Member for Housing and Development:

What has the council done in the last 2 years to improve the environment and security of Islington housing estates?

- e Question from Sebastian Sandys to Councillor Hull, Executive Member for Finance, Performance and Community Safety:

What is the total sum, broken down by Executive Member responsibility, of projected revenue not collected in year to date ascribed to delayed decision making?

- f Question from Charles Humphries to Councillor Ward, Executive Member for Housing and Development:

Islington Council is considering a planning application for the extension of the Golden Lane Estate, to include a new 14 storey residential tower block with a single staircase - only four inches wider than the one at Grenfell Tower. Given that single staircase tower blocks are already banned in most other countries, and UK building regulations will be under review, is it right to be making fire safety compromises on new buildings at this time?



COUNCIL MEETING – 7 DECEMBER 2017

QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL

- a Councillor Williamson to Councillor Webbe, Executive Member for Environment and Transport:

What are the average daily, weekly and annual passenger numbers for the council's own bus service, the plus bus?

- b Councillor Poole to Councillor Watts, Leader of the Council:

With the centenary commemoration of the end of WW1 less than 12 months away, what progress has there been on securing the Memorial Arch at Manor Gardens and facilitating public access?

- c Councillor Russell to Councillor Hull, Executive Member for Finance, Performance and Community Safety:

I note the cost of delaying the trampoline park to allow for an election count at the Sobell Centre in May 2017 was £200,000. Where will you hold future election counts and how much will it cost?

- d Councillor Russell to Councillor Ward, Executive Member for Housing and Development:

Will you fix the damp in existing homes on Park View estate before the new build programme begins?

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Report of: Executive Member Finance, Performance and Community Safety

Meeting of	Date	Wards
Council	7 December 2017	All

The Council Tax Support Scheme for 2018/19

1. Synopsis

- 1.1 The Council Tax Support Scheme for 2017/18 was agreed by Council on 15 December 2016. Schemes have to be agreed by the full Council by 31st January for each subsequent year, even if they remain unchanged. This report seeks approval for the 2018/19 Council Tax Support Scheme which, apart from inserting the correct financial year and dates, remains unchanged from the one that we have currently adopted.
- 1.2 There is also a legal requirement to affirm on an annual basis the council tax discounts and exemptions for empty properties and the 50% empty rates premium. This is to ensure that we can retain the discounts, exemptions and premiums approved at full Council last year.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 To agree to adopt the Council Tax Support Scheme for 2018/19 as contained in Appendix A.
- 2.2 To retain the amendments to council tax agreed at full Council on 15 December 2016. To be clear, this means that from 1 April 2018 the following will continue to apply:
 - 1) council tax exemption classes A and C will have a discount of 0% for all cases.
 - 2) council tax discount for second homes will be 0% in all cases
 - 3) council tax discount for empty furnished lets will be 0% in all cases
 - 4) a premium will be charged at the maximum percentage allowed on the council tax of all properties that have remained empty for over 2 years in all cases.

3 Background

- 3.1 As a result of the Government's abolition of council tax benefit from 1st April 2013 and a reduction in our funding from the Government of at least £2.9m, we have had to propose and consult on a new Council Tax Support scheme which commenced on 1 April 2013. The Council disagreed with the abolition of council tax benefit and the accompanying 10% reduction in funding and actively campaigned against it. Nevertheless, we had no choice but to move forward and to design a scheme that we considered provided the fairest outcome for all our residents in the circumstances.
- 3.2 There is a legal requirement for the Council to agree the scheme each year, and a further requirement to consult with residents if the scheme is changed. At full Council on 15 December 2016 the scheme was approved for the year 2017/18. This report is recommending a continuation of the current scheme for 2018/19.

4 Detail leading to our recommended Council Tax Support scheme

The scheme adopted for 2017/18

- 4.1 The Council Tax Support Scheme is designed to:
- reduce an assessment made under the council tax benefit rules by 8.5% for working age claimants;
 - allow a £100 older person discount for residents aged 65 or over who are liable for council tax;
 - protect pensioners in order that their council tax support is broadly the same as they would have received in council tax benefit;
 - base the award for working age people on the Council Tax Benefit Regulations providing extra support for disabled people, families with children, and people in employment;
 - allow for income rises of £5 a week (cumulatively) without a reduction in support to encourage paid employment.
- 4.2 In addition to this we have a £25,000 Council Tax Support welfare provision fund within the Islington Resident Support Scheme to help provide a safety net for claimants who struggle to cope with the impact of being charged council tax.
- 4.3 The Council implemented and has continued this scheme in the light of significant public consultation in 2012 and 2016 and the equality impact assessments that have been carried out annually since 2012.

The reason for leaving the scheme unchanged for 2018/19

- 4.4 The majority of the responses from the public consultations contained some expression of concern about residents' current circumstances – financial difficulty, welfare reform, supporting the family, coping through disability, finding a job. They were worried about how changes to council tax support would affect them personally. In that sense it was considered to be a reasonable response to the consultation to limit the reduction to 8.5% to at least provide residents with a greater opportunity to adapt to the significant changes and cuts that have been made to welfare benefits generally.
- 4.5 The older person's discount has been consistently supported.
- 4.6 Our intention to support people in low paid work by ignoring cumulative increases in income of less than £5 received substantial support.

- 4.7 There was a clear message that we should do all we can to reduce the burden of the Government cuts. From 1 April 2013 we removed council tax exemptions and discounts for some empty properties and charged a premium of 50% on properties standing empty for more than 2 years. The additional revenue was re-invested in the Council Tax Support Scheme. We considered this to be the right approach, not least because we want to continue to see properties occupied rather than standing empty. The government announced in the budget that the maximum premium allowed will increase to 100% from 1 April 2018. This report recommends that our approach to empty properties is continued in 2018/19 and we charge the maximum premium allowed in law from that date.

Approval of the 2018/19 Council Tax Support Scheme

- 4.15 It is recommended that the Council Tax Support Scheme (Appendix A) remains unchanged for 2018/19, with the basis for award assessment remaining the same. The only change necessary is the insertion of the current financial year.

5 Financial Implications

- 5.1 There will be no changes to the budget for the Council Tax Support Scheme in the budget proposals to be agreed by the Council in February 2018.

6 Resident Impact Assessment

- 6.1 The Council Tax Support Scheme Resident Impact Assessment is attached as Appendix B. This can be summarised as follows:

- The Council is choosing to keep most criteria for the Council Tax Support scheme the same as for Council Tax Benefit because it considers this to be fair, with extra premiums already awarded for disability, children and incentives for employment.
- The Council Tax Support scheme provides full protection for older people who are a vulnerable group that we would like to continue to support.
- In relation to older people aged 65 or over, Islington's minimum Council Tax Support of £100 means that there will be fewer marginal cases of older people who are not quite poor enough to receive the benefit but who are still economically fragile. People in this category are less likely to access, or be able to access, the labour market.
- Retaining the 8.5% reduction despite the loss of the government grant helps all residents who will be impacted by the cumulative loss of other benefits from the government's welfare reforms.
- Applying the 8.5% reduction to the end of the benefit award (bottom slicing) rather than taking this from the liability (top slicing), works out better for people on partial benefit and it was people on partial benefit who were most concerned about the financial impact of the changes to them personally.

- 6.2 The Resident Impact Assessment identified the following as the key mitigation options:

- The Council's limiting of the reduction in benefit from what would be in the region of 18% to 8.5% allows affected claimants greater opportunity to adapt to their financial circumstances.
- The Council can continue to help to finance the costs of limiting the reduction in benefit to 8.5% as a result of adopting the other changes to the Local Government Finance Act on exemptions and discounts (empties) by charging fully for class A and C empty properties, second homes and empty furnished lets.

- The Council can continue to limit the impact of the Council Tax Support by adopting a non-standard council tax recovery process for council tax support recipients where appropriate.
- The Council can mitigate for residents who cannot pay through the use of the council tax welfare provision (or other funds) in the Residents Support Scheme.

7. Legal Implications

7.1 The Council Tax Support scheme is considered to be lawful. There are no changes to the terms of the scheme for 2018/19, so the requirement now is for full Council to agree the scheme for its continuing adoption from 1 April 2018 for the full 2018/19 council tax year.

7.2 The Council must have due regard to the Public Sector Equality Duty, which is integral to the Council's functions, and which is set out in Section 149 of the Equality Act 2010 as follows:

“1) A public authority must, in the exercise of its functions, have due regard to the need to:

- (a) eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct that is prohibited by or under this Act;
 - (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
- (3) Having due regard to the need to advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it involves having due regard, in particular, to the need to-
- (a) remove or minimise disadvantages suffered by persons who share a relevant protected characteristic that are connected to that characteristic;
 - (b) take steps to meet the needs of persons who share a relevant protected characteristic that are different from the needs of persons who do not share it;
 - (c) encourage persons who share a relevant protected characteristic to participate in public life or in any other activity in which participation by such persons is disproportionately low.
- (4) The steps involved in meeting the needs of disabled persons that are different from the needs of persons who are not disabled include, in particular, steps to take account of disabled persons' disabilities.
- (5) Having due regard to the need to foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it involves having due regard, in particular, to the need to-
- (a) tackle prejudice, and
 - (b) promote understanding.
- (6) Compliance with the duties in this section may involve treating some persons more favourably than others; but that is not to be taken as permitting conduct that would otherwise be prohibited by or under this Act.
- (7) The relevant protected characteristics are-
- age;
 - disability;
 - gender reassignment;
 - pregnancy and maternity;
 - race;
 - religion or belief;
 - sex;
 - sexual orientation.”

8 Conclusion and Reason for Recommendations

- 8.1 The Government was wrong to abolish Council Tax Benefit and to pass the burden of reduced funding for Council Tax Support to local residents. We have created a local Council Tax Support Scheme in line with the law and introduced a universal 8.5% reduction to former council tax benefit levels. We consider this to be the fairest way to implement this forced change in the circumstances.
- 8.2 We have continued to award a minimum reduction of £100 for older people and to support our aspiration to make work pay by ignoring cumulative increases of income that exceeds £5 a week for working age people. We have a safety net in the form of the Resident Support Scheme providing assistance if additional council tax causes exceptional hardship. This report recommends that the Council Tax Support scheme is agreed and should continue unchanged from 1 April 2018.
- 8.3 This report also recommends that we continue with the changes made in 2013/14 and retained subsequently to discounts and exemptions for empty properties and charge the maximum premium allowed in law for properties left empty for more than 2 years. This helps to bridge the gap imposed by the Government in the council tax support scheme funding so that, in line with our principles, those who are able to pay more will continue to support those who are less able to pay.

Appendices:

Appendix A Council Tax Support Scheme for 2018/19

Appendix B Resident Impact Assessment

Background papers: None

Final Report Clearance

Signed by



29 November 2017

Executive Member Finance Performance and
Community Safety

Date

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London Borough of Islington

Council Tax Support Scheme

Draft for approval by Council on 7 December 2017



Islington Council: Council Tax Support Scheme

1. This document and the law

This document is the London Borough of Islington's Council Tax Reduction Scheme, set out under section 13A (2) [substituted by clause 8 of the Local government finance Bill] of the Local Government Finance Act 1992.

This scheme, referred to as Council Tax Support (CTS), has been agreed based on:

- the outcome of a public consultation exercise carried out in 2012 and repeated in 2016;
- the Equality Impact Assessment made in relation to the scheme and the subsequent Resident Impact Assessments carried out annually
- Considerations and decisions made annually by the full Council.

2. Introduction

CTS reduces the amount of council tax a person has to pay based on an assessment made by Islington Council (the Council). As the Billing Authority, council tax is raised and charged by the Council and the CTS assessed by the Council can only be applied to council tax bills issued by the Council.

This scheme sets out rules for three classes of claimants. The amount of CTS shall be determined through means testing. As such the income and capital of the claimant and any partner or partners in the case of a polygamous couple in the household shall be taken into account. It is considered that eligibility for CTS is defined by the terms of the former Council Tax Benefit (CTB) scheme as set out in the Social Security Contributions and Benefits Act 1992, the Social Security Administration Act 1992, the Council Tax Benefit Regulations 2006 and the Housing Benefit and Council Tax Benefit (Decisions and Appeals) Regulations 2001. These will hereafter be known as the Regulations and these Regulations set out how CTB was claimed, how it was calculated and how it was paid. This scheme proposes that the principles and methods set out in those Regulations be used to determine CTS, except where amendments are set out in this scheme or by statute under the Local Government Finance Act 1992 (as amended) and accompanying legislation. For the avoidance of doubt where there is a difference or conflict between the Regulations and the Council's CTS scheme, then it is the Council's CTS scheme as set out here that will take precedence and be applied.

3. Making a claim

A claim must be made in respect of a person who is resident in the dwelling concerned, and liable for payment of council tax. A valid claim can be made by the person liable for council tax or by their appointed representative.

3.1 How to claim

3.1.1 Except where paragraph 3.1.2 applies, an application shall be required for all new claims from 1 April 2013. A person liable to pay council tax will be able to make a claim using any of the methods the Council provides for. Generally claims can be made via telephone, email, the Council website, in writing or in person at Islington Council offices, or to the Department of Work and Pensions (DWP) and Jobcentres. A valid claim must be accompanied by the necessary supporting evidence.

3.1.2 For claimants entitled to the reduction in class 2 only (defined below); where it is possible for the Council to award CTS without application it shall do so. Indeed, for this provision an identification by the Council that a person would be entitled to this reduction by virtue of relevant detail already obtained by the Council, may be enough to constitute a claim and to enable the award of a reduction. If a reduction cannot be awarded by the Council automatically under class 2, it shall be the duty of the person or persons with a council tax liability to claim this using the application process prescribed on the Islington Council website, and this application shall be required to be received in the council tax year for which the reduction applies.

4. Classes of reduction

4.1 It is considered that the Council has 3 classes of reduction in its CTS scheme. The classes below also identify the persons that the reduction will cover.

Class 1 – A person or persons of pension credit age have protection prescribed in the Local Government Finance Act 1992 (as amended). The council tax reduction shall be assessed in accordance with the provisions of that Act.

Class 2 – A person or persons with a council tax liability on 1st April ~~{delete 2017 insert 2018}~~ aged 65 or over shall be entitled to a minimum reduction of £100 per annum, unless the council tax liability is less than this in which case it shall match the annual council tax liability.

Class 3 – A person or persons not entitled to protection under class 1 who would be entitled to CTB based on the Regulations at 31 March 2013:

- a) shall be entitled to CTS based on that notional CTB entitlement less 8.5%; and
- b) if after the accurate calculation of the CTS award under Class 3a), subsequent calculations or revisions of the same CTS award would result in a decrease in the CTS award of less than £1 a week cumulatively then no decrease shall be applied. This excludes uprating as defined in clause 5.3.

4.2 Making changes to the dates for the classes of reduction

For Class 2 the Council may substitute the date provided with a date of its choosing. This will enable the scheme to continue into future years. Any changes to dates shall be published on the website on 31 January of the year that immediately precedes the new council tax year to which the CTS shall apply.

4.3 Making changes to the values for the classes of reduction

For Class 2, for the minimum reduction the Council may substitute any amount it chooses, including £Nil. Should a change be made for a future council tax year this shall be published on the website on 31 January of the year that immediately precedes the new council tax year to which the CTS shall apply.

For the purposes of Class 3a) the Council may substitute 8.5% with any amount it chooses but capped at 25%.

For the purposes of Class 3b) the Council may substitute £1 with any amount it chooses.

Should a change be made for a future council tax year this shall be published on the website on 31 January of the year that immediately precedes the new council tax year to which the CTS shall apply.

4.4 Administering the reduction

For all Classes the reduction shall be made to the council tax liability in the council tax year that the CTS applies.

4.5 Explanation of the cumulative effect in Class 3b)

The intention is that subsequent calculations or revisions of the same CTS award that would result in a decrease in that CTS award of less than £1 a week, would only take effect when the combination of these changes would reduce that CTS award by £1 a week or more. In other words, changes in circumstances that, if applied, would reduce the CTS award would be held back until the cumulative impact of these when combined with future changes actually reduces the CTS award by £1 a week or more. This excludes uprating as defined in clause 5.3.

5. Exceptions to the Regulations

This scheme proposes that the principles and methods set out in the Regulations be used to determine CTS, except where amendments are set out in this scheme or by statute under the Local Government Finance Act 1992 (as amended) and accompanying legislation.

The exceptions to these Regulations (or clarifications) are set out below:

5.1 Information and evidence

The Council may accept any information or evidence that it sees fit to support a claim for CTS and may receive this in any way that it sees fit. As a guide, it shall publish what is expected on the Council's website. If all the information or evidence it needs is not submitted, the Council shall seek to make contact with the claimant once to obtain this. If the claimant does not reply or provide the information required within one month of the first contact made with or by the Council in relation to the application, the Council may decide to treat the claim as incomplete and refuse the CTS application. The Council may extend the one month time limit if it thinks it is reasonable to give more time but in any case this shall not be extended beyond 3 months after the date of the first contact made with or by the Council in relation to the application.

5.2 Treatment of income

For the purpose of making an assessment under the CTS scheme, all income shall be treated in accordance with the Regulations. However from time to time the Government may reform welfare benefits and introduce new benefits or replace them with equivalent benefits of a different name. Under the Regulations, some prescribed income is disregarded, some prescribed income has an impact on the premiums that can be applied to a person's applicable amount, and some prescribed income has an impact on the level of a non-dependant deduction(s) to be applied. In addition to this, some prescribed income passports a person to full entitlement to CTB, albeit subject to certain deductions such as a non-dependant deduction.

It is the intention of the Council for the CTS scheme, that where such income is replaced by the Government by an equivalent benefit or where new benefits are introduced, that these changes should be applied at the same time to CTS (or as soon as practicable thereafter) and attract the appropriate and equivalent income disregard, premium for the applicable amount and non-dependant deduction. It is also the intention to continue to passport an equivalent benefit to full entitlement to notional CTB to allow the CTS to be calculated.

To achieve this, when a new welfare benefit (income) is introduced by Government, the Council shall decide for the purposes of applying the Regulations:

- whether it should be disregarded; and/or

- the premium (if any) that it should attract; and/or
- the non-dependant deduction that should apply (if any); and/or
- whether it should be treated as income that would passport a person to full notional CTB entitlement

Once the Council has decided how changes to other welfare benefits shall be treated for the purposes of applying the Regulations, the Council shall publish this detail on the Council website prior to the commencement of this new welfare benefit or as soon as practicable thereafter.

The Regulations currently afford the Council the discretion to disregard war widows pension and war disablement allowance. The Council will continue to disregard this income for the purposes of assessing CTS.

5.3 National changes to premiums, allowances, applicable amounts, disregards and deductions (the components)

For the purpose of making an assessment under the CTS scheme, all the components shall be treated in accordance with the Regulations. However from time to time the Government may reform welfare benefits and:

- introduce a new component
- change the value of an existing component
- change the basis on which an existing component can be applied

Where this happens the Council will have the option to immediately make a change to the CTS scheme based on the treatment of a similar component in an equivalent national scheme. An equivalent national scheme means either the provisions that form the basis for assessment under Class 1 or the Housing Benefit General Regulations 1987 (as amended).

The Council shall determine how changes to the components in an equivalent national scheme will be treated for the purposes of assessing an award under Class 3, including the date that any change will take effect. The Council shall publish this detail on the Council website prior to the commencement of these changes or as soon as practicable thereafter.

From time to time the components and some income will be subject to uprating by the government to reflect changes in the consumer price index. This scheme provides that the Council shall uprate all the components and income in accordance with the Government's uprating of the same or equivalent components (as identified by the Council) in the equivalent national scheme.

5.4 Decisions and notifications of decisions

The Council shall make a decision on a claim within a reasonable timescale of receiving all required information and evidence. In order to inform a claimant of the decision the Council shall send them a revised council tax bill showing the amount and period of the CTS award. The bill itself shall be formal notification of the CTS decision unless CTS is not awarded as a result of us deciding to treat the claim as incomplete or the person does not qualify for CTS, in which case a letter will be issued to the claimant. Claimants may request a statement of reasons to explain how the award was calculated. The council tax bill shall include a person's appeal rights, how they can request a statement of reasons and details of how to apply for further discretionary help from the Council Tax Welfare provision in the Resident Support Scheme. The claimant can elect to receive their bill by post or by using Islington's web portal 'My eAccount' also known as e-billing. For the avoidance of doubt, the requirements in the Regulations to notify a person of their CTB entitlement in a manner and including detail prescribed by those Regulations shall be revoked for the purposes of the CTS scheme.

5.5 How CTS will be paid

All CTS will be 'paid' by crediting the amount of CTS against the claimant's council tax liability to reduce the bill. Should a bill that attracts a council tax reduction be in credit at the point that a council tax liability is ended; the Council may use that credit to reduce any other sum that is owed to the Council by that person.

5.6 Changes of circumstances

The recipient of CTS or their appointee must notify the Council of any change to their household circumstances, income or capital that may affect the amount of CTS they are entitled to. Any change of circumstances must be reported within one calendar month of the change happening. Any change can be reported to Islington Council by telephone, email, fax, via website or in writing. Supporting information may be required. Each material change shall result in a recalculation of CTS entitlement and a revised bill if appropriate.

A process for reviewing current CTS entitlement may be implemented by the Council. CTS may be reviewed at any time after its commencement. Failure of the claimant to fulfil any reasonable request made by the Council during a review of their CTS award shall result in the termination of that CTS award from the commencement date of the review.

5.7 Appeals

If the claimant disagrees with the CTS award or non-award following a claim, they can request that the Council looks at this again (this is known as an application for revision). They must do this within one month of the date of the council tax bill that shows the amount and period of their CTS or within month of the date of their CTS non-qualification letter. If an appeal made by the same claimant about a housing benefit decision would also impact on CTS, the Council may also treat this as an appeal against CTS if it is made within one month of the date of the council tax bill that shows the amount and period of their CTS. The Council shall check if the decision is correct and inform the claimant of its decision in writing. If the Council believes that its decision is correct or the claimant does not receive a response from the Council within 2 months, the claimant has another 2 months to appeal to the Valuation Tribunal where a final decision can be made. Any appeal against a decision regarding CTS will not mean that payments of council tax may be withheld. Payments must be made as they fall due and if an appeal is successful any additional CTS award shall be credited against the claimant's council tax liability at that time as directed.

6. General Provisions

6.1 Council Tax Welfare Provision

There is a welfare scheme available for council tax payers receiving CTS experiencing exceptional hardship. This is part of the Resident Support Scheme and the procedure for application is contained within the detail of the Resident Support Scheme approved by the Council's Executive.

6.2 Fraud

The Council will investigate any case where it has reason to believe that an amount of CTS has been awarded as a result of a claim which is fraudulent in any respect. This will include any incidence of a claimant not notifying the Council of any change in household circumstances, income or capital that results in a higher reduction under the CTS scheme than a person is due

6.3 Consultation

The Council recognises its legal duty to consult should there be future changes to the scheme. However from time to time the council will need to make minor changes to the practice and operation of the scheme and should these occur we will consult by way of publishing a notice on the Council's website during the last 2 weeks of January of the year that immediately precedes the new council tax year to which the CTS shall apply. A consultee shall then have until 31 January of that same month to respond to this notice. The Council officers delegated to operate the scheme will give due regard to this response.

6.4 Delegation

The Council shall delegate the operation of this scheme to the Corporate Director of Finance and Resources and he will designate the appropriate officers to undertake this role. Currently these officers are all placed in the Financial Operations and Customer Services Directorate of the Council's Finance and Resources Department.

6.5 CTS Scheme Agreement

The CTS Scheme will be reviewed annually and subject to further agreement at Full Council prior to 31 January each year.

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Resident Impact Assessment

Screening and full assessment of Islington's
Council Tax Support (CTS) scheme.

Contents

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1. [Summary: key findings of the RIA](#) **Error! Reference source not found.** **Introduction and context**

A Resident Impact Assessment (RIA) is a way of systematically and thoroughly assessing policies against the Council’s responsibilities in relation to the Public Sector Equality Duty, Human Rights and Safeguarding.

This RIA will describe the CTS scheme its intended purpose and how it has been implemented. It will detail which residents are expected to be affected by the policy and the expected impact in relation to:

- o The [Public Sector Equality Duty](#),
- o Safeguarding responsibilities; and
- o Human Rights legislation, specifically with regard to Article 3 (Inhuman Treatment) and Article 8 (Right to Private Life)

We will identify evidence, such as data and research used to assess the impact of the CTS scheme and identify options for addressing issues raised by the assessments.



2. Screening

a) Title of new or changed policy, procedure, function, service activity or financial decision being assessed:	Council Tax Support Scheme (CTS) 2018 – 2019
b) Department and section:	Finance, Financial Operations
c) Name and contact details of assessor:	Robbie Rainbird, Financial Operations,

- d) Date initial screening assessment started: 22/11/2017
- e) Describe the main aim or purpose of the proposed new or changed policy, etc. and the intended outcomes: To help low income, council tax charge payers, pay their Council Tax
- f) Can this proposal be considered as part of a broader Resident Impact Assessment? For example it may be more appropriate to carry out an assessment of a divisional restructure rather than the restructure of a single team. No
- g) Are there any negative equality impacts as a result of the proposal? Please complete the table below:

Select **Yes**, **No** or **Unknown** by clicking on the 'Choose an item' boxes below and enter text in the text boxes in the right-hand column:

Protected characteristics	1. Will the proposal discriminate?	2. Will the proposal undermine equality of opportunity?	3. Will the proposal have a negative impact on relations?	What evidence are you using to predict this impact?
Age	No	No	No	Described in Section 4
Disability	No	No	No	Described in Section 4
Gender reassignment	No	No	No	Described in Section 4
Marriage and civil partnerships ¹	No	N/A	N/A	Described in Section 4
Race	No	No	No	Described in Section 4
Religion/belief	No	No	No	Described in Section 4

¹ Only the requirement to have due regard to the need to eliminate unlawful discrimination in employment should be considered.

Pregnancy and maternity	No	No	No	Described in Section 4
Sexual Orientation	No	No	No	Described in Section 4
Sex/gender	No	No	No	Described in Section 4

Please list any opportunities in the proposal for advancing equality of opportunity for any of the protected characteristics.

These are described in section 4.

	N/A
h) List any opportunities in the proposal for fostering good relations for any of the protected characteristics.	N/A
i) Is the proposal a strategy that lays out priorities in relation to activity and resources and likely to have a negative socio-economic impact on residents?	No
j) Do you anticipate any Safeguarding risks as a result of the proposal?	No
k) Do you anticipate any potential Human Rights breaches as a result of the proposal?	No

3. The policy, procedure, function, service activity or financial decision

a) Date full assessment started: 22/11/2017

b) Title of new or changed policy, procedure, function, service activity or financial decision being assessed?

Council Tax Support Scheme (CTS) 2018-19

People on low incomes who cannot pay their Council Tax bill can receive CTS to help them.

Although people claim the rebate from local Councils who administer the scheme, the money comes from the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP). As part of the Spending Review 2010, the Government announced that expenditure allocated to the localised scheme would be reduced by 10% and any increase in expenditure above what is forecast by The Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG) must be funded locally by the Council. In 2013/14 the council received approximately £2.9 million less to give out in support to claimants. This meant the council had to make savings or increase income to fund the shortfall. The Government also stipulated that people of pension credit age must be protected, which meant that the CTS reduction was directed exclusively at working age claimants and would have meant a reduction of around 18%-20% if the cuts were shared in equal proportions across all working age claimants. Originally, the Council chose to make up for this shortfall by introducing a standard reduction to all Council Tax Support recipients of 8.5%, by taking up the Government's offer of a temporary transitional grant and reducing the level of discounts that those with empty properties could apply for. The Government has subsequently withdrawn any transitional grant but the Council has decided to maintain the original level of support it provides to its CTS residents and is funding this additional support wholly from its own funds. As a result of the Council's additional support the standard reduction to all Council Tax Support recipients remains capped at 8.5%.

c) What is the profile of the current service users and residents impacted by the change? (No word limit)

It affects everyone in Islington who has to pay Council Tax which broadly speaking means that it affects all residents. The number fluctuates but there are about 100,000 households with a liability for Council Tax.

d) What is the profile of the workforce impacted by the change?

The workforce is not impacted. The administration of CTS and its predecessor, Council Tax Benefit (CTB), are identical and nothing has changed for the workforce with regard to this or a decision about retaining the 8.5% reduction..

e) How will the proposed change impact this profile?

A decision to continue with an 8.5% reduction for working-age CTS recipients does not affect the profile of service users, residents or the workforce.

4. Equality impacts and mitigations

No significant issues have arisen as to the impact of Islington's Council Tax Support Scheme since it was introduced in 2013 and the analysis provided in this section should be seen in this context.

Since the Council Tax Support Scheme (CTS) relates to the distribution of money based on criteria relating to income, it is predominantly data relevant to these issues that has been analysed in order to assess the impact of the CTS proposals on different groups.

Although it is difficult to update demographic data or information about population statistics without recent national survey data there is no reason to believe that figures we refer to in this analysis have materially changed from the previous years',

As the funding for the scheme has been cut by 10%, the scheme would tend to disadvantage at least some residents with protected characteristics and/or those living in poverty, unless money was found from other parts of the council budget to make up the shortfall. The Government has also stipulated that people of pension credit age must be protected, which means that the benefit paid to other CTS claimants would need to be reduced by an estimated 18%-20% if cuts were shared in equal proportions across all remaining recipients.

However, in order to keep the extent of the financial burden on our working-age CTS claimants low the Council did not make an 18%-20% reduction but will continue to limit the reduction to 8.5% in 2018/19 at a cost of approximately £0.5m within the Council's 2018/19 budget.

Given the scale of local government budget cuts over the past few years, it is unlikely that additional funding can be found from other sources which would not have a detrimental impact in other ways, potentially on groups with protected characteristics. The council has made the decision to keep within the budget set by central government, and while other choices are available, this appears to be a reasonable decision in the context of the council's actual and forecast financial position.

The council tax system holds very little data on most of the protected characteristics including gender, disability and race. It has therefore been necessary to look at different local and national sources of data from different years in order to build a picture that can be used for this impact assessment.

The 2011 census shows that there are 206,100 residents in Islington and 96,100 households. This is 27,000 more than the 2001 census upon which much of the data in this assessment is based. Notwithstanding its shortcomings, the data is sufficient to get an idea of potential impacts arising from CTS.

Our CTS scheme incorporates full protection for older people and mitigation for disabled people and large families. Applying the percentage reduction to the end of the benefit award (bottom slicing) rather than taking this from the liability (top slicing) helps people on partial benefit and there is a message from the consultation that those on partial benefit are more concerned about the impact of the CTS. To illustrate this in the case where the reduction is 8.5%;

1) for someone who was in receipt of £20 full CTB, whether the reduction in benefit was top sliced or bottom sliced the reduction is £1.70 (8.5%) leaving CTS of £18.30 for those previously receiving "full" benefit in this example,

2) however in the case of someone who was previously on partial CTB because they had additional income from working, to reduce their benefit by top slicing would (if the starting point was £20) leave their CTS as £8.30 (£20 less £1.70 (8.5%) less £10 Excess Income = £8.30). But if their partial benefit was reduced by bottom slicing instead this would leave their CTS as £9.15 (£20 less £10 Excess Income = £10. Taking 8.5% of this leaves £9.15). Therefore, choosing to bottom slice makes it better for those on partial benefit which supports the consultation findings.

There is also mitigation for those who might be deemed to be better off by allowing savings of up to £16,000 before someone is disqualified from receiving CTS (this is known as the “capital limit”) and giving an additional discount of up to £100 to all pensioners over the age of 65 whether or not they currently qualify for CTB. Although the net effect of providing support to those deemed to be better off is that less money is available for others that may be in greater need, there are positive aspects to Islington’s proposal. People who are not particularly well off but have accumulated savings will not be penalised and even if savings were limited to £8,000 because less than 200 claimants out of over 20,000 existing claimants have capital over this limit, the money that would have been available to others is relatively small. In relation to pensioners over 65, Islington’s minimum CTS of £100 means that there will be no marginal cases of older pensioners who are not quite poor enough to receive the benefit but who are still economically fragile. This age group is likely to have less access to the labour market.

Compared to council tax payers who are not in receipt of CTS, there is a more favourable recovery regime for CTS council tax payers of fortnightly instalments and even if the fortnightly instalments are missed there is another opportunity for CTS council tax payers to avoid having to be summonsed. And even if a CTS council tax payer is summonsed, we will not use bailiffs to recover the money and we will remit court costs if they agree to and keep up with a new schedule of payments [which the Council Tax service call Special Arrangements].

Catering for exceptional hardship

Additional support is available to the most vulnerable residents by way of a council tax welfare fund of £25,000 within the Council’s Resident Support Scheme (RSS) to support cases of exceptional hardship resulting from additional council tax charges. This will be available on a time-limited basis to residents who apply and meet the hardship criteria. Money has been generated for this fund by removing the 10% discount on second homes in Islington and charging more council tax on empty homes.

In the first 7 months of 2017/18 over 27,000 claimants qualified for council tax support and there have been 68 applications for additional support of which £7,542 was awarded. So for now it does not appear from the volume of requests that our CTS claimants have been impacted to the extent that they need additional support from us.

Further analysis by protected characteristic

Summary

Since the introduction of the CTS scheme there is no evidence that any particular group is particularly impacted.

Our welfare reform response team (iWork) and our IMAX teams have not reported issues with CTS but we will use these teams to continue to review the impact.

By 30th September 2012 of the first year of the scheme we had collected 50.1% of council tax monies owed, by September 2015 we had collected 51.5% and by September 2017 we had collected 51.1% and overall it appears that our council tax collection performance continues to be strong. There is evidence that working age CTS claimants are less likely to pay than any other type of council tax charge payer. This should be expected as this group are defined by a low income and the majority are unused to paying anything towards Council Tax.

Age

Key facts

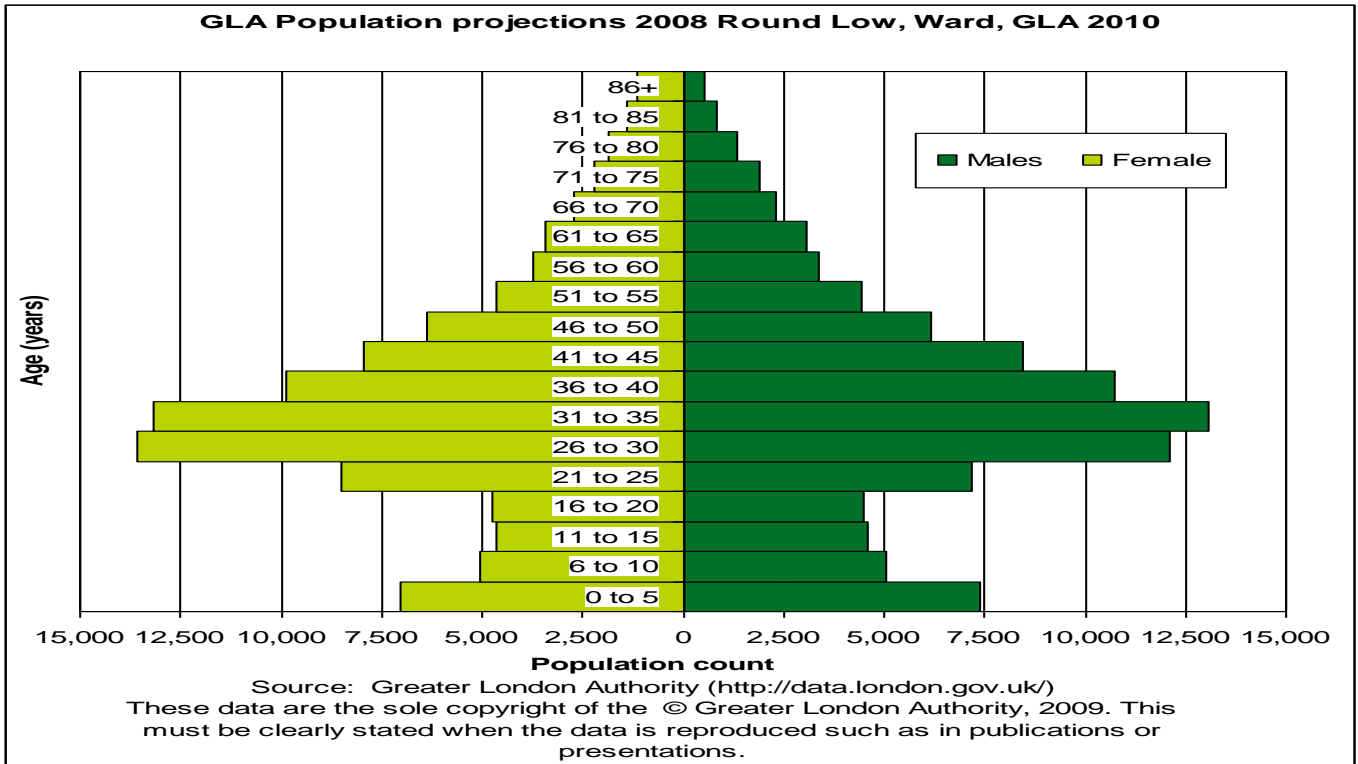
Older people

- 41% of over 65's in Islington are income deprived and 53% are in fuel poverty
- Pension poverty affects women more than men
- The older the pensioner the greater the likelihood to be living in a low income household.
- Pensioners living in a household headed by someone from a BME community² were more likely to be at the lower end of the income distribution curve.
- Disabled pensioners in households not claiming appropriate disability benefits were much more likely to be in a low income household.
- There were 1,040 Job Seekers Allowance recipients aged 50 to 64 in June 2012 in Islington
- There were 3,180 Incapacity Benefit recipients aged 50 – 59 in the borough
- There are approximately 22,750 people aged 51 to 65 in Islington—evidence indicates that people in this age group are least likely to find another job if they become workless. Islington, alongside Hackney, Tower Hamlets and Newham have the highest proportion of pensioners receiving the Guarantee element of Pension Credit

Younger people

- There are approximately known 800 carers under the age of 19 in Islington.
- There were 1,575 residents aged 18 to 24 and 4,180 aged 25 to 49 claiming Job Seekers Allowance in June 2012.
- There were 5,100 residents aged 25 to 49 claiming Incapacity benefit;

² In this context BME refers to the non-White population. Link:
http://research.dwp.gov.uk/asd/hbai/hbai2010/pdf_files/full_hbai11.pdf



Impact assessment

Older people of pension credit age are protected under the scheme, and those over 65 will also continue to receive the £100 rebate. The proposals therefore do not lead to any financial impact on older people who currently receive the benefit or are eligible. From the information available, it is not possible to assess whether the scheme is accessible to older people (who may have a range of access needs) or their carers. Given needs are met once identified, it would be important to make very clear through a range of channels that information etc is available in other formats, and that staff and voluntary sector and community organisations can also provide support.

When it comes to age, much of national policy on this and related welfare reforms protects pensioners while working age benefit recipients experience cuts. The council proposals reinforce this distinction by retaining the £100 older person’s discount. Although it could be argued that this leads to disproportionately worse impacts on those of working age, national and local data on the number of older people living in poverty and not necessarily claiming benefits means that the council’s position is reasonable from an equality perspective. Furthermore, those in the over 65 category are less likely to access, or have access to, the labour market to supplement their income than those of working age. People of working age including young people are only eligible for CTS where they have an additional need, for example because of a disability or they are on a low income. The cumulative impact of welfare reforms on this group is significant and eligible younger residents may not be aware of what they are entitled to. Communication methods more suited to younger people such as text messaging, social media etc, may be useful in raising awareness.

In respect of this characteristic no significant issues have emerged during the first 31 months’ operation of the CTS scheme.

Mitigation

Develop plans to ensure that information, support and advice is accessible and that the option to claim and ways to do so are well signposted by services and organisations in contact with potentially eligible residents and through proven communication channels.

Disability

Key facts:

- There are 26,327 households with one or more person with a limiting long term illness
- 12,540 claim out of work sickness benefits (incapacity benefit, severe disablement allowance and employment and support allowance)
- There were 9,500 claiming incapacity benefit as at August 2011. 5,080 claiming for at least 2 years and 3,930 for at least 5 years.
- There are 7,350 working age Islington residents claiming Disability Living Allowance (a non-means tested benefit available to employed or out-of-work disabled people) - 6,270 have been claiming for at least two years and 4,860 for at least 5 years.
- There are 2,240 people claiming Carer's Allowance (CA), of which 2,080 are of working age
- The employment rate amongst disabled people is 48.2%
- Nationally 50% earn less than half the mean earnings after adjusting for extra costs
- Twice as likely to live in poverty but less likely to be in low income if in a workless household
- Disabled pensioners in households not claiming appropriate disability benefits were much more likely to be in a low income household.

The consultation responses provide indications that disabled people are concerned about being able to cope financially but the numbers of respondents, where this kind of data appears, are low. A relatively small number of disabled and non-disabled respondents volunteered the view that disabled people should pay less council tax, with a greater proportion of working age as opposed to pension age respondents expressing this view.

In respect of this characteristic no significant issues have emerged during the first 31 months' operation of the CTS scheme.

Impact assessment

Disabled people are disproportionately likely to be poor, out of work and on benefits. They are disproportionately affected by welfare reform overall. It is estimated that 28% of IB claimants will or have already migrated to ESA Support Group and be £17 a week better off. However, 33% will be on ESA Work Related Activity Group and be £4 a week worse off and 18% will migrate to JSA and be £40 a week worse off.

Although the CTS scheme provides higher amounts for disabled people they will still get 8.5% less than they do now which in conjunction with the other welfare reform cuts could amplify the adverse impact. The higher costs of care, transport and general living combined with the labour market disadvantage faced by disabled people could make the reductions stemming from the CTS scheme difficult for them to cope with. However, while members of this group are often economically disadvantaged, the rationale of a universal rather than means tested approach

was challenged at the disabled group workshop. Some disabled people may not need the extra financial support and the argument made was that looking at groups rather than more specific individual or household circumstances is too simplistic.

In the event, with respect to this characteristic no significant issues have emerged during the first 31 months' operation of the CTS scheme.

Mitigation options

The Council has limited the reduction in benefit for disabled people from 18% to 8.5%. Continuing this for 2018/19 will continue to give people greater opportunity to adapt their financial circumstances.

Supporting those with long term health conditions into employment is the best route out of poverty and is also recognised to be of benefit, particularly to people with mental health problems. We will have a particular focus on ESA claimants in the employment work of our IWork Team utilising specific funding to increase the number of work coaches as well as continuing the work started under the Universal Services Delivered Locally Trial.

Race

Key facts:

- Employment
 - Non-white employment rate in Islington is 51.4%
 - Nationally, the rate is 59% for non-White compared to 72% for White people
 - Nationally 10% Indian and 15% White British men over 25 are not working compared with 30% to 40% for Bangladeshi, Pakistani, Black Caribbean and Black African. The high number of students explains much of the higher proportion for Black African. Not wanting to work explains a high proportion of Bangladeshi and Pakistani.
- The ethnic profile of people starting to claim JSA in Feb 2010 showed that the proportion that were Black/Black British was 6 percentage points higher than their proportion in the 2001 census, while the proportion that were White was 22 percentage points below their proportion in the 2001 census.
- National data on earnings shows that those from Bangladeshi and Pakistani backgrounds are almost twice as likely to earn less than £7 per hour than those from Black African, Black Caribbean and White British backgrounds.
 - 48% Bangladeshi, 42% Pakistani
 - 27% Black African, 23% Black Caribbean
 - 25% White British
- Households below Average Income (HBAI) survey shows that children are much more likely to live in poverty if they are in a family headed by a BME parent, especially someone of Pakistani, Bangladeshi or Black Non-Caribbean origin.

The following table shows the ethnic distribution of families in Islington, differentiated between those who received Council Tax Benefit and those who did not.

	Yes - on CTB	Not on CTB	Grand Total	Yes - on CTB	Not on CTB	All
1 White British	2252	4950	7202	29%	38%	35%
2 Other White	597	1286	1883	8%	10%	9%
3 Turkish / Turkish Cypriot	503	242	745	6%	2%	4%
4 Kurdish	57	21	78	1%	0%	0%
5 Bangladeshi	355	333	688	5%	3%	3%
6 Asian	131	218	349	2%	2%	2%
7 Black Caribbean	328	483	811	4%	4%	4%
8 Black Somali	324	187	511	4%	1%	2%
9 Black African	480	649	1129	6%	5%	5%
10 Black Other	345	424	769	4%	3%	4%
11 Chinese	53	92	145	1%	1%	1%
12 Mixed	882	1469	2351	11%	11%	11%
13 Other	235	386	621	3%	3%	3%
14 Not Obtained / Refused	78	183	261	1%	1%	1%
15 Unknown*	1060	1564	2624	14%	12%	13%
Missing	155	416	571	2%	3%	3%
Grand Total	7835	12903	20738	100%	100%	100%

Reviewing CTB take-up within this cohort, the biggest discrepancy is among 'white British' residents who are significantly under-represented, and 'other white' who are slightly under-represented. Bangladeshi, Black Somali, Turkish/ Turkish Cypriot and to a slightly lesser extent Black African are all over-represented. These figures are in line with what might be expected given the employment data briefly stated earlier, which indicate relative levels of poverty in different communities.

- Refugees & Asylum Seekers

- Data from 2002 indicates a 29% employment rate nationally among refugee and asylum seekers, which is much lower than average for BME people. (Bloch 2002)
- From a small Islington sample, the data suggests those who work are in low paid, low-skilled jobs

- Gypsies & Travellers

There are estimated to be 55 gypsy and traveller families in Islington, mostly living in houses. Although this community is small, its challenges are acute, with significantly disproportionate outcomes compared to any other group. For example, gypsies and travellers have the worst health outcomes of any racial or ethnic community and are twenty times more likely to experience the death of a child.

The consultation responses did not point to any significant issues emerging based on ethnic background and none have emerged during the first 18 months' operation of the CTS scheme.

Impact assessment

Welfare reforms, the economic situation and historic inequalities in employment together are likely to result in lower incomes for Black and Minority Ethnic (BME) residents, who will therefore be disproportionately affected by the reduction in CTS. Known barriers such as limited English and lack of familiarity with the system need to be mitigated by improving accessibility, especially for the most disadvantaged groups.

Mitigation options

Working through partners as well as using our own resources we will ensure that access to CTS, as well as the Resident Support Scheme (RSS), is made known to those in greatest need, so that eligible residents from all ethnic backgrounds receive support.

Religion/Belief

Key facts:

- Muslims experience much higher rates of unemployment (15.4%) and economic inactivity (51.4%) compared with the average for all groups (6.5% and 32.4%)
- National research also suggests a “Muslim penalty” in employment especially for women

Impact assessment

From available data there appear to be no significant negative impacts that can be distinguished from ethnicity. Residents are not adversely impacted by the scheme by virtue of their religion/belief (or absence thereof).

Mitigation options

None

Gender and relationships

This section covers gender, marriage, civil partnerships and gender re-assignments.

Key facts:

- Employment rate: 71.7% men, 63.8% women
- The majority of lone parents of children living in poverty are women
- Incapacity benefit: 5,320 men (57%), 4,030 women (43%)
- Over 75% Bangladeshi & Pakistani women not in paid work
- Nationally, the number of women not working is decreasing while the number of men not working is increasing, however the difference between the sexes of those aged 18 to 24 is low.

Last year’s consultation responses did not point to any significant issues emerging based on gender and none have emerged during the first 6 months’ operation of the CTS scheme.

Impact assessment

There appear to be no significant negative impacts for most people in this group due to any of these protected characteristics. The arrival of a new child increases household expenditure but this fact is already acknowledged in existing regulations which retain family premiums and disregard child benefit as income.

Mitigation options

None

Pregnancy, maternity and family life

Key facts:

- There are 20,387 households with dependent children in Islington, of which 6,859 (34%) headed by a lone parent
 - 8,702 with children aged 0 to 4
 - 7,204 no adult working (35%)
- 46% living in poverty – 2nd highest nationally
- Most significant factors are lone parent, BME parents, disability, 3 or more children
- Of all the children in Islington HB/CTB data shows that:
 - 39% (14,867) are in families on out of work benefits
 - 15.2% (5,746) are in working families on incomes low enough to qualify for HB/CTB
 - 45.8% (17,348) are in families sufficiently well off enough not to need to claim HB/CTB

Table below showing Information from Children Services showing the number of households in Islington with dependent children:

Households Below Average Income (HBAI) survey shows that children are much more likely to live in poverty if they are in a family headed by a BME parent, especially someone of Pakistani, Bangladeshi or Black Non-Caribbean origin; living in overcrowded accommodation; with three or more children; headed by a lone parent or with a disabled family member.

There are 1,400 households with 2,420 child dependents (aged up to 18) claiming IB or Severe Disablement Allowance.

It is estimated that the vast majority of Islington households with children, whose housing will become unaffordable due to LHA changes and the overall Benefit Cap will be workless households.

In this information, over 55% (11,306) of all households with children were on housing and/or council tax benefit, but a far higher proportion of these were headed by lone parents than the population as a whole: 59% (4,036) of lone parent households on HB/CTB compared with 37%

lone parents	all children		
	Row Labels	Yes - on CTB	Not on CTB
lone parent	6636	5564	12200
two parents	9903	17669	27572
unknown	16	81	97
Grand Total	16555	23314	39869

lone parents	households		
	Row Labels	Yes - on CTB	Not on CTB
lone parent	3489	3114	6603
two parents	4332	9722	14054
unknown	14	67	81
Grand Total	7835	12903	20738

low income	all children		
	Row Labels	Yes - on CTB	Not on CTB
low income	16103	8025	24128
not low income	452	15289	15741
Grand Total	16555	23314	39869

low income	households		
	Row Labels	Yes - on CTB	Not on CTB
low income	7626	3623	11249
not low income	209	9280	9489
Grand Total	7835	12903	20738

(5,045) of the couple households

The consultation responses segmented by those with and without children indicated that concerns about family finances were high for both groups, but that those with four or more children were particularly concerned, and those with children were more likely to raise the issue, unprompted, of struggling with money because they have children to care for. However, it should be noted that the actual number of responses received voicing these concerns was very low and in respect of this characteristic no significant issues have emerged during the current operation of the CTS scheme.

Impact assessment

The council has in place a number of measures to support families with children – a key issue in looking at poverty in the borough as the data above indicate. By retaining all family premiums and applicable amounts, the council recognises that families require a higher level of income to support their household.

It has been decided not to cap benefit at the higher bands and their benefit will be based on the actual charge for the property. This means that there will be no adverse impact for families in larger properties because they are in a higher band. They will be no worse off because they are in a higher banded property. If benefit was capped at band D or E benefit could only be paid up to this band and the customer would have to pay the full amount above that, which might mean they incur hundreds of pounds of new costs.

Mitigation options

As with other affected groups, it is important that take up is encouraged and that families in greatest need are provided with additional support through the RSS.

Sexual Orientation

Key facts:

- 84% LGBT economically active compared to the 75% population
- Economic activity is more likely to continue beyond age 55
- 73% female and 79% men on incomes above the average for London
- 3% live in households with children under 18
- 10% live in social housing compared to 49% of the overall Islington population
- 37% experience mental health problems at some point

Source: Revealing LGBT Islington study 2005

Impact assessment

The data indicates that LGBT people tend to be economically better off than other groups, as they are more likely to be in work, work for longer and be on higher salaries. This group may be more at risk of specific conditions, such as mental health problems or being HIV+, than the general population, but where this is the case then their situation is addressed in the disability section. There are no negative impacts associated with sexual orientation triggered by this scheme.

Mitigation options

None.

b) Mitigation for people with protected characteristics

- Continuing to hold the cap on benefit at 8.5% despite no longer having a transitional grant from government to cover this and many local authorities moving away from this level of cap and passing the full extent of the government council tax benefit funding reduction to residents. This will ensure that those with protected characteristics are not impacted by the full possible extent of the government funding reduction.
- The regulations of the council tax benefit scheme have been retained, and these already make extra provision for disabled people and families by:
 - retaining all disability premiums so that the level of allowable income before tapers are introduced is higher than for the average working age person;
 - continuing to disregard as income certain disability benefits such as Disability Living Allowance (DLA) Personal Independence Payments and War Disablement Allowance;
 - ensuring that no non-dependent deductions apply if a person is in receipt of DLA or PIP (care component) therefore allowing him/her to qualify for a disability premium;
 - retaining all family premiums that still exist in the prescribed regulations and applicable amounts in recognition of the fact that families need a higher level of income to support their household;
 - continuing to disregard Child Benefit as income in the calculation of benefit entitlement – this means that there is an allowance for each child and a premium for disabled children.

Further to the original regulations we agreed to afford recipients of Personal Independence Payments (PIP) the same favourable premiums and allowances in the CTS scheme as we did DLA recipients, from the start date of the new benefit.

- The regulations also encourage moving into employment by:
 - offering a 4 week guaranteed payment of existing benefit level to those attaining work
- The re-use of the existing regulations also:
 - supports and promotes an incentive for saving by retaining the savings limit of £16,000 that exists within the current scheme
 - does not cap the reduction/support for higher property bands to ensure that there is no adverse impact on families in higher banded properties

In addition, current practice in Islington to support people with accessibility requirements will be retained. Therefore, documents are made available in different formats such as large print, audio and Braille and once known, the requested format will be provided as a matter of course. Translation services and interpreting services are also available when requested.

5. Socio-economic, Safeguarding and Human Rights impacts

a) Socio-economic impacts

Please describe the potential negative impacts of the proposal on residents, and any action that can be taken in response. Please refer to **section 3.6** of the guidance for more information.

Socio-economic disadvantage is not a protected characteristic but is a consideration included in the resident impact assessment given the significant income inequality within the borough. The previous Council Tax Benefit scheme was a means tested benefit available to households on a low income. Therefore, all recipients would be considered to be at a socio-economic disadvantage, particularly lone parents (more likely to be women), part time workers (more likely to be women) and large households (more likely to be from BME backgrounds). Currently there is little or no Council Tax Benefit data breakdown on the following protected characteristics: gender reassignment/identity, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, religion/belief or sexual orientation. During the lead up to the new CTS scheme, extensive consultation and communications were undertaken. Raising the awareness of residents of the CTS scheme. We have made available Council Tax payment options that include 2 weekly instalments over 12 months and direct debits have been widely publicised. The service will work with debt counselling and financial inclusion provisions within the borough. Islington is increasing the employment and skills provision in the borough through an Employment unit called iWork and is leading on a trial employment support initiative called “Universal Support Delivered Locally” to work with residents affected to increase their skills and the potential for them to get into employment. Actions to minimise causing further hardship to people already on low incomes have been identified in earlier sections.

b) Safeguarding risks

Please describe any safeguarding risks for children or vulnerable adults? Please refer to **section 3.7** of the guidance for more information.

No safeguarding issues were identified

c) Human Rights breaches

Please describe any potential human rights breaches that may occur as a result of the proposal. Particular attention should be paid to Article 3 (inhuman treatment) and Article 8 (right to privacy). Please refer to **section 3.8** of the guidance for more information.

No human rights issues were identified

6. Summary: core findings of the RIA

a) Who will the **proposal** mainly impact? Please provide bullet points summarising the key impacts below:

- Since the Council Tax Support Scheme (CTS) relates to the distribution of money based on criteria relating to low income then all residents on low income who are liable for council tax are affected by this proposal.
- Since the Council is using its own resources to limit the extent of the reduction in benefit to 8.5% then all residents are impacted by this proposal as they all have a stake in how the Council uses its limited resources.

b) What are the **equality impacts** of the proposal? Please provide bullet points below.

- The impact on all working age CTS claimants and potential claimants is the same in that they now have to contribute 8.5% more towards their Council Tax bill than they would have done up to March 2013. By not changing the agreed council tax support scheme since its inception, affected residents have not been subject to any further subsequent disadvantage. This position will remain for 2017/18 if the proposal to retain the existing scheme is agreed by Full Council. The impact on pension age CTS claimants is probably negligible as they have been protected from 8.5% reduction.
- No other impacts specific to people with protected characteristics have emerged during the previous 12 months' operation of the CTS scheme.
- No complaints or appeals specific to the CTS scheme have been received.
- The percentage of collection rates for 2017/18 compared to 2016/17 are very similar.

c) What safeguarding **risks** have been identified? Please provide bullet points below.

- None
-

d) What are the potential **Human Rights breaches**? Please provide bullet points below.

- None

e) **Monitoring:** what issues should be monitored, i.e. during and after implementation of this policy/change?

Issue to be monitored	Responsible person or team
The nature of any appeals against the operation of the CTS scheme	Appeals & Complaints (Fin Ops)
The nature of any complaints about the operation the CTS scheme	Appeals & Complaints (Fin Ops)
The difference in the council tax collection rates between CTS working age and all other council tax charge payers.	Andrew Spigarolo (Head of Service; Fin Ops)
The volume of requests made to the RSS for help to pay council tax	Robbie Rainbird (Head of Service; Fin Ops)

List any additional items to be monitored in the text box below:

[Click here to enter text.](#)

Please sign and date below to confirm that you have completed the Resident Impact Assessment in accordance with the guidance and using relevant available information. (A signature must also be obtained from a Service Head or higher. If this is a Corporate Resident Impact Assessment, it must be signed by a Corporate Director).

Staff member completing this form:

Head of Service or higher:

Signed: Alyson Firth

Signed: Robbie Rainbird

Date: 22/11/2017

Date: 22/11/2017

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Islington Town Hall
Upper Street
London

Report of: **Executive Member for Community Development**

Meeting of:	Date	Ward(s)
Council	7 December 2017	All

Delete as appropriate		Non-exempt
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SUBJECT: Licensing Policy 2018-2022

1. Synopsis

- 1.1 Under the Licensing Act 2003 the council is required to publish a statement of licensing policy every 5 years. The purpose of the Licensing Policy is to inform applicants and residents about the way in which the Licensing Authority intends to make decisions about licence applications and how licenced premises are likely to be permitted to operate.
- 1.2 Over the last nine months the current policy has been reviewed, a revised draft policy has been published and feedback from residents, businesses and partners has been sought through public consultation. The report recommends that the council adopts the new Licensing Policy 2018-2022 in appendix A
- 1.3 A key component of the Licensing Policy is the designation of 6 cumulative impact areas. These are areas of the borough where the combined effects of a significant number of licenced premises concentrated in one area is likely to undermine the licensing objectives. The cumulative impact areas were established in 2013 but the council is required to confirm the designation for a further 5 years.
- 1.4 In addition, the report also recommends:
 - extending the Kings Cross cumulative impact area north along Caledonian Road to Frederica Street
 - introducing a borough wide cumulative impact policy with respect to shops and other premises selling alcohol for consumption off the premises.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 To adopt the Licensing Policy 2018-2022 for Islington, attached in Appendix A.

- 2.2 To agree that the Policy shall apply to all applications for a premises licence or club certificate submitted after 1 January 2018.
- 2.3 To confirm the continuation of the following cumulative impact policy areas for all activities licensed under the Licensing Act 2003 for a further 5 years:
- Clerkenwell (paragraph 18)
 - Bunhill (paragraph 25)
 - Angel and Upper St (paragraph 41)
 - Holloway Road and Finsbury Park (paragraph 49)
 - Archway area (paragraph 58)
 - Kings Cross (paragraph 31)
- 2.4 To extend the Kings Cross cumulative impact area north along Caledonian Road to Frederica Street as shown on the map in paragraph 38 of the Policy.
- 2.5 To adopt a borough wide cumulative impact policy with respect to shops and other premises selling alcohol for consumption off the premises.

3. Background

- 3.1 The Licensing Policy applies to activities that are licenced under the Licensing Act 2003 which include:
- the retail sale of alcohol
 - the supply of alcohol by or on behalf of clubs
 - the provision of late night refreshment
 - the provision of regulated entertainment in for an audience in excess of 500 or provided after 11pm.
- 3.2 Regulated entertainment includes late night or large premises providing:
- recorded music
 - live music
 - films
 - performance of dance or plays
 - indoor sporting events
- 3.3 As a Licensing Authority, the council has a statutory duty to make licensing decisions, including determination of licensing policy, that are consistent with one or more of the following licensing objectives:
- Preventing crime and disorder
 - Securing public safety
 - Preventing public nuisance
 - Protecting children from harm

3.4 The Licensing Policy Review Process

The review process has been led by the Executive Member for Community Development and the Licensing Committee. Members have met on three occasions to review evidence, explore options and to formulate a draft policy for formal consultation. The Police, Trading Standards, Environmental Health (Noise and Public Safety), Public Health and Community Safety have also been consulted and invited to contribute to the policy review. Officers have ensured that proposals arising from the draft Licensing Policy are consistent with the Council's Economic Development and Arts Strategies.

3.5 The Evidence

The documentary evidence considered by the Licensing Committee is attached as appendix B and includes:

- Alcohol related crime statistics

- Independent research by the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine on the impact of our 2013-2017 cumulative impact policy
- Operation Nightsafe – annual report on the activities carried out by the Parkguard Night Safe Patrol Service funded by the Late Night Levy
- Operation Nightsafe –Police activities funded by the Late Night Levy
- Report on the Islington Alcohol Summit 2017 attended by a wide range of people representing residents and service users, businesses and statutory agencies
- Street Population - data on street drinking, hotspots and antisocial behaviour
- Policing the Night-time Economy in Islington
- Public Health summary of alcohol related harm in Islington

3.6 **Assessment of Cumulative Impact Policy**

The Licensing Policy 2013-2017 introduced 6 cumulative impact areas in the borough. For applications in cumulative impact areas there is a presumption that the Licensing Authority will refuse or impose limitations on applications which are likely to add to the cumulative impact unless the applicant can demonstrate that there will be no negative cumulative impact on the licensing objectives. In cumulative impact areas the onus is on the applicant to demonstrate that their venue will not add to existing problems being experienced by residents, businesses and public services.

- 3.7 The existence of a cumulative impact policy does not affect the Licensing Authority's duty to consider each application on its merits, it cannot refuse applications outright and it can only refuse or impose limitations where representations are received from residents, businesses or responsible authorities. Where no representations are received the Licensing Act 2003 requires the Licensing Authority to grant the licence.
- 3.8 Based on the evidence in appendix B and feedback from residents, partners and ward councillors the review of licensing policy confirmed that the cumulative impact area policy had achieved its objective and proposed that the 6 areas should continue for a further 5 years.
- 3.9 The evidence and feedback also indicated that more needed to be done to control the negative impacts associated with off licences therefore the recommendation is to adopt a borough-wide cumulative impact policy in relation to shops and other premises selling alcohol for consumption off the premises

3.10 **Consultation and Resident Engagement**

The Licensing Act 2003 specifies who the Licensing Authority must consult with before publishing its Licensing Policy. The statutory consultation and resident engagement programme ran from 15 September to 29 October 2017.

The consultation sought views on the following proposals:

- Maintaining the six cumulative impact policy areas
- Maintaining framework closing hours for different types of premises
- Proposing framework opening hours for different types of premises
- Encouraging applications from businesses that support our vision to provide a safe and welcoming evening economy with a diverse range of socialising opportunities for residents and visitors
- Extending the Kings Cross Cumulative Impact Area beyond the Caledonian Road railway bridge to Frederica Street
- Introducing a new cumulative impact policy for premises selling alcohol for consumption off the premises
- Introducing stricter controls over opening hours for new premises located in Clerkenwell, Archway or in close proximity to areas visited by street drinkers
- Extending match day controls on the sale of alcohol to off licences frequented by football supporters
- Introducing a new policy on safeguarding women and young adults frequenting pubs, bars and clubs

3.11 Consultation Feedback

Of the 60 responses to the consultation, 44 were from residents and resident associations, 11 were from businesses and organisations representing business, 4 from partner organisations and the Licensing Committee submitted a formal response during the consultation period. We received 41 responses via the on line survey and 19 written responses were submitted by email.

Overall residents and businesses generally supported the proposals.

Analysis of feedback from the on line survey showed the following levels of support:

Proposed policy	Support
Continuation of cumulative impact policies	89 %
Framework hours	76 %
Promoting a safe and welcoming evening economy and safeguarding the interests of vulnerable residents and children	87%
Extension to Kings Cross Cumulative Impact Area	92%
Borough wide cumulative impact area for off-licences	87%
Extend match day controls on the sale of alcohol to off licences	85%
Safeguarding women and young adults frequenting pubs, bars and clubs	76%

Consultation responses are attached as appendix C.

As a result of the consultation, a number of changes have been made to the wording of the policy to address issues raised by residents and businesses. Possible exceptions to the Angel and Upper Street cumulative impact area have been amended to reflect the minutes of the Licensing Committee held on 17 October 2017 and feedback from residents.

The changes to the policy following the consultation are listed in appendix D.

4. Implications

4.1 Financial implications:

The cost of preparing and publishing the revised policies has been met from the existing budget.

4.2 Legal Implications:

Section 5 of the Licensing Act 2003 requires a licensing authority to prepare and publish a statement of its licensing policy every five years. Before determining its policy, the licensing authority must consult:

- The chief officer of police for the area
- The fire and rescue authority for the area
- The local authority's Director of Public Health
- Persons/bodies representative of local premises licence holders
- Persons/bodies representative of local club premises certificate holders
- Persons/bodies representative of local personal licence holders
- Persons/bodies representative of businesses and residents in the area

In determining its policy, the licensing authority must have regard to the Home Office Guidance and give appropriate weight to the views of consultees.

The cumulative impact of licensed premises on the promotion of the licensing objectives is a proper matter for a licensing authority to consider in developing its licensing policy statement. Once adopted, cumulative impact policies should be reviewed to assess whether they are still needed or if they should be amended. The adoption of cumulative impact policies is currently set out in the Home Office Guidance but will have a statutory footing once s5A of the Licensing Act 2003 (as inserted by s141 of the Policing and Crime Act 2017) is in force. This section will require the licensing authority to carry out a review of its cumulative impact assessment every three years.

The Licensing Act 2003 provides that the licensing authority cannot delegate the determination of its licensing policy to the licensing committee. The Local Authorities (Functions and Responsibilities) Regulations 2000 (as amended) provide that this function cannot be discharged by the Executive and should be determined by the full Council.

4.3 Environmental Implications

The Licensing Policy identifies issues associated with the consumption of alcohol which have environmental implications – noise, odours, littering and street fouling. The policy seeks to ensure these issues are minimised when granting licences.

4.4 Resident Impact Assessment:

The council must, in the exercise of its functions, have due regard to the need to eliminate discrimination, harassment and victimisation, and to advance equality of opportunity, and foster good relations, between those who share a relevant protected characteristic and those who do not share it (section 149 Equality Act 2010). The council has a duty to have due regard to the need to remove or minimise disadvantages, take steps to meet needs, in particular steps to take account of disabled persons' disabilities, and encourage people to participate in public life. The council must have due regard to the need to tackle prejudice and promote understanding.

A Resident Impact Assessment on the proposed changes to the Licensing Policy was completed on 11 September 2017 and the summary is included below:

Equality Impacts:

- The proposal will have neutral impacts on all residents (with protected characteristics)
- The proposal will have neutral impact on good relations between communities and the rest of the population of Islington

Safeguarding and human rights impacts

- There are no safeguarding and human rights risks associated with this Policy.

5. Reason for recommendations

- 5.1 The council is required to review and adopted its statement of licensing policy every 5 years. The current policy has been reviewed and a revised draft policy has been the subject of a consultation exercise. Minor amendments to the Policy have been made as a result of feedback and the the Council is now invited to adopted the Licensing Policy for 2018-2022 and to confirm the continuation of our cumulative impact policies.

Appendices

- A. Draft Licensing Policy 2018-2022
- B. Evidence considered during the licensing policy review and assessment of cumulative impact policy
- C. Feedback from consultation
- D. Schedule of changes made to the policy following consultation

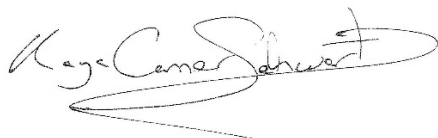
Background papers:

Licensing Policy 2013-2017

Home Office - Revised Guidance issued under section 182 Licensing Act 2003 (April 2017)

Final report clearance:

Signed by:



Executive Member for Community Development Date 15/11/17

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Statement of Licensing Policy 2018-2022

Licensing Act 2003

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Appendix 1

Alcohol and Health in Islington

Licensing Policy 2018-2022

Licensing Act 2003

INTRODUCTION

The Licensing Policy is intended to inform applicants and residents about the way in which the Licensing Authority will make licensing decisions and how licenced premises are likely to be permitted to operate so as to promote the licensing objectives.

As a Licensing Authority we have a duty to promote the following four licensing objectives and these objectives will underpin every decision that we undertake:

- the prevention of crime and disorder;
- public safety;
- the prevention of public nuisance;
- the protection of children from harm

In reviewing and updating our Licensing Policy we have been mindful that Islington's residents continue to suffer from late night antisocial behaviour and high levels of alcohol-related ill health and early deaths. Evidence shows alcohol consumption is a major factor behind violent crime and disorder in the borough with serious consequences to victims, businesses and local communities

In 2013 we introduced area based cumulative impact policies and framework hours to manage the negative impacts of the night time economy on residents and public services. Our review of Licensing Policy in 2017 concluded that these policies had achieved their objectives and should be retained to ensure that the benefits that they had created were maintained.

Through our Licensing Policy for 2018 – 2022 we believe we can build upon the success of the last 5 years by providing clearer guidance to applicants on the sort of applications that might be exceptions to the cumulative impact policy. We want to encourage and support applications that contribute to the day time and evening economy, especially those that will widen socialising opportunities to people visiting, working and living in the borough This approach is consistent with not only our duty as a Licensing Authority to promote the four licensing objectives but also with the council's key commitment to creating a fairer borough and key strategic policies on economic development, employment and culture.

Whilst the Licensing Policy should be used as a tool for guiding applicants on Licensing Authority expectations we will continue to consider each application on its merits and through the Licensing Policy we will:

- Carefully manage the number licenced premises supplying alcohol, imposing restrictions where appropriate
- Encourage and support businesses that are unlikely to add to the cumulative impact in terms of crime, disorder and public nuisance
- Seek to promote high standards of management in licensed premises to ensure businesses operate responsibly and the experiences of residents and visitors are not ruined by poorly run businesses both on the premises and in the surrounding environment
- Promote a safe, welcoming and varied evening economy where businesses work with the Licensing Authority and Responsible Authorities
- Safeguard the interests of vulnerable residents and children

The Licensing Policy is intended as a guide for applicants and residents. The Licensing Authority expects applicants to have regard to the Policy when preparing their application and operating schedule. Applications that are not consistent with the policy are likely to be subject to representations from responsible authorities, ward councillors and local residents.

Representations from residents, ward councillors and responsible authorities should relate to one or more of the licensing objectives and, where possible, provide sufficient information to help the Licensing Committee assess the impact of the application on the licensing objectives.

Where representations are received, the application will be determined by a public hearing of the Licensing Committee and a decision will be made on the merits of the application whilst having regard to the Licensing Policy and the duty to promote the licensing objectives.

As required under the Licensing Act 2003, where no representations are received, applications will be granted on the terms and conditions applied for.

LICENSING POLICY IN CONTEXT

Islington is one of London's most distinctive areas, offering arts, entertainment, good eating and drinking, a huge variety of specialist shops, lively street markets and a rich and fascinating history. The sense of community feel around Islington is one of the things that make this relatively small London borough unique.

Islington, however, is undergoing a process of rapid change and this is likely to continue. The number of people living in the borough increased by 15% to 206,000 between 2001 and 2011 and this trend looks set to continue. Housing demand has been high and this need has been met by fast paced redevelopment including turning old factories and business premises into residential use. This has turned

many parts of the borough, which were previously exclusively commercial, into mixed-use hubs incorporating commercial and residential premises in very close proximity. The council is keen to preserve a diverse mix of premises through the borough and wants to work with businesses, residents and partners through its Licensing Policy to achieve this.

The Licensing Authority recognises that licensed premises make a significant contribution to the wellbeing of the borough by providing a wide variety of entertainment, arts and cultural activities, business, employment and career opportunities. However, uncontrolled expansion of this sector could provide disproportionately negative benefits for local residents and public services.

It is also a particular feature of Islington that densely populated residential areas are located in very close proximity to commercial areas, and that poorly managed premises can have a very immediate impact on nearby local residents.

Going forward the Licensing Authority wants to continue to manage any expansion of the late night economy, that is premises trading beyond midnight, as these activities pose the greatest risk of undermining the licensing objectives, whilst supporting well managed businesses that will contribute to the borough's vibrant and diverse evening economy.

SAFER ISLINGTON PARTNERSHIP

The Safer Islington Partnership (SIP) is the body that brings together all relevant services and agencies working to reducing crime and disorder in the borough. The objective of the partnership is to facilitate effective working on agreed priorities, ensuring that where partners commit to action they are held to account for it and to add value to work of individual services and agencies through joined up outcome focused activities.

Alcohol-related crime and disorder is a major concern of the Partnership.

PUBLIC SPACE PROTECTION ORDER (PSPO)

A Public Space Protection Order creates a borough wide controlled drinking zone to help us reduce anti-social behaviour arising from drinking alcohol in the street. The Order gives the police and Operation Nightsafe Patrol Officers the ability to confiscate alcohol or require a person to stop drinking in public if they are causing a nuisance. The powers do not prohibit drinking in public places and it can only be used where it is associated with negative behaviour

OPERATION NIGHTSAFE

Operation Nightsafe is a unique partnership between the Licensing Authority, Licenced Trade the Police and our delivery partner Parkguard Ltd. It is funded by the Late Night Levy which is paid by all licenced premises selling alcohol beyond midnight as prescribed in the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011.

The aim of Operation Night Safe is to support and promote the late night economy in Islington by:

- providing a safe, welcoming night time environment for residents, workers and visitors
- reducing late night alcohol related crime, disorder, antisocial behaviour and nuisance
- minimising negative impacts on local residents

This is achieved by funding:

- a Police Sergeant and Constable to coordinate policing the night time economy including follow up enforcement activities
- Parkguard to provide a high visibility street based patrol service 4 nights per week with the capacity to provide assistance to licenced premises and members of the public in need.

DEVELOPMENT PLANNING

Licensing Policy 1

The Licensing Authority expects applicants to ensure that they have planning consent for the intended use and hours of operation, or otherwise have lawful planning status, before making an application for a premises licence.

1. The Planning Consent for a premise determines its use and the hours of operation. If this is not in place at the time the licensing application is heard, there may be a conflict between the two and the applicant will be required to comply with any planning consent granted. It is expected that the necessary planning consent will be in place to ensure that this conflict does not arise and applicants receive a decision from the licensing process which they can immediately implement.
2. Applicants are advised that prior approval of a licence application is not generally held to be a material consideration when the council determines a planning application.
3. Where the terminal hour has been set as a condition of planning permission and these hours are different to the licensing hours, applicant must observe the earlier closing time. The granting of a licence by the licensing committee does not mean the applicant will not need to apply for planning permission. Premises operating without the necessary planning permission will be liable to prosecution under planning law.
4. Planning permission is usually granted for the permitted opening hours of the premises and will include the time it takes customers to leave the premises. This time will normally be later than the time when licensing activities cease so that there is sufficient time for customers to leave the premises gradually to minimise impact on nearby residents.
5. The process of applying for a licence or varying an existing licence should not

be a re-run of the planning process. Where premises have obtained planning permission prior to the submission of a licence application, the determination of the licence will focus on controls necessary to achieve the licensing objectives.

6. Objectors who are dissatisfied with the planning outcome may still make representations through the licensing process but their representations will only be relevant where they relate to one or more of the following four licensing objectives:
 - the prevention of crime and disorder;
 - public safety;
 - the prevention of public nuisance;
 - the protection of children from harm
7. The council's planning policies are set out in Islington's Development Plan which can be found on our website:
<https://www.islington.gov.uk/planning/planningpol>

LOCATION, CUMULATIVE IMPACT AND SATURATION

Licensing Policy 2

In considering applications for new licences, variations to existing licences and licence reviews the Licensing Authority will take the matters listed below into account:

- **whether the premises are located in an area of cumulative impact**
- **the type of premises and their cumulative impact upon the area and the mix of premises in the area**
- **the location of the premises and character of the area**
- **the proximity to residential properties**
- **the views of responsible authorities**
- **the potential impact on residents living in close proximity to the premises**
- **past compliance history of current management**
- **the proposed hours of operation**
- **the type and numbers of customers likely to attend the premises**
- **whether the applicant is able to demonstrate commitment to a high standard of management**
- **the physical suitability of the building proposed for licensable activities, i.e. in terms of safety, access, noise control etc.**

8. Islington has one of the highest densities of licensed premises in England and careful consideration will be given to the need to add to these numbers when applications are received. As there is often no delineation or separation between residential and commercial areas careful management is required to prevent conflict between the different uses.
9. Applicants should consider the general operating hours in Licensing Policies 5 and 6 and should not try to replicate later opening hours offered by other premises. The Licensing Authority will need to carefully balance the conflicting needs of residents, patrons and businesses in relation to the introduction of premises and flexible opening hours for the sale and supply of alcohol and late night refreshments.

CUMULATIVE IMPACT POLICY AREAS

Licensing Policy 3

The Licensing Authority has adopted a special policy relating to cumulative impact in relation to the supply of alcohol in:

- **Clerkenwell**
- **Bunhill**
- **Kings Cross**
- **Upper Street and Angel**
- **Holloway Road and Finsbury Park**
- **Archway**

This special policy creates a rebuttable presumption that applications for the grant or variation of premises licences or club premises certificates which are likely to add to the existing cumulative impact will normally be refused following the receipt of representations, unless the applicant can demonstrate in the operation schedule that there will be no negative cumulative impact on one or more of the licensing objectives

10. Cumulative impact is concerned with the potential impact on the licensing objectives of a significant number of licenced premises concentrated in one area. As borough with one of the highest concentrations of licenced venues in London, this is a significant issue for Islington. Whilst it could be argued that the whole of the borough meets the cumulative impact test the Licensing Authority has identified six areas in the borough where the threshold for cumulative impact has been met.
11. This special policy is not absolute and in some situation premises licences or or club certificates may be subject to limitations. The circumstances of each application will be considered on its merits and the Licensing Authority shall grant applications where the applicant has demonstrated that the operation of the premises will not to add to the cumulative impact on one of more licensing objectives.
12. It must be stressed that the presumption created by this special policy does not relieve responsible authorities or other persons of the need to make a representation. If there are no representations, the licensing authority must

grant the application in terms that are consistent with the operating schedule submitted

13. Applicants will be expected to comprehensively demonstrate why a new or varied licence will not add to the cumulative impact. They are strongly advised to give consideration to mitigating potential cumulative impact issues when setting out steps they will take to promote the licensing objectives in their operating schedule.
14. As a general rule the Licensing Authority does not consider the following criteria as exceptional to the application of its cumulative impact policy:
 - premises will be well managed and run
 - premises will be constructed to a high standard
 - applicant operates similar premises elsewhere without complaint
 - similar premises operate in the area
15. After receiving representations in relation to a new or variation application the licensing authority will consider whether it would be justified in departing from this special policy in the light of the individual circumstances of the case. The impact of an application can be expected to be different for premises with different styles and characteristics. If the licensing authority decides that an application should be refused, it will still need to show that the grant of the application would undermine one or more of the licensing objectives and that conditions or restrictions would be an ineffective solution.

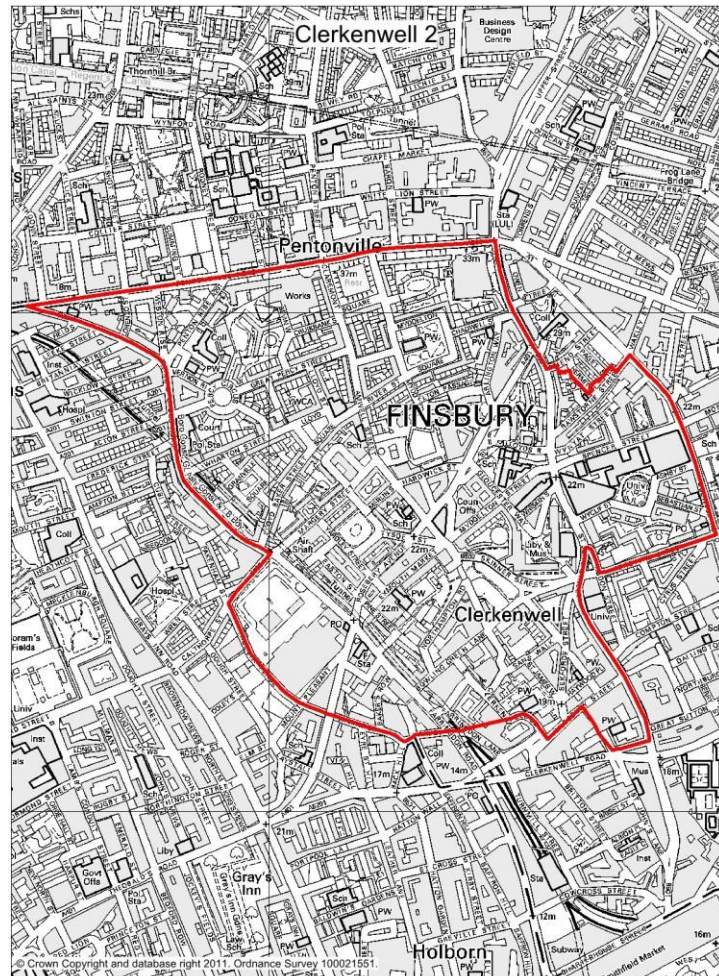
REVIEW OF CUMULATIVE IMPACT AREAS - SUPPORTING EVIDENCE

16. In determining its draft Licensing Policy for 2018 - 2022 the Licensing Authority undertook a review of its licensing and cumulative impact policy and considered the following evidence:
 - a. Independent research undertaken by the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine
 - b. Alcohol Related Crime and Disorder Statistics
 - c. Alcohol related ambulance callouts
 - d. Alcohol related hospital admissions data
 - e. Operation Nightsafe Patrol reports
 - f. Noise and antisocial data associated with licenced premises
 - g. Residents feedback via complaints and discussion with Licensing Team and resident's representations
 - h. Feedback from residents following the 2010 policy consultation
 - i. Feedback from Community Safety Team and Safer Islington Partners
 - j. Feedback from Responsible Authorities
 - k. Feedback from Police and Local Authority Licensing Officers
 - l. Feedback from ward councillors, Licensing Committee members and Executive Members
 - m. Feedback from stakeholders, which included premises licence holders, voluntary sector groups and adult and children support services, attending the Alcohol Summit in June 2017

17. This evidence is published on our website www.islington.gov.uk/consultations

CLERKENWELL CUMULATIVE IMPACT AREA

18. The map below shows the Clerkenwell cumulative impact area:



19. Clerkenwell supports a diverse and vibrant evening and night time economy and the Licensing Authority is committed to working with potential applicants and existing licence holders to ensure that licenced premises are well managed and any negative impacts on local residents in terms of crime, disorder, nuisance and antisocial behaviour are minimised.

20. Businesses in Clerkenwell make a significant contribution to the economic prosperity of the borough through the provision of employment opportunities, the well-established creative industries hub and the distinct cultural, leisure and historical offer in the area which attracts local, national and international visitors alike.

21. It is anticipated that the business sector is likely to expand in Clerkenwell as Farringdon Station transforms into one of the most significant transport hubs

in London bringing new business and leisure opportunities. The Licensing Authority wants to support applications from businesses that contribute to the wider cultural offer in the area and those that enhance the diversity of the evening economy.

22. The Licensing Authority recognises that it has to balance the needs of businesses with those of local residents and it will utilise its Licensing Policy to address these local issues:

- Clerkenwell has the highest number of complaints about drinking in the street than any other ward in the borough
- Residents continue to experience adverse impacts of the late night licenced venues

23. The review of our Licensing Policy in 2017 confirmed that the cumulative impact policy for Clerkenwell had achieved its objective and that this policy should continue for a further 5 years however within the scope of this policy the Licensing Authority is able to give more detailed guidance on the sort of applications that could be considered to be an exception to the cumulative policy for Clerkenwell.

Possible exceptions to the Clerkenwell Cumulative Impact Policy

24. Applications with comprehensive operating schedules that meet all the following criteria may be able to demonstrate that there will be no negative cumulative impact on one or more of the licensing objectives:

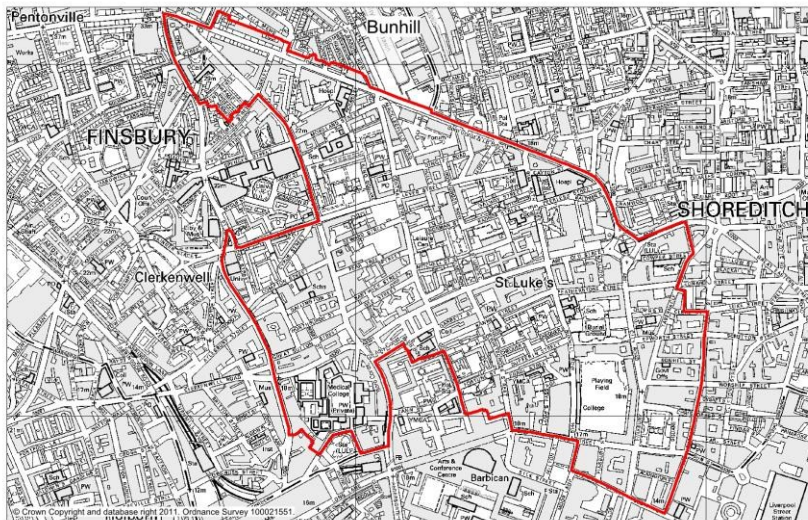
- a. The provision of mixed use or flexible premises that
 - i. Support the people visiting the area during the day
 - ii. encourage people to stay in the area after work
 - iii. encourage people staying in local hotels to socialise in the area
 - iv. support the wider cultural offer in the area
- b. Premises that are not alcohol led
- c. Premises with hours of operation consistent with framework hours
- d. Premises supplying alcohol for consumption on the premises with robust arrangements to prevent vertical drinking, for example fully seated venues
- e. Premises that can demonstrate high standards of management with respect to preventing public nuisance associated with waste management & littering
- f. Premises supplying alcohol for consumption off the premises operating to the following framework hours:

Monday to Thursday	8am to	11pm
Friday	8am to	8pm
Saturday	10am to	8pm
Sunday	10am to	11pm
- g. Commitment from the premises licence holder to:

- actively support Pubwatch through regular attendance and engagement at meetings
- implement the Operation Nightsafe Best Practice Standards

BUNHILL CUMULATIVE IMPACT AREA

25. The map below shows the Bunhill Cumulative Impact Area:



26. The establishment of Tech City, one of the largest technology start up clusters outside USA, and new major residential developments in the area and in neighbouring Hackney, has attracted more licenced venues to Bunhill to meet demand. This trend is likely to continue as more residential developments are built and the predicted long term impact of the redevelopment Farringdon Station moves towards east London.
27. The Licensing Authority is committed to working with potential applicants and existing licence holders to establish a well-managed evening economy that meets residents and business needs whilst minimising any adverse impacts in terms of crime, disorder, nuisance and antisocial behaviour.
28. The Licensing Authority recognises that it has to balance the needs of businesses with those of local residents and it will utilise its Licensing Policy to address these local issues:
- a. Adverse impacts associated with late night venues
 - b. Alcohol related antisocial behaviour
 - c. Minimise the opportunities for drinking in the street and preloading
29. The review of our Licensing Policy in 2017 confirmed that the cumulative impact policy for Bunhill had achieved its objective and that this policy should continue for a further 5 years however within the scope of this policy the

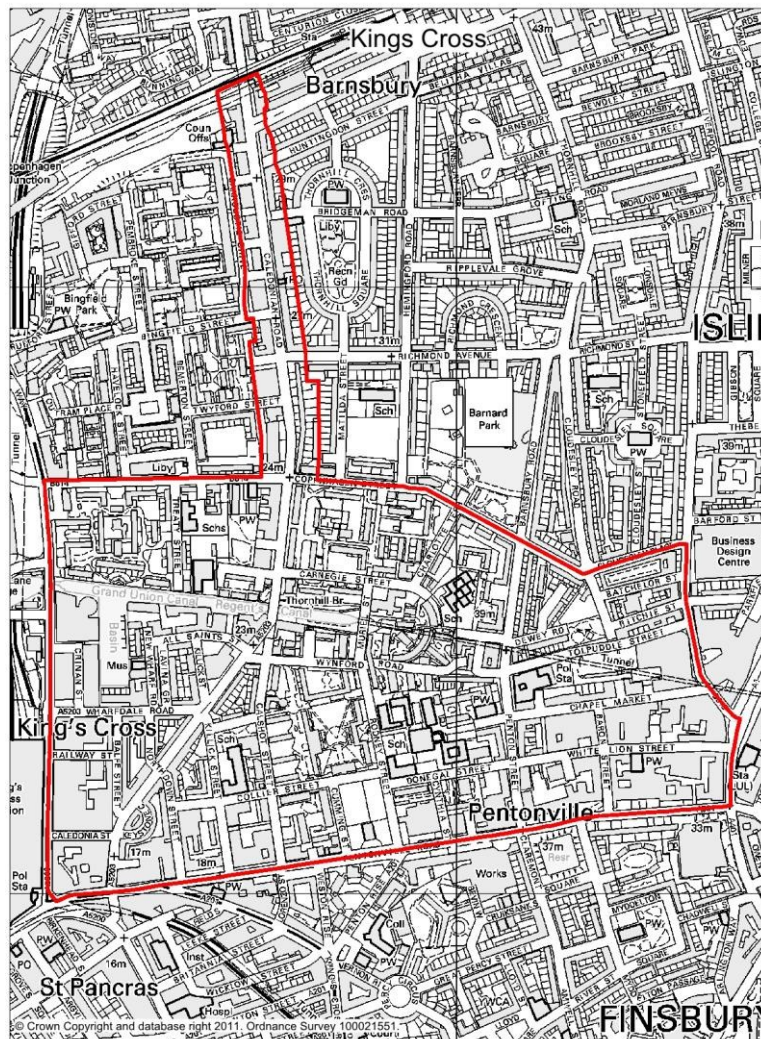
Licensing Authority is able to give more detailed guidance on the sort of applications that could be considered to be an exception to the cumulative policy for Bunhill.

Possible exceptions to the Bunhill Cumulative Impact Policy

30. Applications with comprehensive operating schedules that meet all the following criteria may be able to demonstrate that there will be no negative cumulative impact on one or more of the licensing objectives:
- a. The provision of mixed use or flexible premises that
 - support the people visiting the area during the day
 - encourage people to stay in the area after work
 - support the wider cultural offer in the area
 - b. Premises with hours of operation consistent with framework hours
 - c. Premises that can demonstrate high standards of management with respect to preventing public nuisance associated with waste management & littering
 - d. Commitment from the premises licence holder to
 - actively support Pubwatch through regular attendance and engagement at meetings
 - implement the Operation Nightsafe Best Practice Standards

KINGS CROSS CUMULATIVE IMPACT AREA

31. The map below shows the current Kings Cross Cumulative Impact Area:



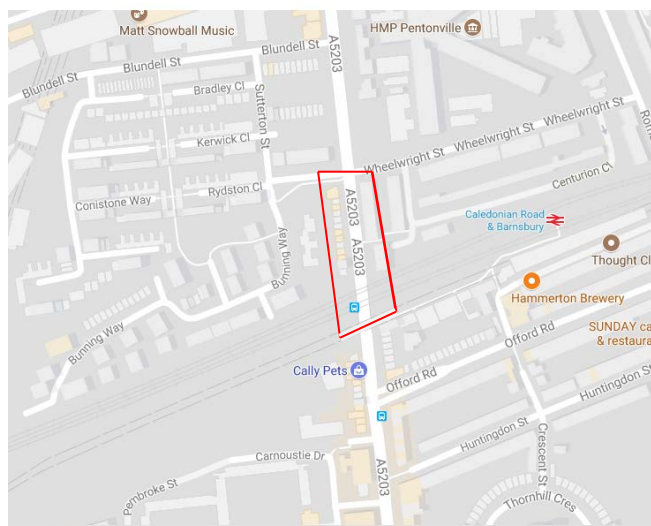
32. King's Cross has undergone some radical changes in recent years as a result of redevelopment creating King's Cross Central across the border in Camden and Regent's Quarter in Islington.

33. These changes, as well as the proposed developments in the area, have already led to an increase in the numbers of licence applications and an associated increase in representations from residents and ward councillors citing problems with cumulative impact issues such as noise disturbance, drunken fights and crime due to intoxicated persons in the area.

34. Due to its proximity to Kings Cross station the area is regularly used by visitors to sporting and other large scale events in London and whilst it is recognised that the overwhelming majority of visitors are well behaved, a small minority are associated with public nuisance and crime and disorder and

antisocial

35. Licensing Authority is committed to working with potential applicants and existing licence holders to maintain a well-managed evening economy that meets residents and business needs whilst minimising any adverse impacts in terms of crime, disorder, nuisance and antisocial behaviour.
36. The Licensing Authority recognises that it has to balance the needs of businesses with those of local residents and it will utilise its Licensing Policy to address these local issues:
- Adverse impacts associated with late night venues
 - Alcohol related antisocial behaviour
 - Negative impacts associated with visitors attending large scale sporting and other events
37. The review of our Licensing Policy in 2017 confirmed that the cumulative impact policy for Kings Cross had achieved its objective and that this policy should continue for a further 5 years however feedback from members and residents indicated that the area should be extend along Caledonian Road to Frederica Street.
38. The map below shows the area outlined in red which has been included in the Kings Cross Cumulative Impact Area from January 2018.



39. Within the scope of the extended Kings Cross cumulative impact area the Licensing Authority is able to give more detailed guidance on the sort of applications that could be considered to be an exception to the cumulative impact policy.

Possible exceptions to the extended Kings Cross Cumulative Impact Policy

40. Applications with comprehensive operating schedules that meet all the following criteria may be able to demonstrate that there will be no negative cumulative impact on one or more of the licensing objectives:

- Premises that are not alcohol led
- Premises with hours of operation consistent with framework hours
- Premises supplying alcohol for consumption on the premises with robust arrangements to prevent vertical drinking, for example fully seated venues

ANGEL AND UPPER STREET CUMULATIVE IMPACT AREA

41. The map below shows the Angel and Upper Street Cumulative Impact Area:



42. Angel and Upper Street supports a diverse and vibrant evening and night time economy and the Licensing Authority is committed to working with potential applicants and existing licence holders to ensure that licenced premises are well managed and any negative impacts on local residents in terms of crime, disorder, nuisance and antisocial behaviour are minimised.

43. Licenced premises in Angel and Upper Street make a significant contribution to the to the reputation and economic prosperity of Islington. The area is renowned for being a vibrant place to live, work and socialise with a diverse evening economy characterised by a wide range of restaurants and cafes, pub and bars, live music venues, theatres, 2 cinemas and many interesting

niche or independent shops

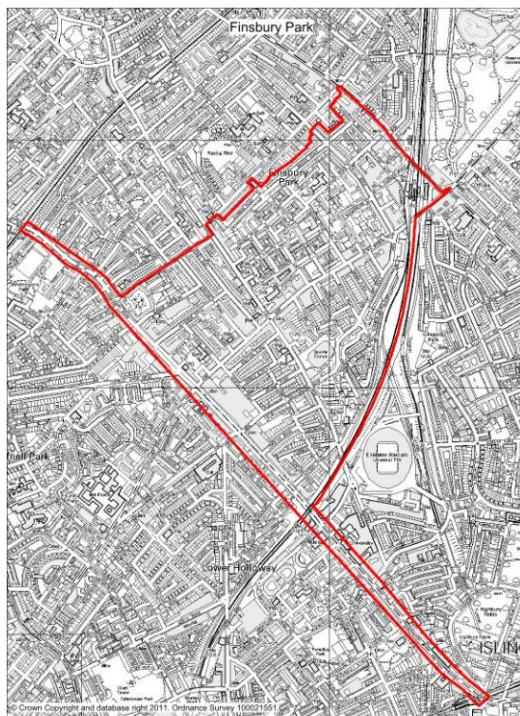
44. Whilst many of the licenced venues operating in the area demonstrate high levels of commitment to providing safe and welcoming evening and night time environment the area continues to feature as as alcohol related crime hotspot.
45. The Licensing Authority recognises that it has to balance the needs of businesses with public service and residents and it will utilise its Licensing Policy to address these local issues:
- a) the impact of all venues on local residents
 - b) alcohol related crime and violence
 - c) providing safe and secure venues, especially for women and young adults
46. The review of Licensing Policy in 2017 confirmed that the cumulative impact policy for Angel and Upper Street had achieved its objective and that this policy should continue for a further 5 years
47. Within the scope of the Angel and Upper Street Cumulative Impact area the Licensing Authority is able to give more detailed guidance on the sort of applications that could be considered to be an exception to the cumulative impact policy.

Possible exceptions to the Angel and Upper Street Cumulative Impact Policy

48. Applications with comprehensive operating schedules that meet all the following criteria may be able to demonstrate that there will be no negative cumulative impact on one or more of the licensing objectives:
- a. small premises with a capacity of fifty persons with hours of operation consistent with the framework hours
 - b. premises which are mixed use or not alcohol-led with hours of operation consistent with the framework hours

HOLLOWAY AND FINSBURY PARK CUMULATIVE IMPACT AREA

49. The map on the next page shows the Holloway Road and Finsbury Park Cumulative Impact Area:



50. This commercially busy area of Islington includes Holloway Road, Nags Head Town Centre and Finsbury Park.
51. Regeneration in Finsbury Park is attracting new businesses and the Licensing Authority is committed to supporting the development of a new grass roots live music hub in the area.
52. Whilst many licenced premises in the wider Holloway and Finsbury Park area are well managed a combination of the economic viability of some businesses and the high turnover of proprietors continues to impact on management standards and licenced businesses operating in the area have made a disproportionate demand on the Licensing Authority's enforcement resources.
53. Licensing Authority is committed by working with potential applicants and existing licence holders to maintain a well-managed evening economy that meets residents and business needs whilst minimising any adverse impacts in terms of crime, disorder, nuisance and antisocial behaviour.
54. The Licensing Authority recognises that it has to balance the needs of businesses with those of local residents and it will utilise its Licensing Policy to address these local issues:
- a) Adverse impacts associated with the late night venues
 - b) Alcohol related antisocial behaviour, especially as a result drinking in the street
 - c) Negative impacts associated with visitors to large scale sporting and other events

55. The review of our Licensing Policy in 2017 confirmed that the cumulative impact policy for Holloway and Finsbury Park had achieved its objective and that this policy should continue for a further 5 years.

56. Within the scope of the Holloway and Finsbury Park cumulative impact area the Licensing Authority is able to give more detailed guidance on the sort of applications that could be considered to be an exception to the cumulative impact policy.

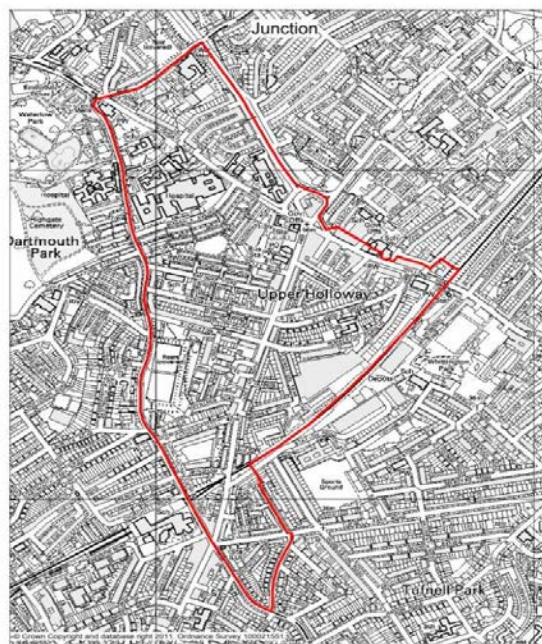
Possible exceptions to the Holloway and Finsbury Park Cumulative Impact Policy

57. Applications with comprehensive operating schedules that meet all the following criteria may be able to demonstrate that there will be no negative cumulative impact on one or more of the licensing objectives:

- a) Premises that are not alcohol led
- b) Premises with hours of operation consistent with framework hours
- c) Premises providing live music and other cultural activities
- d) Premises implementing match and event day controls in Licensing Policy 15 where recommended by the Police or Licensing Authority

ARCHWAY CUMULATIVE IMPACT AREA

58. The map below shows the Archway Cumulative Impact Area:



59. One of the main issue of concern in the Archway Cumulative Impact area is the number of off licences operating in the area and the impact that widely

available alcohol is having on local residents in terms of nuisance and antisocial behaviour, and public services dealing with alcohol related ambulance call outs and crime and disorder.

60. Not only does the area have one of the highest concentrations of off licences of any ward in the borough, with an average of one off licence per 317 residents, the area is home to Whittington Hospital, mental health facilities as well a busy transport hub. These pressures contribute to cumulative impacts and the Licensing Authority response has been to maintain the cumulative impact policy for the area and to introduce bespoke framework hours for off licences in Archway.
61. To address the imbalance, the Licensing Authority wants to encourage applications that bring cultural opportunities for residents and it is committed to working with potential applicants and existing licence holders to establish a diverse well-managed evening economy that meets residents and business needs whilst minimising any adverse impacts in terms of crime, disorder, nuisance and antisocial behaviour.
62. A secondary issue of concern is late night venues, including late night takeaways and the Licensing Authority will continue to apply its cumulative impact policies in relation to these types of application where representations are submitted by responsible authorities or residents.
63. The Licensing Authority recognises that it has to balance the needs of businesses with those of local residents and it will utilise its Licensing Policy to address these local issues:
- Adverse impacts associated with premises supplying alcohol for consumption off the premises
 - Alcohol related antisocial behaviour associated with drinking alcohol in the street
 - Lack of venues providing leisure and social activities
 - Negative impacts associated with late night venues
64. The review of our Licensing Policy in 2017 confirmed that the cumulative impact policy for the Junction area of Archway had achieved its objective and that this policy should continue for a further 5 years however within the scope of this policy the Licensing Authority is able to give more detailed guidance on the sort of applications that could be considered to be an exception to the cumulative policy for Archway

Possible exceptions to the Archway Cumulative Impact Policy

65. Applications with comprehensive operating schedules that meet all the following criteria may be able to demonstrate that there will be no negative cumulative impact on one or more of the licensing objectives:

- a) Premises that do not supply alcohol for consumption off the premises

- b) Premises providing cultural activities
- c) Premises supplying alcohol for consumption on the premises with robust arrangements to prevent vertical drinking, for example fully seated community pubs
- d) Premises supplying alcohol operating to the following framework hours:

Monday to Sunday 9 am to 11 pm

OFF SALES OF ALCOHOL FROM SHOPS AND OTHER PREMISES

Licensing Policy 4

The Licensing Authority has adopted a special policy relating to cumulative impact in relation to shops and other premises selling alcohol for consumption off the premises.

This special policy creates a rebuttable presumption that applications for the grant or variation of premises licences or club premises certificates which are likely to add to the existing cumulative impact will normally be refused or subject to certain limitation, following the receipt of representations, unless the applicant can demonstrate in the operation schedule that there will be no negative cumulative impact on one or more of the licensing objectives

- 66. The Licensing Authority's cumulative impact and framework hours' policies have been successful in reducing negative impacts associated with late night supplies of alcohol however more needs to be done to deal with cumulative impacts arising from the supply of alcohol for consumption off the premises.
- 67. The number of off licences operating in the borough in most areas has reached the cumulative impact threshold and in areas where there is a successful evening and night time economy off sales of alcohol are contributing to cumulative impacts as result of preloading.
- 68. Feedback from Partners working in Health, the Emergency Services and Adult Social Care and at our Alcohol Summit in 2017 indicated that more had to be done to control the ease of access to alcohol in street drinking hotspots and areas visited by vulnerable people during the day and that night time economy off sales of alcohol were contributing to cumulative impacts as a result of preloading.
- 69. Public Health data on impact of underage drinking shows that whilst Islington is seeing a downward trend in alcohol related hospital admissions and ambulance callouts amongst under 18's the rate is significantly higher than the average rate for London and England.
- 70. As a result, the Licensing Authority has adopted a special cumulative impact policy with respect to off sales of alcohol.
- 71. This special policy is not absolute. Each application will be considered on its

merits and the Licensing Authority shall grant applications that are unlikely to add to the cumulative impact on the licensing objectives.

72. After receiving representations in relation to a new or variation application the licensing authority will consider whether it would be justified in departing from this special policy in the light of the individual circumstances of the case.
73. The impact of an application can be expected to be different for premises operating in different areas. If the licensing authority decides that an application should be refused, it will still need to show that the grant of the application would undermine one or more of the licensing objectives and that conditions or restrictions would be an ineffective solution.

Possible exceptions to the cumulative impact policy for off sales of alcohol

74. Applications with robust operating schedules that meet all the following criteria may be able to demonstrate that there will be no negative cumulative impact on one or more of the licensing objectives:
- a) Specialist premises selling alcohol ancillary to main activity of business e.g. florist providing champagne with flowers, cheese shop selling wine to accompany cheese
 - b) Premises that can demonstrate that the risk of alcohol purchased from the premises being consumed on the street is minimal due to the nature and type of alcohol being sold
 - c) Premises that are not in the vicinity of schools, wet or dry centres, mental health establishments nor street population hotspots
 - d) Premises outside the area based cumulative impact areas
75. Applicants and licence holders are expected to demonstrate high standards of management through their operating schedules including details of:
- Competency arrangements for staff and managers
 - Induction and refresher training
 - Challenge 25
 - Procedures in place to prevent the sale of illicit alcohol
 - Reduce the strength policies
 - Arrangements for communicating with staff and customers

LICENSING HOURS

Licensing Policy 5

Where representations are received from responsible authorities or other persons the Licensing Authority may seek to restrict hours of opening where it is appropriate to promote the licensing objectives.

The Licensing Authority may impose further limitations on hours upon review of the licence, particularly where the premises are shown to be the focus or

cause of nuisance or anti-social behaviour.

76. The Licensing Authority supports the principle of flexibility in its approach to licensing hours and will consider the merits of each individual application however it is mindful that Islington has become saturated with late night premises selling alcohol and it is concerned about the cumulative impact that the proliferation of late night venues and retailers in the borough is having on the promotion of the licensing objectives.
77. The Licensing Authority is mindful of the argument that in some situations, longer licensing hours for the sale of alcohol can help to minimise the impact of large concentrations of customers leaving premises simultaneously. In Islington, many licenced premises are already open into the early hours of the morning and this has contributed to the development of a thriving evening and night-time economy
78. Balanced against this is the evidence in Islington that extended opening hours has seen increased levels of crime and anti-social behaviour such as noise and disturbance to local residents living near licenced premises, fast food outlets, bus stops, train and underground stations that continues through the early hours of the morning.
79. Later opening hours can also impact on the response times for the Police, Fire and Ambulance Service as peak demand for their services extends across the night and early hours of the morning, correlating with the increase in late opening. The number of late night premises is now at a level where to allow more would adversely impact on this balance

Licensing policy 6

When dealing with new and variation applications the Licensing Authority will give more favourable consideration to applications with the opening and closing times listed in the table below:

Public Houses and Bars	Sunday to Thursday	8am to 11pm
	Friday and Saturday	8am to midnight
Nightclubs	Sunday to Thursday	8am to 1am the following day
	Friday and Saturday	8am to 2am the following day
Restaurants Cafes & Coffee Shops	Sunday to Thursday	8am to 11pm
	Friday and Saturday	8am to midnight
Hot food and drink supplied by takeaways & fast food premises	Sunday to Thursdays	11pm to midnight
	Friday and Saturday	11pm to 1am the following morning
Off Licences	Monday to Sundays	8am to 11pm

Hotels - residents only :	Monday to Sundays	24 hours sale of alcohol
Hotels- guests and non-residents	Sunday to Thursdays	8am to 11pm
	Friday and Saturday	8am to midnight
Shops and off sales of alcohol in Clerkenwell	Monday to Thursday	8am to 11pm
	Friday	8am to 8pm
	Saturday	10am to 8pm
	Sunday	10am to 11pm
Premises selling alcohol in Archway	Monday to Sunday	9am to 11pm
Premises selling alcohol for consumption off the premises in close proximity to schools or in high risk areas	Monday to Sunday	10am to 11pm

80. High risk areas are defined as areas of the borough where partners involved in alcohol harm reduction work have identified there are particular concerns around the vulnerability of those visiting or residing in the area. For example, an area where one or more of the following apply:

- there are considerable levels of street drinking or partners are reporting having to attend a number of alcohol related incidents
- in close proximity to local hospitals, drug and alcohol services or mental health services
- in close proximity to vulnerable young people's services (such as children and young people's drug and alcohol services, CAMHS, young persons supported accommodation, pupil referral units)
- there is particularly vulnerable adult supported accommodation (accommodation for individuals who continue to drink or where there are more than 10 residents).

81. The above hours are intended to guide applicants on the Licensing Authority's expectations when preparing their Operating Schedules. The above hours are not pre-determined and each application will be considered on its merit. In some situations, local issues may indicate that shorter licensing hours are appropriate to promote the licensing objectives.

82. Applicants for premises licences falling outside the above hours are expected to fully explain in their operating schedule the arrangements that they will put in place to ensure that the premises will not add to the cumulative impact.

Operating schedules with insufficient detail are more likely to be refused, attract limitations in hours, or have conditions imposed on them by the Licensing Authority.

83. For applications within the above hours there is no presumption that the application will automatically be granted in all cases where relevant representations are made.
84. Furthermore, the Licensing Authority considers that the possibility of disturbance to residents is more likely to occur at night and in the early hours of the morning and despite the best efforts of businesses to manage the dispersal of patrons it can be very difficult to eliminate any such disturbance to residents when patrons have left the vicinity of a licenced premises.
85. Applicants and licence holders who wish to provide licensable activities outside the hours specified above should ensure that the operating schedule specifies detailed measures to mitigate against crime, disorder and public nuisance taking into account:
- the location of the premises and the character of the area in which they are situated
 - the proposed hours during which licensable activities will take place
 - the adequacy of the applicant's proposals to prevent crime and disorder and prevent public nuisance
 - whether customers have access to public transport when arriving at or leaving the premises
 - the proximity of the premises to other licensed premises in the vicinity and the hours of operation of those other premises policies and proposals for the orderly dispersal of customers.

THE OPERATING SCHEDULE

Licensing Policy 7

The Licensing Authority seeks to encourage the highest standards of management in licensed premises and expects this to be demonstrated through the operating schedule.

In particular, it expects applicants to:

- **explain how they will promote the licensing objectives**
- **address the relevant guidance in this policy.**

86. The operating schedule must include all information necessary to enable the Licensing Authority, responsible authorities or other persons to assess whether the steps outlined for the promotion of the licensing objectives are satisfactory. This will mean that applicants will need to complete their own detailed risk assessments on their businesses prior to completing their operating schedule.

87. Where the operating schedule does not provide enough details, there is an increased likelihood that representations will be made and that the Licensing Committee hearing the application will have insufficient information to satisfy itself that the application will promote the licensing objectives.
88. Applicants are reminded that the late submission of additional written evidence to support an operating schedule should be submitted at least 2 clear working days prior to the Licensing Committee hearing to allow the Licensing Committee and any responsible authority or residents making representations to consider the new information before the start of the hearing.
89. Any proposed changes to the operating schedule must be notified to the Licensing Authority and depending on the nature of the changes proposed, the Licensing Authority may require a new premises licence application or the submission of an application to vary the existing licence.

MANAGEMENT STANDARDS

Licensing Policy 8

When assessing the applicant's or licensee's ability to demonstrate a commitment to high standards of management the Licensing Authority will take into account whether the applicant or licensee:

- **can demonstrate comprehensive knowledge of best practice**
- **has sought advice from the responsible authorities**
- **has implemented any advice that been given by the responsible authorities**
- **is able to understand verbal and written advice and legal requirements**
- **can demonstrate knowledge of the licensing objectives, relevant parts of the Licensing Policy and their responsibilities under the Licensing Act 2003**
- **is able to run their businesses lawfully and in accordance with good business practices**
- **can demonstrate a track record of compliance with legal requirements**
- **can explain how they will brief staff on crime scene preservation**

Where there is a history of non-compliance associated with the management of the premises the Licensing Authority is unlikely to grant a new or variation application, or permit premises to continue to operate without further restrictions on review, unless there is evidence of significant improvement in management standards.

90. The Licensing Authority is committed to promoting high standards of management in all licenced premises and expects applicants and licensees to demonstrate this through their operating schedule and management

practices. Experience indicates that where these requirements are not adhered to the licensing objectives are likely to be undermined.

DIVERSITY IN THE EVENING AND NIGHT TIME ECONOMY

Licensing Policy 9

The Licensing Authority seeks to promote applications for venues that are not alcohol led. Mixed use venues, with alcohol sales being offered to customers alongside entertainment or food, and applications for premises that will provide an all seated environment for customers are encouraged. Applications for premises licences to provide vertical drinking are not encouraged but if made, the operating schedule will be expected to demonstrate robust arrangements for promoting the licensing objectives.

91. Islington already has a large number of licensed premises operating in a densely populated area. Our experience has shown that the design and offer within premises has a strong influence on levels of drinking and behaviour.
92. The Licensing Authority wants to encourage and support diversity in the evening and night time economy and welcomes applications for mixed use premises or premises where alcohol is not the dominant feature so as to broaden the appeal to a wider range of people.

CULTURAL VENUES

Licensing Policy 10

The Licensing Authority wishes to encourage more cultural spaces to be opened in the borough so that the cultural offer is widely available and accessible to residents and visitors.

93. The Licensing Authority aims to balance its support for community entertainment to encourage and celebrate cultural diversity with the need to provide safe venues and events which do not have an adverse impact in terms of crime, disorder, and public nuisance. It also wants to encourage small scale live music, grassroots live music, dancing and theatre in licensed premises for the wider cultural benefit of communities generally.
94. The borough boasts key creative hubs in the performing arts and in the performing arts training sector, most notably dance and theatre which alongside a vibrant music, literature and visual arts offer support a bustling evening economy. Islington is proud of its live music scene and Licensing Authority and wants to build on recent successes to support grass roots music venues setting up in the borough.
95. The Licensing Authority supports and encourages communities to celebrate culture at grass roots level and promotes community use of the council's own venues, open spaces and parks. To support and encourage community use,

15 of our parks and open spaces are licenced for entertainment

96. Where issues arise with activities in existing premises because of new developments or change in existing arrangements in the locality, the Licensing Authority will encourage informal and formal dialogue avenues between interested parties before any review measures are instigated. The Licensing Authority will take due regard of adherence to this approach when considering any review applications for premises providing this type of activity.

WORKING TOGETHER AND SUPPORTING BEST PRACTICE

Licensing policy 11

The Licensing Authority believes that applicants and premises licence holders operating, or aspiring to operate, well managed premises will want to work with responsible authorities to develop, support and share best practice. There are a number of schemes that the Licensing Authority promotes to support this objective:

- **Participation in local pubwatch**
- **Operation Nightsafe – Best Practice for Managing Venues**
- **Operation Nightsafe – Best Practice for Managing Off Licences**
- **The Licensees Charter - Pubs, bars and clubs to adopt**

PUBWATCH

97. The borough-wide pubwatch network encourages licensees to work together to promote the licensing objectives in their premises by providing a forum for sharing information, disseminating best practice and meeting with representatives of the licensing authority, the police and other responsible authorities.

98. The Licensing Authority encourages all licensees to actively participate in their local pubwatch scheme and it will support the development of more schemes where there is a demand.

OPERATION NIGHTSAFE BEST PRACTICE

99. Operation Nightsafe Best Practice standards, based on the nationally recognised Best Bar None Award, have been developed by the Licensing Authority, Police and licenced trade representatives on the Late Night Levy Board. The standards were originally designed for late night venues and off licences but the principles can be applied to all premises.

LICENSEES' CHARTER

100. The Charter, developed in conjunction with businesses and residents, is

designed help licensed venues minimise the negative impacts of their business whilst respecting rights of customers and residents. The Licensing Authority is keen to encourage all pubs, clubs and bars to adopt the Charter.

TRAINING AND BRIEFING SESSIONS

101. From time to time the Licensing Authority will arrange or facilitate bespoke training and briefing sessions to assist premises licence holders with their responsibilities to operate safe and compliant businesses. Recent examples include Selling Age Restricted Products, Protective Security Awareness Business Continuity Management, Music Venue Project and the Alcohol Summit. Licence holders are expected to attend these events so that best practice can be widely disseminated.

TEMPORARY EVENT NOTICES

Licensing Policy 12

When considering objections to temporary event notices the Licensing Authority will consider the:

- **circumstances of the objection**
- **the applicant's willingness to comply with the conditions attached to the premises licence**
- **history of complaints**
- **the track record of the applicant**
- **any other proposed control measures to mitigate the objection**
- **the notice has been submitted within an appropriate time for the responsible authorities to assess the event**

102. The majority of temporary event notice applications are accepted by the Licensing Authority as requested. Where an objection notice is received from the responsible authorities (Police or Environmental Health) the Licensing Authority will hold a hearing to consider the objection (unless all parties agree that this is unnecessary). If the Licensing Authority decides that the event would undermine the licensing objectives and should not take place, a counter notice will be served.

103. The Licensing Authority expects anyone submitting a temporary event notice to consider the concerns of the responsible authorities and to implement appropriate measures to mitigate against the risk of the event undermining the licensing objectives.

104. Whilst the Licensing Act 2003 prescribes minimum timescales for temporary event notices, events requiring an event management plan, noise management plan or those that fall within the of an event that needs to be presented to a Safety Advisory Group meeting will require a longer lead in time.

RISK ASSESSMENTS

Licensing Policy 13

The Licensing Authority expects all applicants, premises licence holders and people submitting temporary event notices to undertake a comprehensive risk assessment to ensure that the four licensing objectives are considered and appropriate control measures put in place to promote the licensing objectives.

Risk assessments should be completed prior to licensable activities taking place on a premises and updated for non-routine events such as externally promoted events. These include events such as:

- externally promoted events that could be deemed high risk
- events with alcohol that could attract a younger audience
- mixed age group activities
- events that run beyond the framework hours
- events with special effects or activities that require specialist risk assessments
- where there is an existing condition on the premises licence.

105. Further advice on event safety and risk assessment can be found on the following websites:

<https://www.islington.gov.uk/libraries-arts-and-heritage/arts/organising-an-event/guides-insurance-and-risk-assessment>

and

<http://www.hse.gov.uk/event-safety/running.htm>

106. For externally promoted events premises licence holders are encouraged to liaise with the Police Licensing Team.

ALCOHOL INDUCED CRIME, DISORDER AND ANTISOCIAL BEHAVIOUR

Licensing Policy 14

The Licensing Authority expects licensees to operate to the highest standards of management, and to cooperate with responsible authorities, to prevent:

- alcohol induced crime, disorder and antisocial behaviour inside, outside and in the near vicinity of premises
- the sale of alcohol to underage children
- serving alcohol to customers who are drunk
- drunkenness on premises
- irresponsible drinks promotions
- street drinking in the local vicinity

Specific measures, depending on the nature of the venue, may include:

- **A designated outside drinking area**
- **A specified time for outdoor areas to be clear**
- **Measures in place to monitor and supervise customers in outside drinking areas**
- **The use of CCTV**
- **Door supervisors**
- **Operational policies underpinned by staff training and management support**
- **Refrain from selling high strength alcohol**
- **Preventing pavement obstructions**
- **ID scanning**

Where the Licensing Authority receives representations from responsible authorities that the management of a premise is supporting such activities, or that there is strong evidence linking patrons with alcohol related crime, disorder or antisocial behaviour the Licensing Authority will consider reviewing the licence to impose appropriate sanctions to prevent or minimise the impact.

107. Applicants and licence holders are expected to work with the Licensing Authority and Police to minimise the risk of alcohol induced crime, disorder and antisocial behaviour. Where localised problems exist licence holders are expected to implement additional robust measures to minimise adverse impacts on residents and public services.
108. Where appropriate the Licensing Authority will consider imposing controls on products sold where representations indicate localised problems. This provision could include banning the sale of super strength beer, larger and cider in premises or banning specific promotions, as part of a package of measures to deal with problems associated with drinking in the street.

SELLING ALCOHOL ON EVENT AND MATCH DAYS

Licensing policy 15

The Licensing Authority expects all applicants and premises licence or certificate holders to support the council in promoting public safety and minimising alcohol related crime and disorder on large scale event and match days by including the following large scale event and match day arrangements listed below in their operating schedules:

- **Refrain from selling alcohol until 11 am on Monday to Saturday and midday on Sunday, unless otherwise agreed with the police.**
- **Manage patrons drinking outside the premises in designated areas using registered door supervisors.**
- **For 4 hours before advertised start of the match or event and until 1 hour after the match or event finishes to only sell alcohol in plastic**

containers, save in an area set aside from for the consumption of food commencing i.e. restaurants, area set aside from main bar in public house for the primary consumption of food.

- **To not support the consumption of alcohol in glass containers on the public highway including any dedicated authorised tables and chairs licence.**
109. The above restrictions apply to all shops, off licence, pubs, bars and restaurants that may attract football supporters at any designated match at Emirates Stadium or people attending large scale events at either at the Emirates Stadium or Finsbury Park. A large scale events is defined as an event with an expected capacity in excess of 10,000.
110. The Licensing Authority has specific concerns about the consumption of alcohol in public places on these occasions and the potential that this has on local residents and public services in terms of alcohol induced disorder and anti-social behaviour, increased litter, and the necessity for Police or Local Authority intervention. Premises licence holder are also expected to not knowingly sell alcohol to persons where the licence holder suspects it will be consumed on the public highway or adjacent public spaces.

USE OF TOUGHENED GLASS AND POLYCARBONATES

Licensing Policy 16

The Licensing Authority expects applicants and licence holders to take a risk based approach to the use of toughened glassware and polycarbonate.

The Licensing Authority will consider imposing a condition prohibiting the sale of alcohol in annealed glass containers (glasses and bottles) and require the use of polycarbonate or other safer alternatives where:

- **local needs dictate**
 - **a relevant representation is received**
 - **the premises are operating beyond midnight**
 - **the licence permits drinking outside**
111. Evidence indicates that the majority of incidents with lacerations from annealed glass occurring inside licensed premises are accidents. However, some are malicious and cause horrific injuries and lifetime scarring. In recent years there have been a number of high profile cases where people have suffered serious injuries resulting from glass attacks.
112. Outside premises, glass containers, as well as being potential weapons, add to street debris, pose risks to street cleaners and pedestrians and generally undermine the objective to minimise public nuisance.
113. The Licensing Authority believes that the use of safer alternatives to annealed glass will help promote public safety and the prevention of crime and disorder

in licensed venues.

114. The Licensing Authority will take into account the nature of the venue when considering imposing conditions restricting the use of glass, including the uses of bottled drinks. Considerations will include:
- the type of venue
 - the customer base
 - the hours of operation
 - the standard of management demonstrated by the current licensee
 - the history of alcohol related crime and disorder associated with the premises
 - the extent to which drinking is permitted outside
 - the licensee's risk assessment
 - the views of the local police

ILLICIT GOODS

Licensing Policy 17

The Licensing Authority expects applicants and premises licence holders to have arrangements in place to prevent the sale of illicit, non-duty paid or stolen goods.

Where arrangements are not proposed or in place the Licensing Authority will impose licence conditions or sanctions that are appropriate for promoting the licensing objectives.

115. The Licensing Authority expects applicants and premises licence holders to understand that the supply of illicit, non-duty paid or stolen goods undermines the licensing objective to prevent crime and disorder. The criminal offence of fraud, arising from illicit trade, can occur as a result of non-payment of duty, theft or counterfeiting. Premises selling alcohol are expected to have procedures in place to prevent the sale of illicit alcohol including:
- a purchasing policy
 - product recall arrangements
 - training of all staff, including casual staff
116. The sale of illicit goods, such as non-duty paid tobacco will be considered as evidence of poor management. Foreign tobacco should not be kept anywhere on the premises, except for one single pack for the legitimate personal use for members of staff, and quantities in excess of this will be deemed to be tobacco intended for sale to customers.

DRUG POLICIES

Licensing Policy 18

The Licensing Authority is committed to ensuring that, where appropriate, the design and management of licenced venues maximises the safety of customers, performers and staff. The Licensing Authority will normally expect the submission of a drug policy as part of the operating schedule for applications for new premises licences and for variations to existing licences for night clubs and similar premises.

Where there are issues of concern the Licensing Authority will expect to see evidence that the drug policy has been implemented and reviewed.

117. Within the context of promoting the licensing objectives for preventing crime and disorder and ensuring public safety the Licensing Authority expects applicants and licensees to:

- take all reasonable steps to prevent the entry of drugs into licensed premises
- take all reasonable steps to prevent drugs changing hands within the premises
- train staff to recognise understand the signs of drug misuse in people so that practical steps can be taken to deal with any instances that occur
- have appropriately trained staff to deal with drug related incidents
- display appropriate drug safety awareness information for customers
- provide a first aid room and first aid equipment, including a defibrillator in larger venues
- deploy staff trained to assist with medical incidents
- implement an appropriate banning policy

SAFER TRAVEL AT NIGHT

Licensing Policy 19

In determining late night applications, the Licensing Authority will consider the arrangements for securing safe access to public transport facilities for customers leaving the premises.

The Licensing Authority expects late night venues to include safer travel arrangements for departing customers in their operating schedule.

Appropriate arrangements may include:

- **ease of access to late night public transport in the local area**
- **making facilities available for customers to contact a local taxi firm**
- **facilities to allow patrons to wait for taxis and mini cabs in a safe environment where they will not cause disturbance to local residents**
- **taxi queue management**
- **provision of clear, accessible, comprehensive and up-to-date information to customers**

- **proposals deterring illegal mini cabs touting for business outside the venue**
- **appropriate staff training programme**

118. Applicants for new licences and those wishing to increase their operational hours or the capacity of their premises will need to demonstrate that due consideration has been given to arrangements for the quick, safe and quiet dispersal of customers from their venues. The emphasis should be on promoting public transport, taxis and licenced mini cabs as car parking facilities are limited and experience indicates that customers parking cars in residential areas often create noise and interrupts the sleep of local residents
119. The Licensing Authority is concerned about the impact of mini cabs waiting outside licensed premise on nearby residents and the nuisance and safety issues arising from unlicensed mini cabs touting for business outside venues. It expects licensees to proactively manage the demand for taxis and mini cabs and to minimise their impact on residents. It also expects applicants and licence holder to implement measures to support enforcement agencies dealing with illegal mini cabs.

SAFE AND SECURE LICENSED VENUES

Licensing Policy 20

In determining applications for pubs, clubs and bars the Licensing Authority will expect the applicant to explain its approach to creating a safe and secure environment for everyone, including safeguards to mitigate against sexual harassment of women and the protection of young adults in licenced venues.

120. Whilst aiming to create safe and secure environment for everyone working and socialising in in pubs, clubs and bars licenced premises the Licensing Authority wants to encourage applicants and premises licence holders to consider arrangements that could be put in place to manage the risk of sexual harassment of women and to protect young adults.
121. Applicants and licence holders for these types of venues should include women's safeguarding measures in their operating policies and are encouraged to consider adopting the following measures as appropriate:
- Promoting 'Ask Angela'
 - Signing up to 'Good Night Out'
 - Display posters which discourage harassment and encourage reporting to staff/managers
 - Take every report of harassment seriously and take appropriate action
 - Take steps to support person who report sexual harassment
 - Train and support staff implementing venue policies
 - Proactive measures to ensure women leave the venue safely
 - ID scanning at venues attracting a younger clientele (18-25 year olds)

PUBLIC NUISANCE

Licensing Policy 21

The Licensing Authority is committed to preventing public nuisance by protecting the amenity of residents and businesses in the vicinity of licensed premises. Applicants and premises licence holders are expected to address these issues in their operating schedules.

Where relevant representations are received, the Licensing Authority will impose appropriate restrictions or controls on the licence to support the prevention of public nuisance due to

- **light pollution**
- **odour, smells and smoke**
- **litter, waste and street fouling**
- **flyposting**
- **highways and pavement obstructions**
- **noise**
- **recycling facilities**
- **deliveries and collections**
- **outside drinking, eating and smoking**
- **dispersal of patrons**
- **urinating in public**

122. Public nuisance can apply to a wide range of activities that prevent residents, members of the public or other businesses carrying out their normal activities or that cause the council to have to take remedial action. The Licensing Authority expects applicants and premises licences holders to implement measures to minimise public nuisance associated with the above.

NOISE ASSOCIATED WITH LICENSABLE ACTIVITIES

Licensing Policy 22

The Licensing Authority is committed to protecting the amenity of residents and businesses in the vicinity of licensed premises, particularly when late hours have been sought. Where relevant representations are received the Licensing Authority will impose appropriate restrictions and controls on the premises licence to prevent public nuisance and undue disturbance to local residents from licensed premises

123. Complaints about antisocial behaviour and noise in Islington have risen substantially over the last ten years and the expansion of the night-time economy has increased noise within urban settings above the national average. It is in the context of these trends that noise disturbance from licensed premises will be considered by the Licensing Authority. The

Licensing Authority will seek to balance the protection of residents from undue disturbance against noise and the activity that is the natural by-product of people going about their business, entertainment or leisure.

124. The Licensing Authority expects that premises intended for the provision of noise-generating licensable activities are acoustically controlled and engineered to a degree whereby the noise from the premises when compared to the ambient noise level will not cause undue disturbance. The Licensing Authority recognises specific difficulties associated with other premises structurally linked to would-be licensed premises and the limit of sound insulation performance that can be achieved. In some circumstances licensed premises with amplified music above the volume level of acoustic musical instruments adjoining residential properties may not be appropriate.
125. The council expect developers building new residential premises in close proximity to licenced premises to implement the 'agent of change' principle by incorporating a high standards of mitigation measures into the design and construction of residential properties to protect future residents from nuisance from licenced venues.
126. There are exemptions for live and recorded music from being licensable activities in certain circumstances. Licensees and applicants must recognise that these activities may still give rise to noise nuisance and be aware of remedies available to the Council should noise nuisance be established. Licensees should work in partnership with the relevant officers to avoid the need for enforcement action to abate noise nuisance once informed of any issues.
127. Where the Licensing Authority receives representations or a review application in relation to deregulated entertainments it will seek to impose restrictions or conditions that are appropriate for preventing noise nuisance. Licensees should be aware that the Licensing Authority can apply to have a deregulation removed by means of review of the premises licence.

NOISE FROM DELIVERIES AND COLLECTIONS

Licensing Policy 23

Licence holders and applicants are encouraged to consider whether early morning deliveries and collections to their premises could potentially result in a public nuisance and to introduce measures to minimise the impact where appropriate. The Licensing Authority recognises that refuse collection and delivery times can sometimes be outside the control of the premises licence holder but encourages the appointment of contractors who can carry out collections and deliveries during normal hours of work and outside the night time hours of 23:00 to 07:00. Collections of bottles and other waste glass should be avoided during the above hours.

128. Licence holders and applicants are encouraged to consider whether early

morning or overnight deliveries to and collections from their premises could potentially disturb residents in the vicinity resulting in public nuisance. It is recommended that licensees and applicants consider this aspect of their business and introduce measures to minimise noise impact of their activities during night-time hours which according to the World Health Organisation should be a period of 8 hours between 23:00 – 07:00 local time.

129. Applicants should consider suitable provision for refuse storage, recycling facilities and other waste inside premises in order to facilitate daytime collections. Waste and materials for recycling should not be stored on the public highway.
130. Where representations are received from local residents in the vicinity of licensed premises stating they are being disturbed by early morning or night time collections and deliveries, the applicant or premises licence holder will be requested to renegotiate different times outside the night time period with their contractors and to liaise with local residents where appropriate to seek agreements on acceptable hours. In the event that informal agreements cannot be reached the appropriate Responsible Authority may seek to impose delivery and collection times as conditions on premises licences by means of review of the premises licence where they do not already exist.

SMOKING, DRINKING AND EATING OUTSIDE.

Licensing Policy 24

The Licensing Authority recognises that where gardens and tables and chairs outside are provided for smoking, drinking or eating, users can cause nuisance.

Where smoking, eating and drinking takes place outside the Licensing Authority expects applicants to provide comprehensive details in their operating schedule on:

- **the location of outside areas to be available for use**
- **how the outside areas will be managed to prevent:**
 - **noise**
 - **smell**
 - **pavement obstructions**
- **the arrangements for clearing, tables and chairs**
- **preventing nuisance from smoke fumes to residents living in close proximity to smoking areas**

Where the Licensing Authority receives representations or a review application regarding the use of an outside area it will impose restrictions or conditions that are appropriate for preventing a public nuisance.

131. The provision of tables and chairs outside the premises, either on the highway or on private land, and the provision of beer gardens, can enhance the

attractiveness of the venue. It can have the benefit of encouraging a continental style café culture and family friendly venues.

132. Late at night, tables and chairs and beer gardens can cause significant public nuisance to residents whose homes overlook these areas. In some premises these facilities can encourage patrons and passers-by to loiter rather than disperse and in many cases, noise control measures are not feasible.
133. The use of such areas, especially pavements, should take account of potential access issues for people with disabilities and the safe use of wheelchairs and other access equipment.
134. The placing of items such as tables, chairs and barriers on or adjacent to the highway needs to be licensed by the Council's Street Trading Team Division and applicants will usually be expected to hold that licence when their application is made or prior to using the external area.

DISPERSAL POLICIES

Licensing Policy 25

The Licensing Authority will normally require all licensed premises to be cleared of patrons within a reasonable period, usually 30 minute, after the end of the time permitted for licensable activities. Where appropriate, or required by a responsible authority, the arrangements for clearing the premises should be incorporated in the operating schedule.

135. The general principle will be that the carrying on of licensable activities at premises should cease some time before the end of the operational hours granted by planning consent to allow for the premises to be cleared of patrons in a gradual and orderly manner. The Licensing Authority recognises that the time required for clearing premises of patrons will differ from business to business depending on the type of licensable activities provided and the nature of the clientele. It is for applicants themselves to judge what time scale is reasonable however, the Licensing Authority recommends that between 30 minutes and a maximum of one hour would be sufficient for the majority of businesses.

ADULT ENTERTAINMENT

Licensing Policy 26

The Licensing Authority expects all applicants and licensees intending to provide adult entertainment to include the relevant details in their operating schedule, including any controls they intend to put into place.

When considering applications which include adult entertainment the Licensing Authority will take into account the nature of the area, the marketing, and advertising arrangements and external views of the premises together

with other factors proposed by the proprietor to mitigate against concerns.

136. Premises providing adult entertainment on a regular basis will be subject to the licensing regime for Sexual Entertainment Venues. Premises licenced under the Licensing Act 2003 that are exempt from this regime will be subject to the following paragraphs of this Policy.
137. The location of the premises will be an important factor as it can impact on all four of the licensing objectives. The licensing authority will take into account the cumulative effect of the premises on the area and whether applications for new and variation premises licences that are located in close proximity to sensitive premises should be granted. Sensitive premises may include:
- residential accommodation,
 - schools,
 - children's and vulnerable persons' centres,
 - youth and community centres,
 - religious centres and public places of worship,

CHILDREN AND LICENSED PREMISES

Licensing Policy 27

The Licensing Authority wants to encourage family friendly venues and does not seek to limit the access of children to any premises unless it is appropriate for the prevention of physical, moral or psychological harm. Applicants are expected to include its approach to admitting children in their operating schedule and any control measures that it intends to implement to prevent harm.

In determining applications for licenced premises that admit children without accompanying responsible adults the Licensing Authority will expect the operating schedule to contain enhanced measures for ensuring public safety and a safeguarding children policy.

138. The Licensing Authority has identified the Child Protection Team, Children's Services, as the responsible authority for protecting children from harm.
139. The Licensing Authority supports the provision of licenced events and venues specifically for children and young people, however it also recognises that children are one of the most vulnerable groups in our society and that additional safeguarding and general safety measures may need to be put on place
140. Where appropriate the Licensing Authority will expect appropriate management arrangements to be in place to safeguard children which may include:
- a safeguarding children policy

- limiting the hours when children may be present
- restricting access to specific parts of the premises
- requiring proof of age on admission
- limiting unobserved contact between employees and children
- increased staffing ratios
- Disclosure and Baring Service checks.

141. Operating schedules for venues showing films should explain the arrangements for compliance with British Board of Film Classification (BBFC) age restrictions in relation to any specialist film festivals or other screenings where films are not classified by the BBFC. In such cases the Licensing Authority will require the submission of the film intended to be shown at least 28 days before the proposed screening so that it can apply an appropriate classification.

CHILDREN AND ALCOHOL

Licensing Policy 28

The Licensing Authority expects applicants and premises licence holders to implement appropriate measures, including Challenge 25 to prevent the sale of alcohol to children, including proxy sales when adults buy alcohol for children.

Applicants and licence holders providing remote sales of alcohol and alcohol delivery services should have arrangements in place to comply with age verification requirements at both the point of sale and delivery to customers.

142. Restricting access to alcohol for children under 18 has been a high priority area in Islington for many years to help reduce the anti-social behaviour and health issues associated with underage drinking. The Licensing Authority expects operating schedules to detail the arrangements for preventing underage sales and failure to implement controls is likely to result in additional controls and sanction with repeat offenders running the risk of having their licences reviewed.

ENFORCEMENT

143. Enforcing the requirements of the Licensing Act 2003 is shared between the Police and the Licensing Authority with both organisations employing dedicated Licensing Officers who are co-located in Islington Council's offices in Upper St. The Police and Local Authority Licensing Officers are charged with the responsibility of ensuring compliance with licensing requirements and working with the licenced trade, other responsible authorities and council services to promote the licensing objectives.

144. The Police and Council Licensing Officers take a joined up approach to

- sharing information and intelligence

- targeting inspection and monitoring resources toward agreed problem area and high risk premises,
 - joint problems solving tasking
 - follow up enforcement action.
145. Police Licensing Officers lead on significant crime and disorder issues associated with licenced premises and activities that involve other specialist officers within the Metropolitan Police.
146. Licensing Authority Licensing Officers lead on general non-compliance with licence conditions, residents' complaints, issues that may involve other teams with in the council associated with public safety, protecting children from harm and public nuisance.
147. The Licensing Officers can task Operation Nightsafe Patrol Officers to deal with street based issues of concern to improve safety and reduce nuisance and antisocial behaviour arising from the night time economy activities.
148. Where there is evidence of a premises failing to comply with licence conditions or undermining the licensing objectives the premises licence holder will be invited to attend an Officer Panel to review the evidence and to agree an action plan to prevent recurrence. The Officer Panel, organised by the Licensing Authority, involves both the Police and Licensing Authority with representatives from other responsible authorities attending as and when required.

REVIEW OF PREMISES LICENCES

Licensing Policy 29

The Licensing Authority will apply the full range of powers available to it when a review of a premise licence becomes necessary, including:

- **Restricting hours of operation**
 - **Removing licensable activities from the premises licence**
 - **Imposing additional conditions**
 - **Requiring the removal of a designated premises supervisor**
 - **Suspending a licence**
 - **Revoking a licence**
149. The Licensing Authority believes that the promotion of the licensing objectives is best achieved in an atmosphere of mutual co-operation between all stakeholders. Reviews will therefore be mainly reserved for circumstances where early warnings of concerns and the need for improvement have gone unheeded by the management of the licensed premises.
150. Reviews of licences may be triggered at any stage by responsible authorities or other persons because of a matter arising at the licensed premises and relating to one of the four licensing objectives. Reviews may also become

necessary following the service of a closure order by the police or any formal enforcement action by officers of the local authority.

151. Where a licence is revoked, any new application for the premises will be considered against the policy – there will be a full consideration of the applicant and the operating schedule with no assumption that a licensed premise can continue in that location.

If you have any questions about this policy please contact:

Licensing Team
Islington Council
222 Upper Street
London N1 1XR

020 7527 3031

licensing@islington.gov.uk

Licensing Policy Review 2017- Cumulative Impact Assessment

Under the Licensing Act 2003 the council is required to publish a statement of licensing policy every 5 years. The purpose of the Licensing Policy is to inform applicants and residents about the way in which the Licensing Authority intends to make decisions about licence applications and how licenced premises are likely to be permitted to operate.

As a Licensing Authority, the council has a duty to promote the following licensing objectives and these objectives should underpin every decision that it makes

- Prevent of crime and disorder
- Secure public safety
- Prevent public nuisance
- Protect children from harm

Our current Licensing Policy takes effect until January 2018 and over the last nine months a review of the policy has been conducted and we are now in a position to consult on a draft Licensing Policy for 2018-2022.

This document explains:

- the approach we have taken to the reviewing the Licensing Policy 2013-2017
- the evidence we have considered in formulating the draft policy
- our assessment of cumulative impact areas
- proposed key changes to the licensing policy

Cumulative Impact Policy

The Licensing Policy 2013-2017 introduced 6 cumulative impact areas in the borough. Cumulative impact areas are those where the combined effects of a significant number of licenced premises concentrated in one area is likely to undermine the licensing objectives. In cumulative impact areas, there is a presumption that the Licensing Authority will refuse or impose limitations on applications which are likely to add to the cumulative impact unless the applicant can demonstrate that there will be no negative cumulative impact on the licensing objectives. The Licensing Authority must consider each application on its merits and can only refuse or impose limitations where representations are received from residents, businesses or responsible authorities.

The Review Process

The review process has been led by the Executive Member for Community Development and the Licensing Committee. Members have met on three occasions to review evidence, explore options and formulate a draft policy for formal consultation. The Police, Trading Standards, Environmental Health (Noise and Public Safety), Public Health and Community Safety have also been consulted and invited to contribute to the draft policy. Officers have also ensured that proposals arising from the draft Licensing Policy are consistent with other Council's Economic Development and Arts Strategies.

The Evidence

The documentary evidence considered by the Licensing Committee is attached as appendix 2.

A summary of the evidence is provided below:

1. Patterns of alcohol (mis)use in Islington and its Impacts
 - a. Islington has the fourth highest rate of alcohol related crime and alcohol related violent crime in London. In both cases rates are significantly higher in Islington than the London average
 - b. Alcohol related ambulance callouts and crime peak 1-2 hours after the end of framework hours
 - c. Underage drinking is in general decline but the rate of hospital related admissions for under 18's with alcohol specific conditions is greater than the London and national average
 - d. Highest levels of alcohol related crime occurs Friday, Saturday and Sunday
 - e. There is a correlation between the location of premises and ambulance callouts and alcohol related crime.
 - f. There is a higher concentration of ambulance callouts, alcohol related crime and alcohol related violent crime in designated cumulative impact areas
2. London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine (LSHTM) Research

This independent research by LSHTM evaluated the impact of our 2013-2017 cumulative impact policy and concluded that:

- a. The introduction of the cumulative impact policy did not appear to have affected the total number of applications submitted
 - b. The cumulative impact policy had not resulted in the displacement of applications to areas outside the cumulative impact area
 - c. Cumulative impact has not been a barrier to obtaining a licence but businesses have adapted to the requirements of the policy
 - d. Trading times and closing times were consistent with a policy which aimed to reduce alcohol availability through framework hours
 - e. The 2013-2017 Licensing Policy had been broadly effective in achieving its objective to reduce crime and antisocial behaviour and ambulance callouts, reduce the success rate of off licence applications and reduce trading times for the sale of alcohol
3. Research paper – measurable effects of local alcohol licensing policies on population health in England
 - a. The research confirmed a strong reduction in alcohol related hospital admissions in areas with a more robust approach to licensing policy
 4. Operation Nightsafe – annual report on the activities carried out by the Parkguard Night Safe Patrol Service funded by the Late Night Levy paid by all licenced premises selling alcohol after midnight.
 - a. Parkguard daily, quarterly and annual reports provide a comprehensive source of information and intelligence about the night time economy in Islington
 - b. The headline statistics for activities carried out by Parkguard Nightsafe Patrol Officers are:
 - i. Health and welfare checks of 724 people found vulnerable due to excess alcohol or drug use resulting in ill health or incapacity
 - ii. Assisted 536 members of the public in need and provided crime prevention advice to 157 people found in vulnerable positions
 - iii. Provided medical assistance on 97 occasions preventing 77 ambulance callouts

- iv. Dealt with 784 incidents involving violent or aggressive behaviour, the majority of which resulted in patrol officers using techniques to prevent escalation to violence or serious injury
 - v. Requested or directed 675 people to disperse or leave an area and warned or advised 1235 about conduct
- 5. Report on the Islington Alcohol Summit 2017 attended by a wide range of people representing residents and service users, businesses and statutory agencies
 - a. General consensus was the need for Islington to tackle price and availability, in particular
 - i. Street drinking
 - ii. Cheap alcohol
 - iii. Proximity of licenced premises to facilities visited by high risk populations such as wet/dry centres, mental health facilities
- 6. Street Population – extract of data relating to street drinking
 - a. The number of calls to Police and LBI ASB hotline is increasing
 - b. Hotspots include Elthorne Park & Kings Cross
- 7. Islington Police – overview of Policing issues in the Night-time Economy in Islington by Superintendent in Charge of Operations
 - a. Concerned that off licence sales after people have left licenced premises are contributing to alcohol related crime
 - b. Busiest time for police continues to be the early hours of the morning with 55% offences with an alcohol flag occurring between 11pm and 5am
 - c. Level of glass injury in licenced premises is significantly lower in Islington provides evidence that our proactive approach working
- 8. Operation Nightsafe –Police activities funded by the Late Night Levy include:
 - a. Reviewing 2253 night time economy crime reports relating to licenced venues and taking follow up action
 - b. Applied for 12 closure orders and agreed action plans for 54 premises at the Licensing Officer Panel
- 9. Public Health – summary of alcohol related harm in Islington by Islington and Camden Assistant Director (Public Health)
 - a. Islington is experiencing some of the greatest levels of alcohol related problems in London
 - b. It is estimated that alcohol contributes to 1 in 14 deaths in Islington
 - c. Estimates from 2012 suggested that the cost of alcohol related hospital admissions was nearly £7.5 million, the equivalent of £39 for every Islington resident
- 10. Alcohol in the Night Time economy
 - a. Alcohol related crime has been steadily decreasing over the last 7 years
 - b. There continues to be a correlation of location of alcohol related offences with cumulative impact areas
 - c. Peak times for alcohol related crime are:
 - i. Saturday midnight to 3am and 9pm to midnight
 - ii. Sunday midnight to 3am
 - d. Peak times for calls to Islington ASB team regarding licenced premises, rowdy and drunken behaviour and drinking in public places are:
 - i. Saturday midnight to 3am and 9pm to midnight
 - ii. Sunday midnight to 3am and 9am to 12 noon

iii. Thursday and Friday 9pm to midnight

11. Charts and maps

- a. Cumulative impact areas in Islington
- b. Number of licenced premises 2011- 2017
- c. Number of premises selling alcohol beyond midnight 2011-2017
- d. Licence applications received and granted 2009-2016
- e. Map showing location of all licenced premises
- f. Map showing location of premises licenced to sell alcohol after midnight
- g. Map showing location of premises selling alcohol for consumption off the premises
- h. Clerkenwell Cumulative Impact Area – map and licenced premises statistics
- i. Bunhill Cumulative Impact Area – map and licenced premises statistics
- j. Kings Cross Cumulative Impact Area – map and licenced premises statistics
- k. Angel and Upper Street Cumulative Impact Area – map and licenced premises statistics
- l. Holloway and Finsbury Park Cumulative Impact Area – map and licenced premises statistics
- m. Archway Cumulative Impact Area – map and licenced premises statistics

Assessment of Cumulative Impact Policy

Based on the evidence described above and feedback from residents, partners and ward councillors the review of licensing policy confirmed that the cumulative impact policy had achieved its objective and the 6 areas should continue for a further 5 years. The cumulative impact policy applies to all premises licence applications and club premises certificates for all licensable activities, including late night refreshment. For each cumulative impact area, the draft licensing policy provides guidance on the types of applications and limitations which may rebut the presumption of refusal.

Evidence and feedback indicates that more needs to be done to control the negative impacts associated with off licences therefore the proposal is to seek views on a borough-wide cumulative impact policy in relation to off licences.

Proposed key policy changes

As well as consulting residents, businesses and partner agencies about our proposal to maintain our key policies relating to cumulative impact and framework of opening hours we are seeking views on the following key changes:

- Encouraging applications from businesses that support our vision to provide a safe and welcoming evening economy with a diverse range of socialising opportunities for residents and visitors
- Extending the Kings Cross Cumulative Impact Area beyond the Caledonian Road railway bridge to Frederica Street
- Introducing a new cumulative impact policy for premises selling alcohol for consumption off the premises
- Introducing stricter controls over opening hours for new premises located in Clerkenwell, Archway or in close proximity to areas visited by street drinkers
- Extending match day control on the sale of alcohol to off licences frequented by football supporters
- Introducing a new policy on safeguarding women and young adults frequenting pubs bars and clubs



Patterns of alcohol (mis)use in Islington & its impacts

June 2017

1



Patterns and prevalence of alcohol (mis)use in Islington and its impacts

- In 2014, around **2%** of the Islington adult population was estimated to be dependent on alcohol, around 3,600 people.
- **24%** of adults living in Islington were estimated to be drinking more than 14 units of alcohol a week, a level that poses an **increased risk** (CMO guidance on alcohol). This was not significantly different from London or England.
- Around 16.4% of surveyed adults living Islington reported **binge drinking** on their heaviest drinking day in the last week between 2011-2014; this was not significantly different from the London (13%) or England (16.5%) averages.
- In 2016, Islington had the **third highest rate of benefit claimants due to alcoholism** in London (177 per 100,000 working age population), significantly higher than London (105) and England (132).
- The average years of life lost due to alcohol related conditions for people in Islington was 625 years per 100,000 population; this was higher (though not statistically significantly) than London (439 years per 100,000) or England (542 years per 100,000).
- In 2015/16, the rate of alcohol-specific hospital admissions for all people residing in Islington (948 per 100,000 population), was **the highest rate in London**.

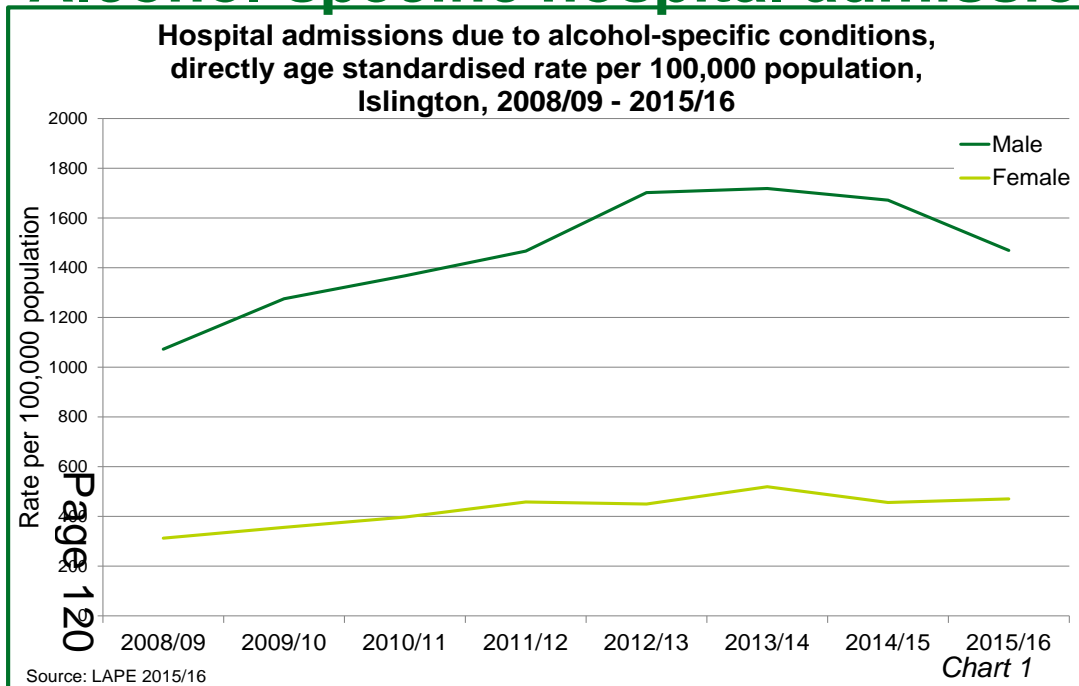
Categories of alcohol consumption		
Category	Men	Women
Lower risk (units per week)	<15 units	<15 units
Increased risk (units per week)	15 – 50 units	15 – 35 units
Higher risk (units per week)	>50 units	> 35 units
Binge drinking (units per day)	>8 units	> 6 units

Source: Islington PH GP Dataset 2015; LAPE 2014/15; Estimates of Alcohol Dependence in England based on APMS 2014, RE Pryce

Alcohol-specific hospital admissions

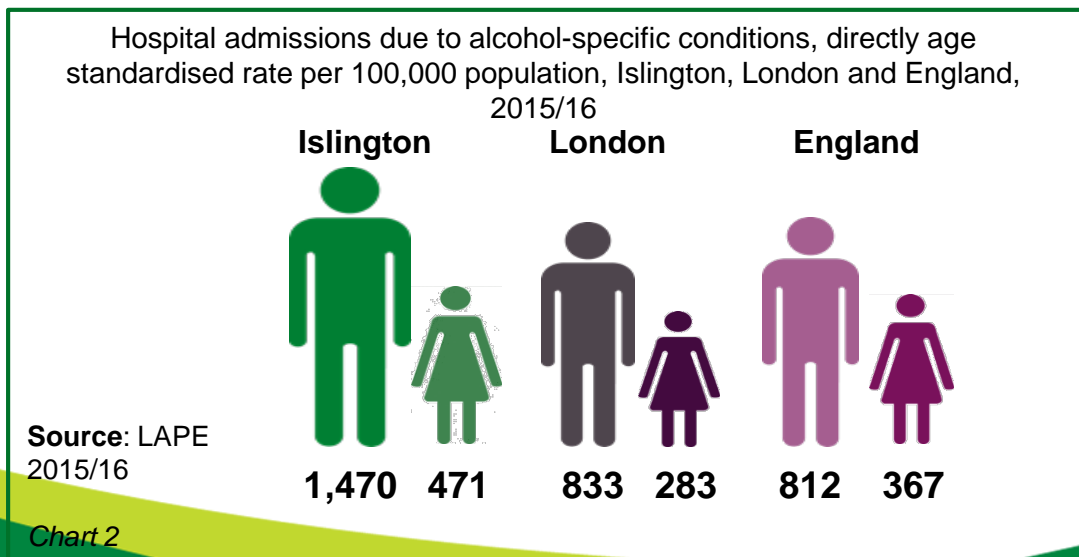


ISLINGTON



- Islington, in line with other areas, has seen an increase in alcohol-specific admissions for women since 2008/09. For men the rate has decreased slightly since 2011/12.
- In 2015/16, there were 1,093 alcohol-specific admissions for men and 422 in women in Islington.
- Islington ranked second in London for rates of alcohol-specific admissions for both men and women in 2015/16 (for men and women combined, Islington had the highest rate in London).

Local analysis has shown that among Islington residents:



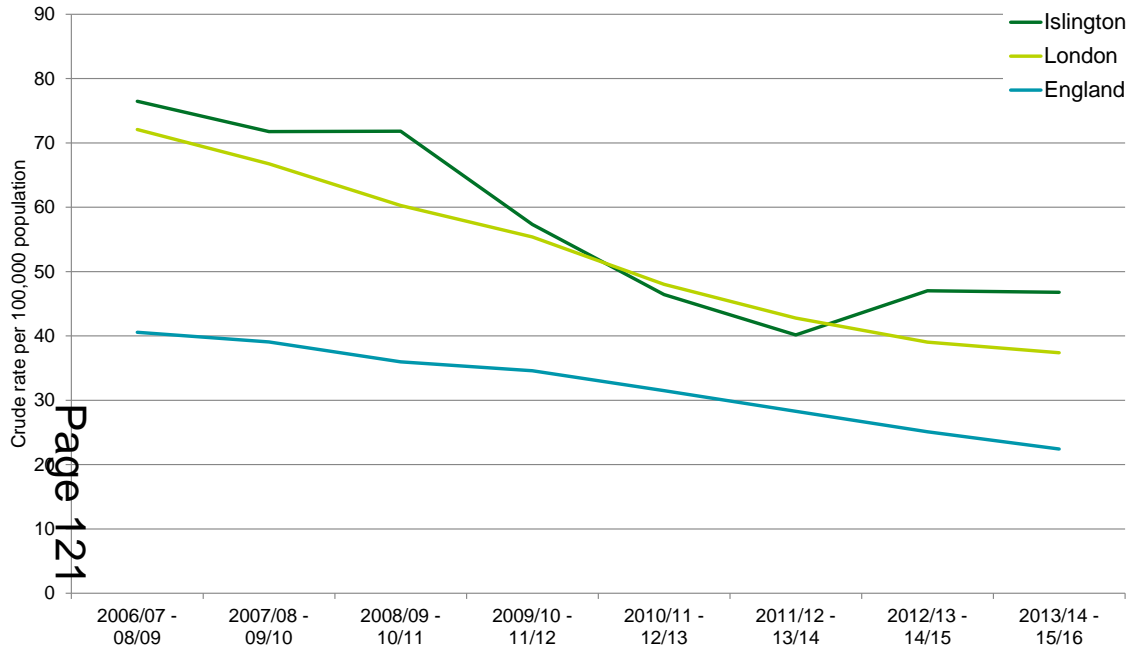
- The highest rate of alcohol specific admissions occur in the 40-64 age group for women and the 65+ age group for men
- Of those admitted to hospital for alcohol-specific reasons, 30% were admitted more than once. 7% were admitted 5 or more times; however these individuals were responsible for 31% of all alcohol-specific admissions and 27% of all bed days.

The impacts of underage drinking & sales



ISLINGTON

Admissions to hospital due to alcohol-specific conditions, under 18 year olds, crude rate per 100,000 population, Islington, London and England 2006/07-2015/16



Source: LAPE 2014/15

Chart 3

- The rate of under-18 year olds admitted to hospital due to alcohol-specific conditions in Islington has shown a general decline in recent years, however Islington has the **second highest rate in London**.
- There were approximately **54 alcohol specific admissions** during the period 2013/14 – 2015/16 in Islington in residents under the age of 18 years.
- National survey data indicates a slight fall in the proportion of young people consuming alcohol during the past decade.
- There were 31 alcohol-related ambulance callouts for people aged under 18 in 2016 at locations in Islington.
- In 2016/17, 18% (11/61) of all 'test purchases' of alcohol by under 18's resulted in a sale. Failed test purchases provide a key trigger for an intervention with licenced premises.

Islington Schools Health Related Behaviour Survey 2015

Of the 14-15 year olds surveyed, in the 7 days prior to completing the survey: 15% said they had consumed at least one unit of alcohol.

Alcohol Related Crime



ISLINGTON

Based on all offences with an **alcohol related marker** on the MET Crime Reporting Information System (CRIS*), Islington was ranked 4th out of 32 boroughs for alcohol related crime per 1,000 population and 4th for alcohol related violent crime per 1,000 population. **Violent** alcohol related crime accounted for 55% of all alcohol related crime.

Crime and violent crime with alcohol feature - crude rate per 1,000 population (London and by borough) in 2016/17

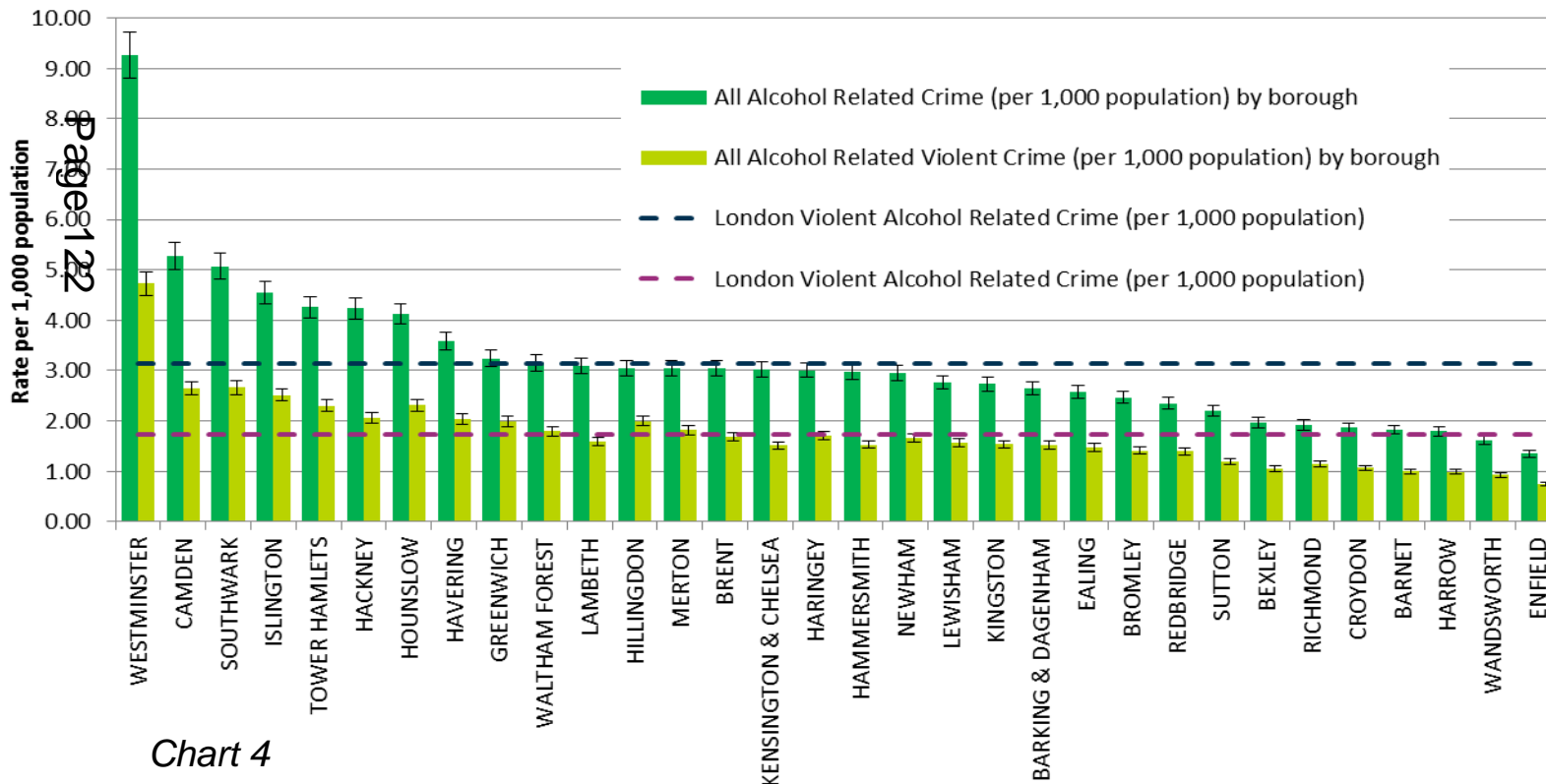


Chart 4

* Each crime may be allocated a feature marker. Alcohol related 'feature's' on CRIS includes "Alcohol consumed", "Suspect has been drinking" or "Victim has been drinking". The feature is added by the officer onto CRIS. There may be some alcohol related criminal offences excluded due to the marker not being entered on CRIS

London Ambulance Service (LAS) Alcohol Related Call-Outs ISLINGTON

In 2016 there were 1,324 alcohol related call-outs to the London Ambulance Service (LAS) across Islington. There were **31 call-outs to people aged under 18**. The 48-57 age group recorded the largest number of calls per 1,000 of Islington's population (based on 2011 census).

Based on the proportion of alcohol related calls to the LAS in 2016, the ward recording the highest proportion of calls relating to people aged under 18 was **Barnsbury Ward** (10% of all calls).

Page 123
Number of Alcohol Related LAS Call-Outs (per 1,000 population in Islington)

Number of Alcohol Related LAS Calls (2016 in Islington) per 1,000 Islington Population

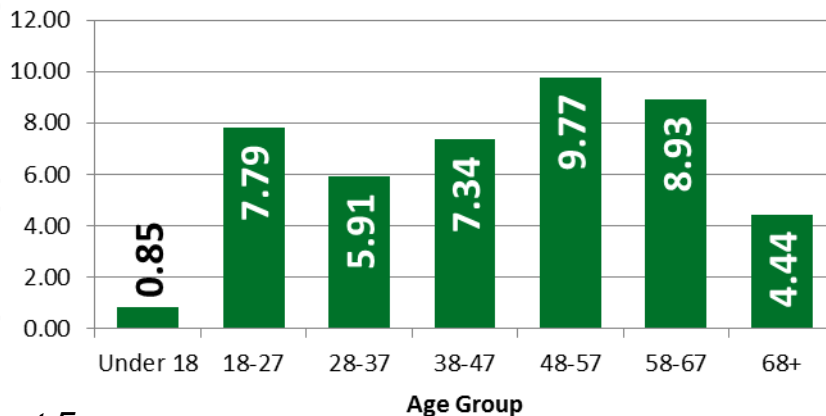


Chart 5

Table 1 shows the top 5 wards recording the highest proportion of alcohol related LAS calls in 2016 in Islington where the person was aged under 18.

Table 1: Ward (Top 5) **Proportion of Total Alcohol Related LAS Calls where person is aged under 18**

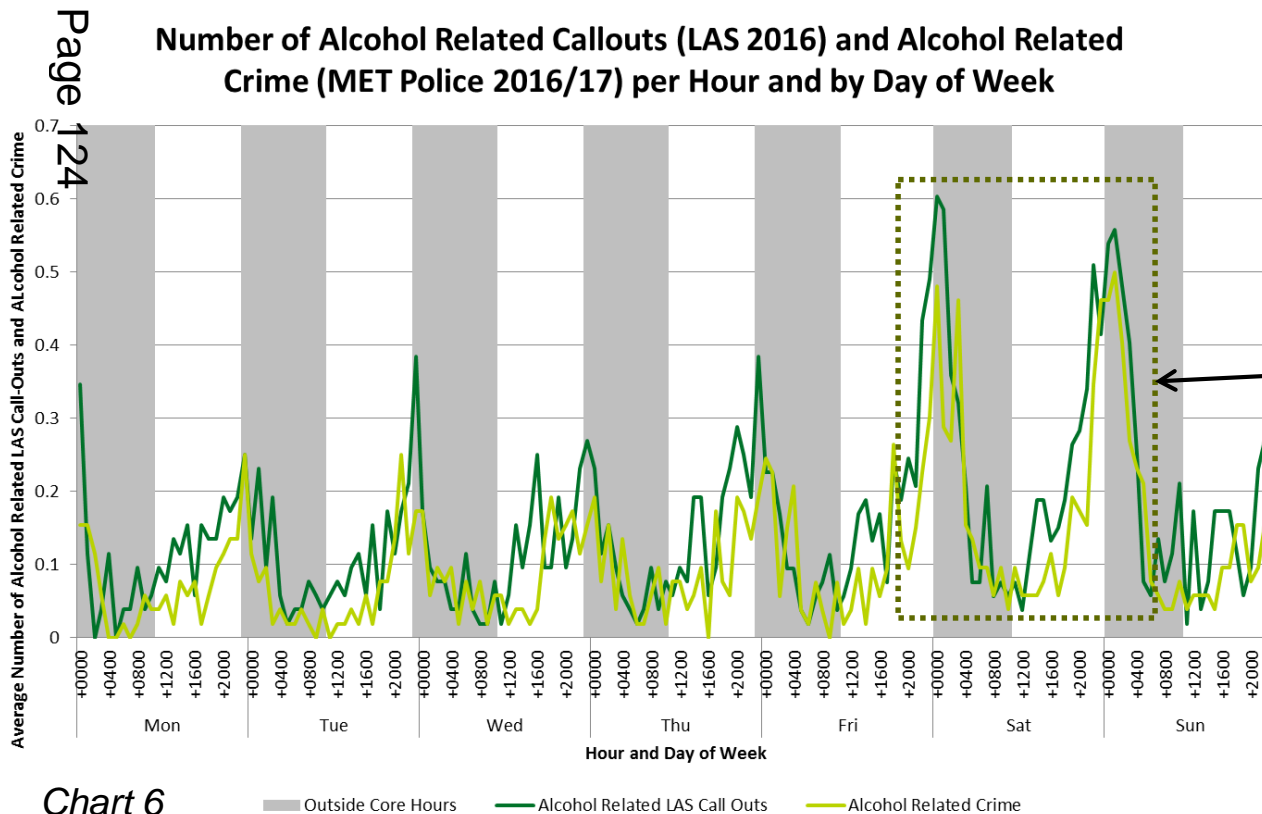
Barnsbury	10%
St George's	5%
Holloway	4%
Highbury East	3%
Clerkenwell	3%

Alcohol-related ambulance callouts and alcohol-related crime



Restricting the physical availability of alcohol can reduce the total volume of alcohol consumed and alcohol-related problems. Greater outlet density has been shown to be associated with increased alcohol consumption and alcohol-related harms. Restrictions on times when alcohol can be sold can also be used effectively to reduce alcohol availability.

The number of alcohol-related ambulance callouts and alcohol-related crimes increase during the weekday, the peaks broadly coinciding with the end of framework opening hours.



At the weekend the peaks are higher and later, occurring between one and two hours after the end of the framework open hours as set out in Islington's licensing policy (for the purposes of this work the core hours for Public Houses, Bars & Restaurants and Cafes have been used. Club core hours end later).

Chart 6

Alcohol related ambulance callouts timeline

Chart 4 shows the number of alcohol related calls by day of week. Calls peaked throughout the weekend. Monday to Wednesday were the quietest days. There were 292 calls on Saturdays.

During the week, alcohol related LAS callouts tended to peak 1 hour after framework hours (chart 5) (0.3 calls per hour). During the weekend there was also a peak in the average number of calls per hour, 2 hours after framework hours (0.6 calls per hour 1 hour after and 2 hours after framework hours). There were more calls recorded per hour throughout the weekend.

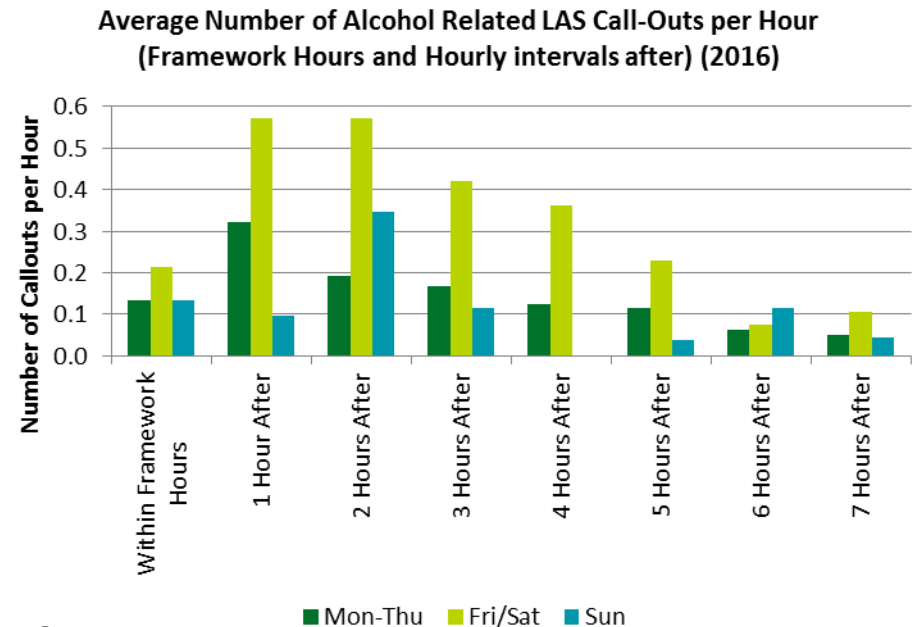
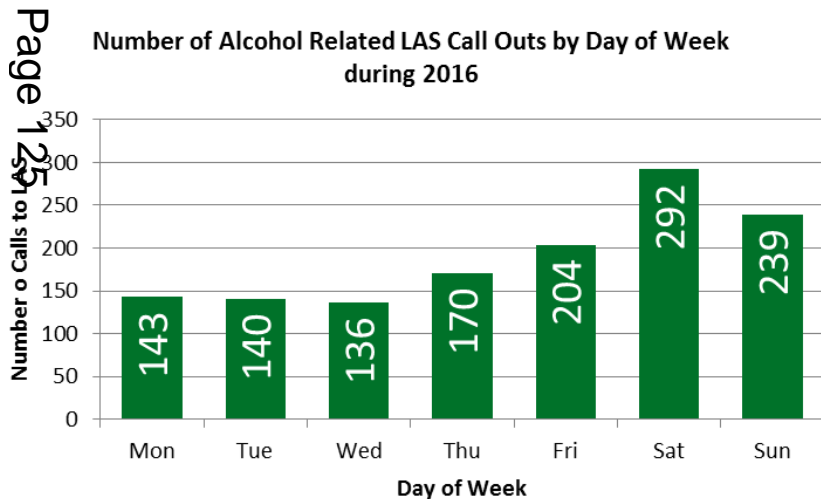


Chart 7

Chart 8



Alcohol Related Crime

Chart 9 shows the number of alcohol related criminal offences by day of week. Offences peaked throughout the weekend. Monday to Thursday were the quietest days. There were 214 offences recorded on Saturdays.

During the week, alcohol related crime tended to peak 1 to 2 hours after framework hours (chart 10) (0.2 offences per hour). During the weekend offences peaked one hour after framework hours (0.5 offences per hour). Levels remained high until 4 hours after framework hours. Crime levels remained higher on Fridays and Saturdays compared to Monday to Thursday and Sundays.

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Number of Alcohol Related Offences by Day of Week during 2016/17

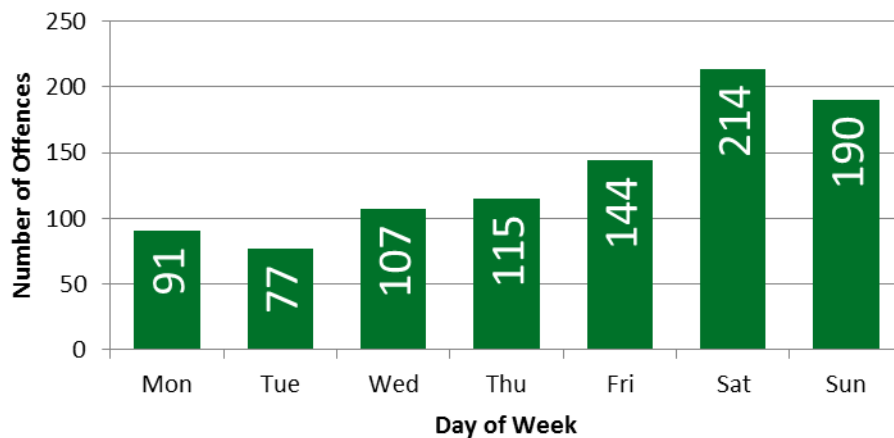


Chart 9

Average Number of Alcohol Related Offences per Hour (Framework Hours and Hourly intervals after) (2016/17)

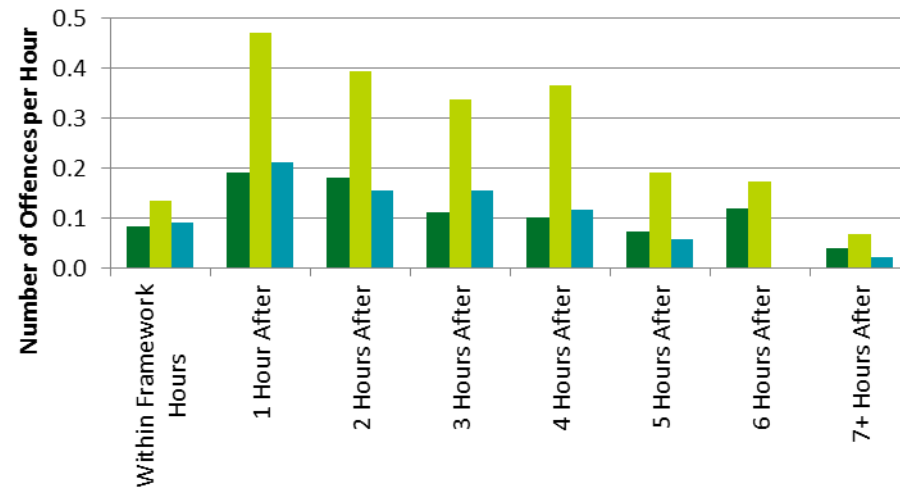


Chart 10

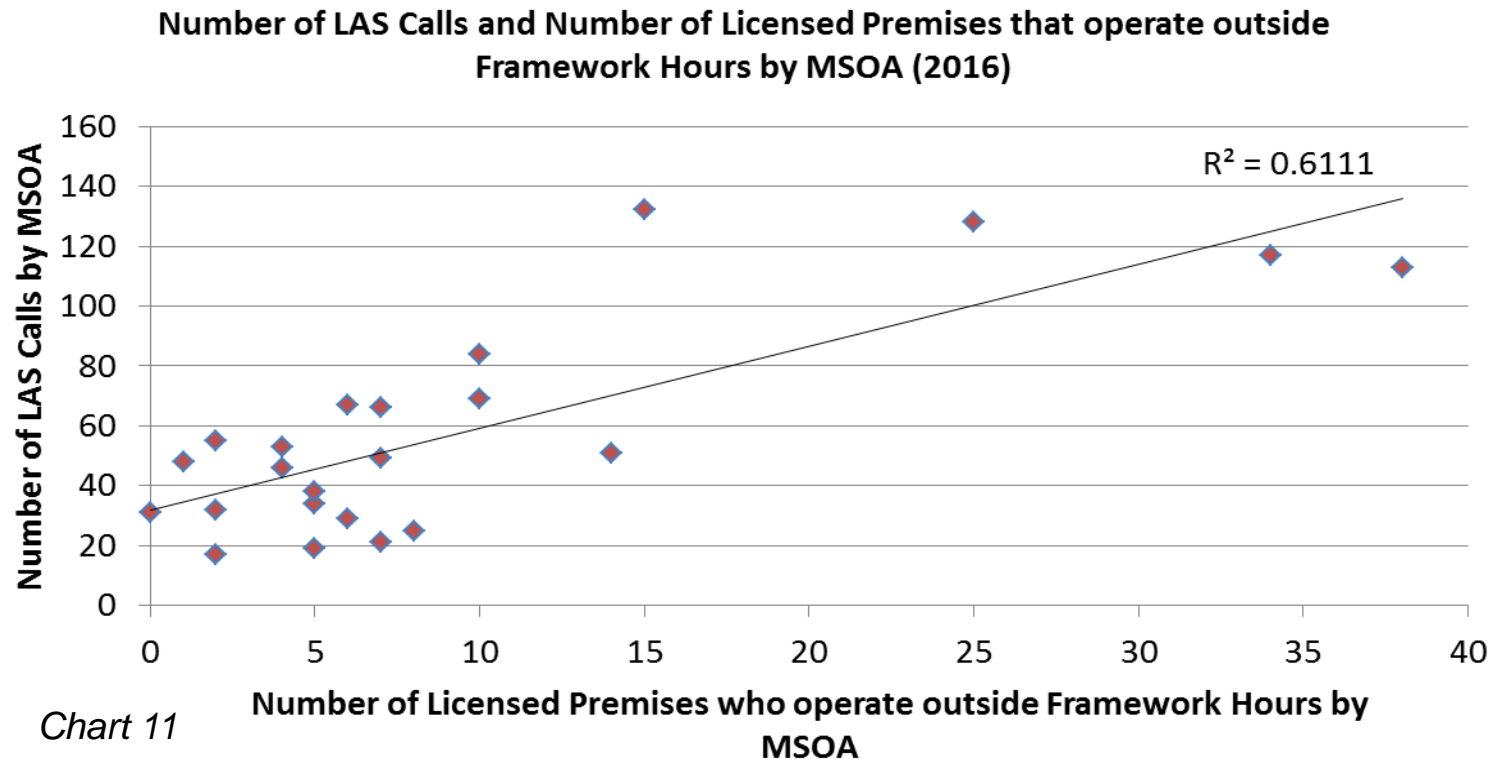
■ Mon-Thu ■ Fri-Sat ■ Sun



Density of licensed premises vs alcohol related ambulance callouts

- There is a correlation (although fairly weak) between the number of licenced premises and the number of alcohol-related ambulance callouts per small geographical area.
- Although this pattern is seen to a certain extent at all times, it is strongest outside of framework hours
- Other geographical features such as transport hubs are associated with increased alcohol-related ambulance activity.

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Density of licensed premises vs alcohol related crime

- There is a correlation (although fairly weak) between the number of licenced premises and the number of alcohol-related criminal offences per small geographical area.
- Although this pattern is seen to a certain extent at all times, it is strongest outside of framework hours
- Other geographical features such as transport hubs are associated with increased alcohol-related crime.

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Number of Criminal Offences and Number of Licensed Premises that operate outside Framework Hours by MSOA (2016/17)

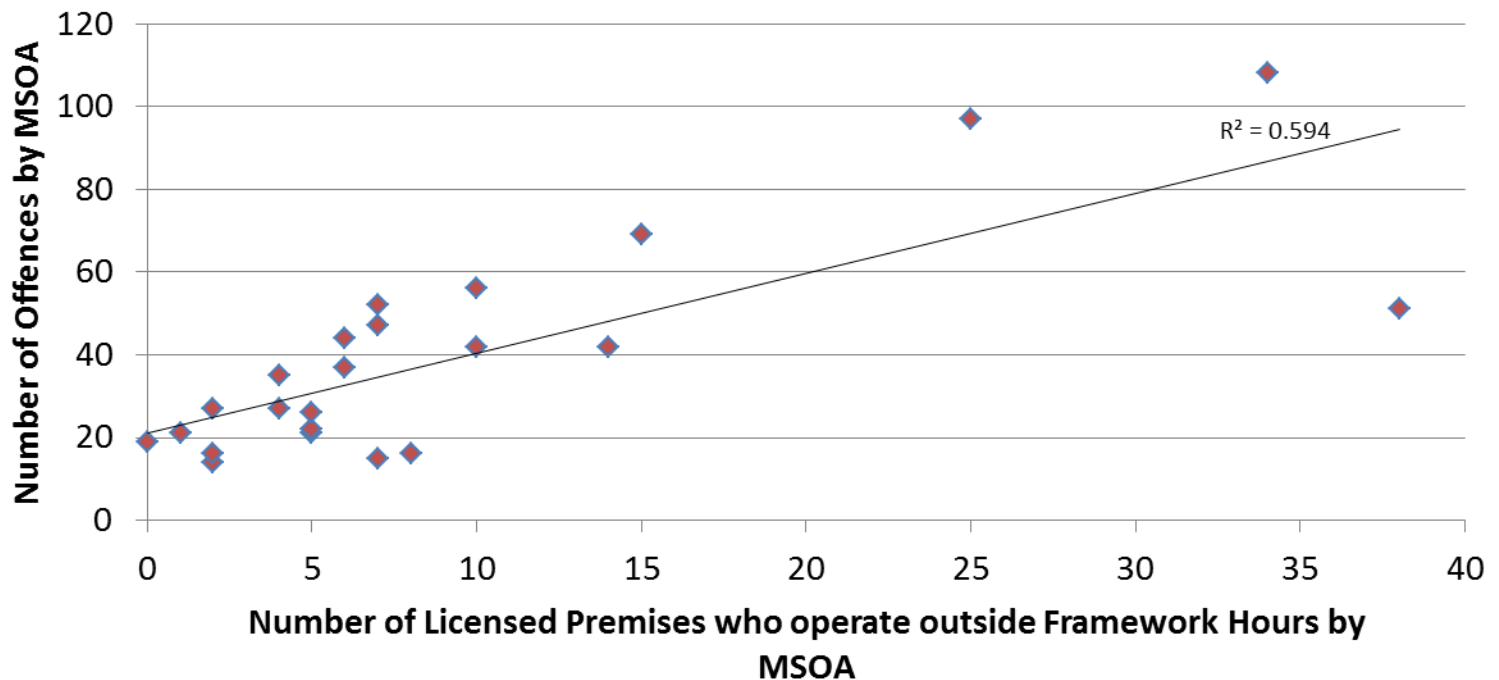


Chart 12

Alcohol related ambulance callouts & density of premises



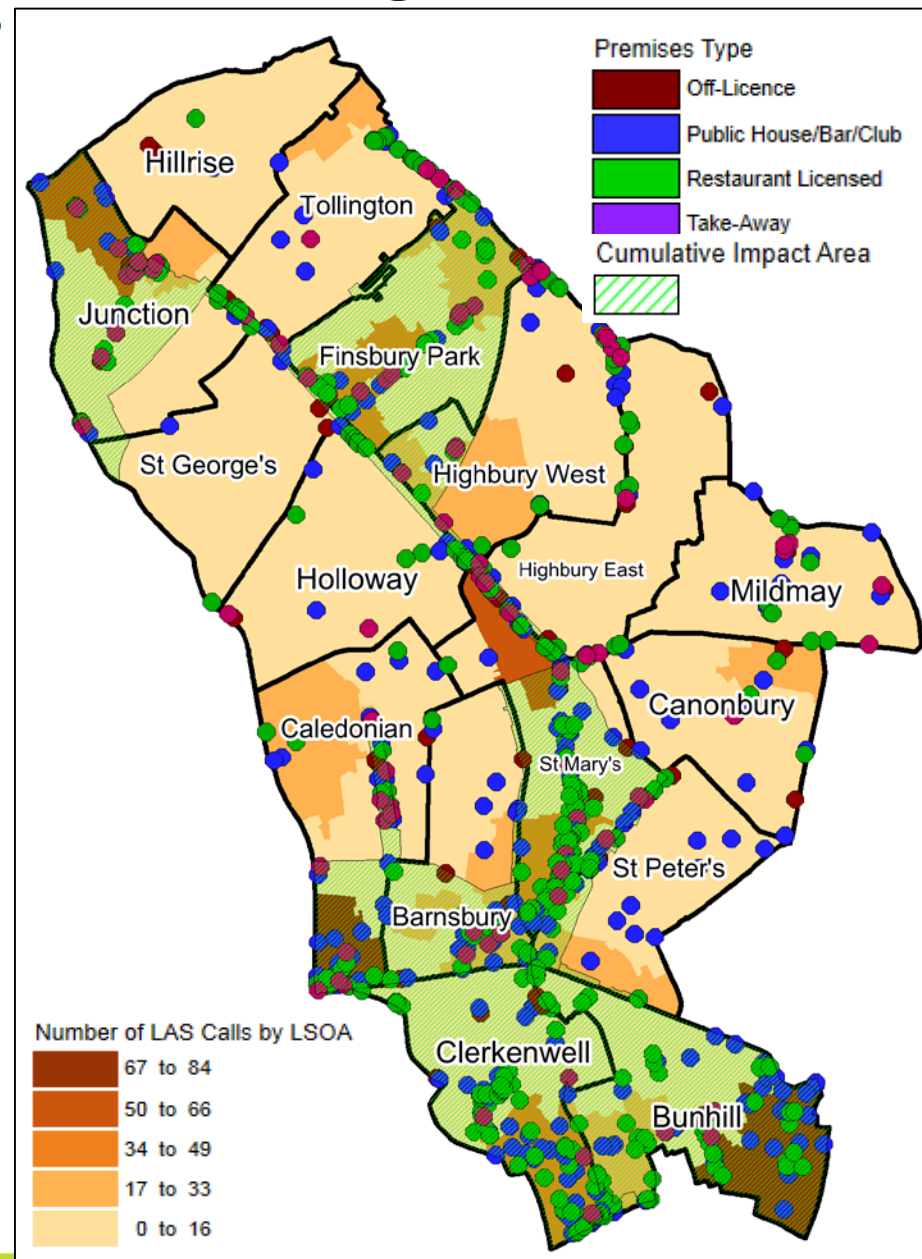
ISLINGTON

There were a total of 1,324 alcohol related ambulance callouts in Islington during 2016, an average of 11 per Lower Super Output Area (LSOA).

The darkest shaded areas on the map show the LSOAs where there were more than 5 times the average number of alcohol-related ambulance callouts compared to the Islington LSOA average.

Areas with higher alcohol-related ambulance activity include south of Old Street, close to Kings Cross/Caledonian Road junction, Highbury Corner/Holloway and Archway.

As the map shows, large clusters of licenced premises coincide with the areas of higher alcohol-related ambulance call-outs).

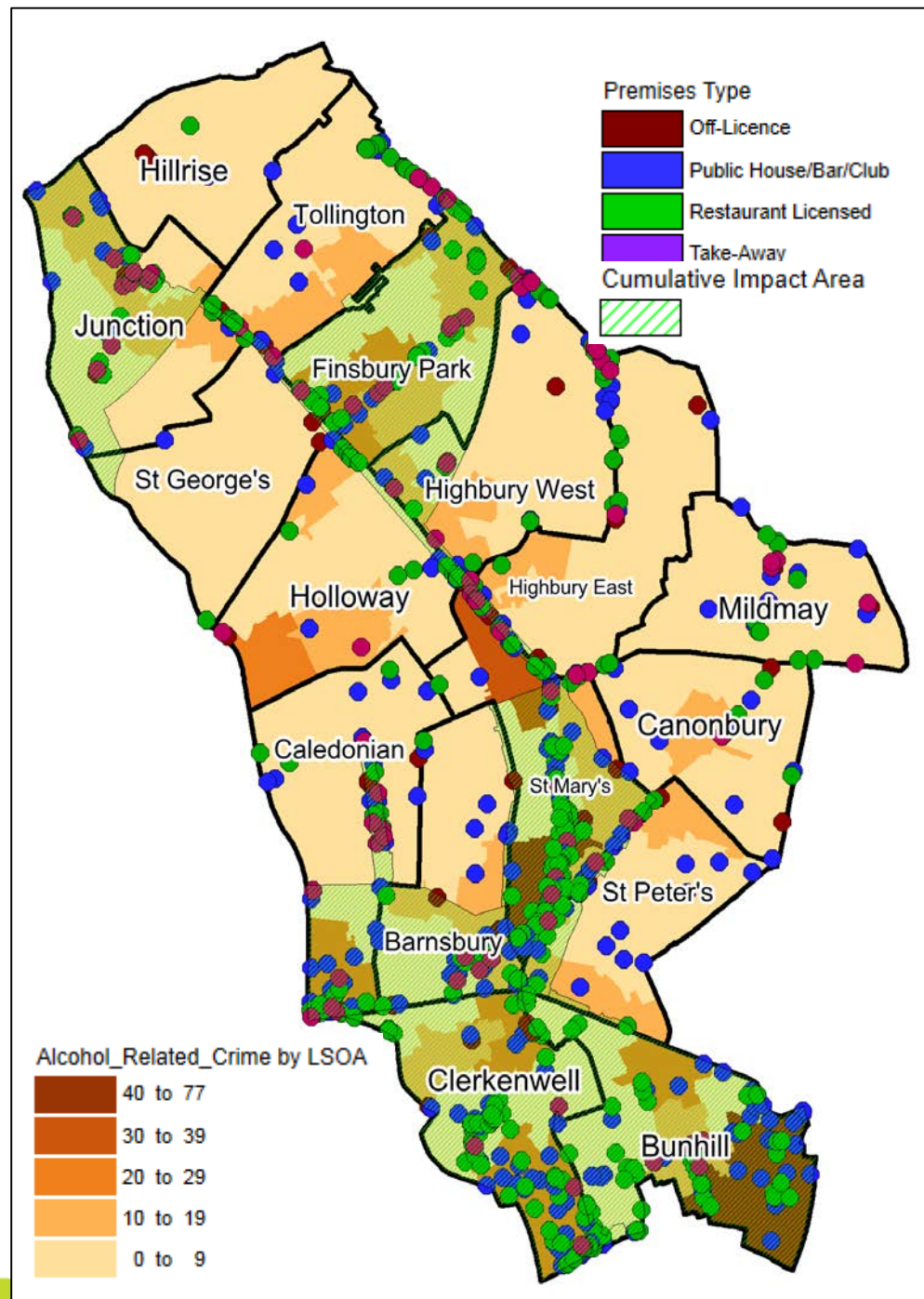


Alcohol related crime & density of premises

There were a total of 938 criminal offences with an alcohol related marker in Islington between 1 April 2016 and 31 March 2017, an average of 8 per Lower Super Output Area (LSOA).

The darkest shaded areas on the map show the LSOAs where there were more than 5 times the average number of alcohol-related crime compared to the Islington LSOA average.

The highest concentrations of alcohol related crime were found on Upper Street and Angel, but also in Bunhill ward, heading into central London. The highest concentrations of alcohol related crime are generally in areas with higher concentrations of licensed premises.

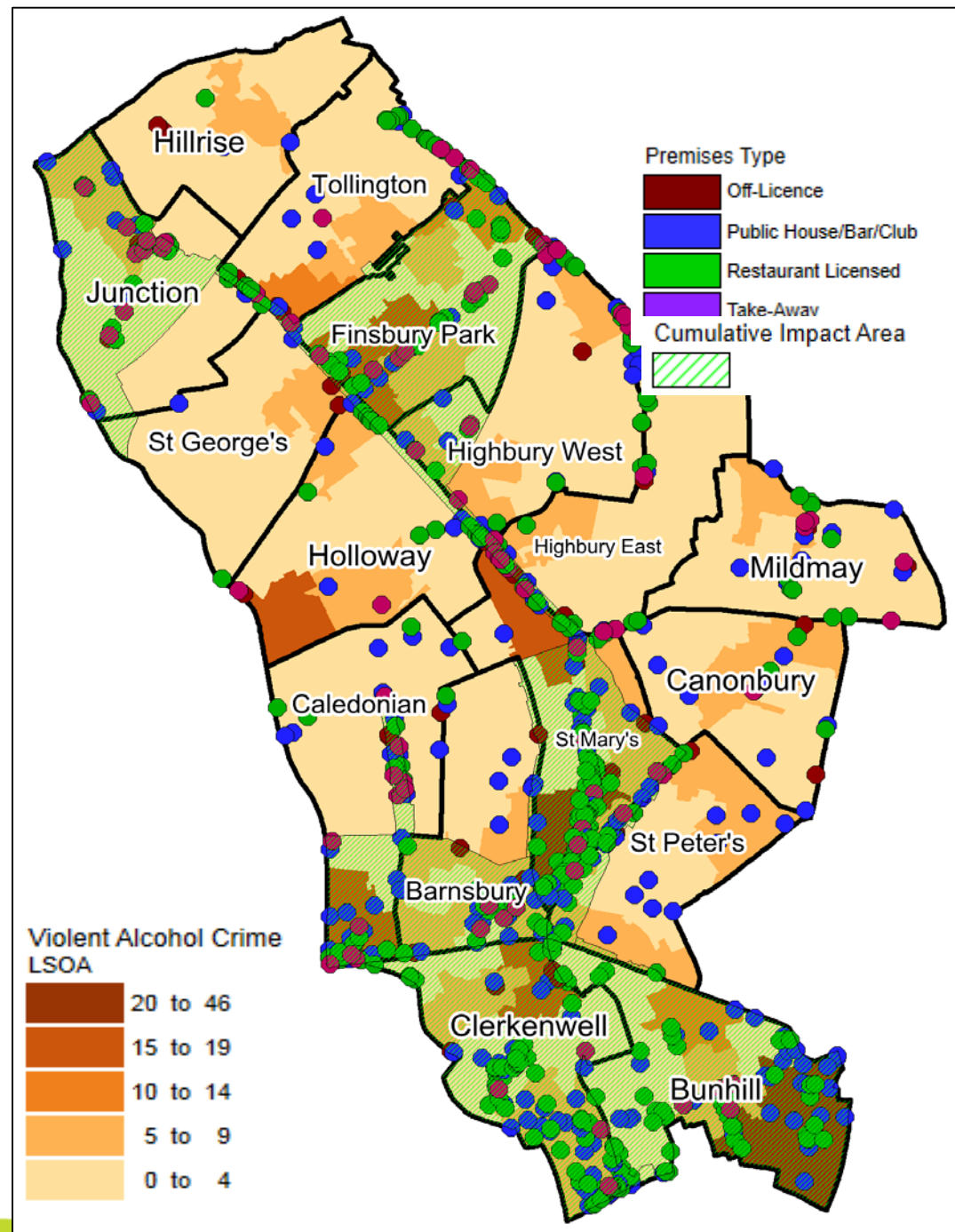


Alcohol related violent crime & density of premises

There were a total of 519 alcohol related violent offences recorded in Islington between 1 April 2016 and 31 March 2017, an average of 4 per Lower Super Output Area (LSOA).

The darkest shaded areas on the map show the LSOAs with the highest concentrations of alcohol related violent crime recorded in 2016/17.

Similarly to all alcohol related crime, higher concentrations are found in the town centre areas and where there are higher concentrations of licensed premises.



**Evaluating the impact of a Cumulative Impact Policy
in the London Borough of Islington**

**Quantitative impact evaluation of
alcohol licensing, crime, ambulance call outs and retail sales data**

Triantafyllos Pliakas, Matt Egan and Karen Lock

**NIHR School of Public Health Research,
London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine.**

Executive Summary

Introduction

Following introduction of a Cumulative Impact Policy by the London Borough of Islington in 2013, an evaluation was conducted by the School for Public Health Research team at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine (<http://sphr.lshtm.ac.uk>).

The objectives of the evaluation were to understand how, and to what extent, the Cumulative Impact Policy had affected alcohol licencing decisions, alcohol availability and alcohol-related harms (including crime and health), in order to inform the review of Licencing Policy in the London Borough of Islington (2017-2022).

The context

Islington has one of the highest densities of pubs, bars, clubs and off licences in the country and second highest in London after the City of Westminster. Alcohol consumption has been identified as a major factor behind violent crime and disorder in the borough with consequences to victims, businesses and local communities.

Islington's residents also suffer from high levels of alcohol-related ill health and early deaths. The 2012 Annual Public Health Report, *'One too many? The impact of alcohol in Islington'* provides in-depth analysis of the impact of alcohol and proposals to reduce alcohol-related harm in Islington [1].

The Licensing Act 2003 [2] enables English local authorities to implement Cumulative Impact Policies (CIPs). CIPs strengthen the powers of local authorities to reject licence applications for retail alcohol sales in cumulative impact zones (CIZs), where adverse effects of alcohol availability can be demonstrated.

In 2013, Islington's statement of Licencing Policy implemented a Borough-wide Cumulative Impact Policy (CIP), which introduced designated areas of cumulative alcohol impact and saturation ('cumulative impact zones') in Clerkenwell, Bunhill, Kings Cross, Upper Street and Angel, Holloway Road and Finsbury Park, and Archway [3].

This policy also adopted a new guide-line framework of closing times for businesses applying for new and variation applications as follows: (i) off-licences - 11pm; (ii) night clubs - 1am Sunday to Thursday, 2am Friday and Saturday; (iii) restaurants, cafes and bars - 11pm Sunday to Thursday, midnight Friday and Saturday; (iv) hot food and drink

from takeaways - midnight Sunday to Thursday, 1am Friday and Saturday; (v) 24 hour sales of alcohol to hotel residents [3].

Methods

We examined the impact of the introduction of the new cumulative impact zones across Islington in January 2013 on a range of outcomes including:

- number of alcohol license applications submitted,
- rates of successful alcohol license applications, i.e. those for which a license was granted (*'success rates'*),
- duration and times of alcohol sales permitted by licenses,
- rates of overall crime and anti-social behaviour (ASB),
- alcohol related ambulance call outs
- retail alcohol sales (limited to a sample of on-licence sales only, predominantly comprising pubs and bars).

We used a time series approach to assess both the immediate impacts (i.e. short term changes at the time of CIP introduction) and impacts over the longer term (i.e. a relative change comparing trends before and after the introduction of CIP - from 2008 to 2016) in CIZ and non CIZ. Assessment of short term changes depended on the data source. They were estimated at 3 months after CIP introduction for the number of alcohol license applications submitted and for success rates in license applications, and at 6 months for all other licensing data outcomes, including duration and times of alcohol sales permitted by licenses. Short term changes were estimated at 3 months after CIP introduction for crime and ambulance callouts.

Findings

Licensing applications

The introduction of CIP in Islington has not led to any significant changes in the total number of alcohol licenses submitted in the long term. Nor did introduction of the CIP displace licence applications from CIZ to non CIZ.

For total licence applications, the proportion of successful licence applications (*'success rates'*) showed a statistically significant decrease in the short term after CIP

introduction, followed by a longer term significant increase in both CIZ and non CIZ. There was also a statistically significant decrease in the success rates for off licence applications in the first 6 months after CIP introduction, although this has not been sustained over time. This indicates that CIP has not been a barrier to gaining a licence to sell alcohol in Islington and suggests successful businesses have been able to adapt to comply with the current Licencing Strategy requirements.

Trading times

Findings on trading and closing times are consistent with the current licencing policy objectives that aims to reduce temporal alcohol availability by removing 24hr licensing, reducing after midnight opening and reducing early trading.

There were statistically significant longer term decreases observed in the average weekly duration of trading hours after CIP introduction, with the reductions in trading hours post CIP being more pronounced in on-license applications and in non CIZ.

The rates of licence applications with closing times before midnight on Friday and Saturday nights increased before 2013, but showed a statistically significant decrease after CIP introduction in CIZ only. This could be explained by market saturation for later night licenses before CIP was introduced and the fact that newer licenses would have to be agreed on shorter opening times consistent with the new Licencing Strategy.

Crime data

Between December 2010 and April 2016 there were a total of 194,003 crime incidents recorded in Islington, of which 52,754 were anti-social behavior incidents. Rates of total crime and anti social behaviour decreased overall between 2011 and 2016. Following CIP introduction, the evaluation found a significant short term decrease in overall crime rates in both CIZ and non CIZ (but no immediate change in anti social behaviour rates). Comparing trends before and after CIP introduction, total crime and anti social behaviour declined at a slower rate after CIP introduction.

Alcohol-related ambulance call-outs

Between April 2008 and March 2016 there were a total of 20,250 alcohol-related ambulance call-outs in the London Borough of Islington. Overall there was a decreasing trend in alcohol-related ambulance call outs between 2011 and 2016 in both CIZ and

non CIZ. Although alcohol related ambulance call outs decreased after CIP introduction, we found no statistically significant immediate and longer term impact related to CIP introduction.

Retail alcohol sales

We analysed a small sample of retail sales data for Islington, limited to a 10% sample of on-licence premises (mainly limited to pubs and bars).

Overall between 2010 and 2016 there was an increasing trend in total weekly average per premise alcohol sales value (£). When comparing long term trends statistically before and after the introduction of CIP, the impact of CIP was a small, non statistically significant increase in CIZ, and a small statistically significant decrease in non CIZ for weekly average pre premise alcohol sales (£).

For total average weekly units of alcohol sold per premise, there was a small, statistically significant increase in units of alcohol sold in both CIZ and a small, statistically significant decrease in non CIZ in the long term after the CIP introduction.

We found little evidence of any impact on the average weekly quantity of alcohol products sold per premise in CIZ. In contrast, there were small, statistically decreases in weekly quantity of alcohol products sold per premise in non CIZ, both immediately after CIP introduction and longer term.

The findings for retail sales data should be interpreted with caution due to the small numbers and selective nature of the dataset but it seems to suggest that CIP introduction has had little impact economically on alcohol retail businesses in Islington.

Conclusion

The evaluation focused on the introduction of Cumulative Impact Zones across the Islington in January 2013, but also took into account concurrent implementation of other aspects of the current Licencing Strategy (2013-2017) including a focus on reducing trading hours, reducing off-licence availability, and improving the quality of alcohol retailing overall.

The results of the evaluation show that the Licencing Strategy overall, and the Cumulative Impact Policy specifically, have been broadly effective. The implementation

of the strategy has met the objectives of reducing crime, anti-social behaviour and alcohol-related ambulance call outs, reducing the rate of successful applications for off-licences, reducing the average weekly trading times of alcohol licences granted.

Concurrently, three years after CIP introduction there have actually been increases in rates of alcohol licences granted overall. There also appears to be little or no impact on alcohol retail sales volume and sales revenues since 2013.

This evaluation appears to show that the London Borough of Islington's Licencing Strategy and the CIP have reduced alcohol related harms without negatively impacting on the overall night-time economy in Islington and the ability of alcohol retailers to operate if they meet the conditions required.

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- Research report

Measurable effects of local alcohol licensing policies on population health in England



Authors

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Abstract

Background English alcohol policy is implemented at local government level, leading to variations in how it is put into practice. We evaluated whether differences in the presence or absence of cumulative impact zones and the ‘intensity’ of licensing enforcement—both aimed at regulating the availability of alcohol and modifying the drinking environment—were associated with harm as measured by alcohol-related hospital admissions.

Methods Premises licensing data were obtained at lower tier local authority (LTLA) level from the Home Office Alcohol and Late Night Refreshment Licensing data for 2007–2012, and LTLAs were coded as ‘passive’, low, medium or highly active based on whether they made use of cumulative impact areas and/or whether any licences for new premises were declined. These data were linked to 2009–2015 alcohol-related hospital admission and alcohol-related crime rates obtained from the Local Alcohol Profiles for England. Population size and deprivation data were obtained from the Office of National Statistics. Changes in directly age-standardised rates of people admitted to hospital with alcohol-related conditions were analysed using hierarchical growth modelling.

Results Stronger reductions in alcohol-related admission rates were observed in areas with more intense alcohol licensing policies, indicating an ‘exposure–response’ association, in the 2007–2015 period. Local areas with the most intensive licensing policies had an additional 5% reduction ($p=0.006$) in 2015 compared with what would have been expected had these local areas had no active licensing policy in place.

Conclusions Local licensing policies appear to be associated with a reduction in alcohol-related hospital admissions in areas with more intense licensing policies.

- [ALCOHOL](#)
- [PUBLIC HEALTH](#)
- [PUBLIC HEALTH POLICY](#)

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Introduction

The costs of alcohol misuse to the National Health Service (NHS) have been estimated at 3.5 billion pounds annually for England alone, with additional costs of £11 billion per year because of alcohol-related crime and £7.3 billion annually in lost productivity.¹ Despite the proportion of people drinking regularly having fallen between 2005 and 2012,² about 31% of women and 44% of men in England drink more than the recommended weekly alcohol limits,³ with frequent drinking becoming more common during mid to older age.⁴ Alcohol policy is controversial with opposing views and alternative strategies expressed by government, industry and health professionals.⁵

Two key strategies concern alcohol price and availability. Alcohol tax and price policies have been shown to have significant effects on alcohol-related disease and injury rates,⁶ but since the 1980s, the affordability of alcohol has been increasing,² and the introduction of minimum unit pricing, a policy designed to remove the cheapest alcohol from the market, has been rejected for the time being in England, and is delayed due to legal challenges in Scotland. Several recent legislative changes have, however, strengthened the ability of local authorities to address public health through licensing policies. The 2011 Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act⁷ gave local Health Boards and Primary Care Trusts the status of ‘Responsible Authority’, which means they must be consulted on, and may object to, all licence applications. In addition to this, guidance issued in 2005 extended the 2003 Licensing Act⁸ to give local authorities new powers to address the cumulative impact of alcohol sales.⁹ Alcohol outlet density has been shown to be associated with violence and health,^{10–13} and the licensing process is primarily aimed at immediate harms associated with alcohol sales at a particular premises, and has no explicit remit to reduce alcohol-related population health harms.¹⁴ More specifically, it is stated that public health cannot be the primary consideration for a licensing decision, but may only be used to support licensing decisions based on any of the four objectives set out by the 2003 Licensing Act; that is, prevention of crime and disorder, public safety, prevention of public nuisance or protection of children from harm.^{8, 9} Nonetheless, local authority licensing policy statements allow for alcohol consumptions to be addressed at a broader level than the individual premises, for example, through early morning restrictions and late night levies;¹⁴ although they have not been widely implemented and are open to legal challenges.⁹ Local authorities can also designate cumulative impact zones (CIZs) to control new alcohol outlets in areas where the cumulative stress caused by existing overprovision of alcohol outlets threatens the licensing objectives.¹⁵ In these CIZs, which can apply to on-trade, off-trade or both, applicants for a new alcohol licence have to demonstrate how they will avoid threatening the licensing objectives, which is a reversal of the normal burden of proof.¹⁴ It has been suggested that CIZs and restrictions in the licensing of new premises, which aim to regulate the availability of alcohol and modify the drinking environment, may be effective in reducing consumption and related harms.^{16, 17}

Although all local authorities operate under the same policy framework, concerns about the societal and health harms of alcohol consumption will differ between authorities, and they consequently will differ in respect of prioritisation of alcohol control interventions.¹⁷ Empirical evidence indicates that higher on-premise outlet density is related to violence and antisocial behaviour, whereas that higher off-premise alcohol outlet density is related to rates of chronic alcohol-related disease^{18, 19} and has, for example, been shown to increase liver disease incidence rates in the USA.²⁰

We hypothesised that the CIZs and the intensity of licensing scrutiny may impact on the density of outlets selling alcohol to be consumed off the premises, or, alternatively, affect the drinking environment through conditional licensing, thereby positively affecting alcohol-

related hospital admissions. In this study, we aimed to evaluate whether differences in the implementation of CIZs and licensing scrutiny by local councils, aimed at regulating the availability of alcohol and modifying the drinking environment, has had a measurable impact on population health at the local level.

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Methods

Data

Alcohol licensing data were obtained for lower tier local authorities (LTLAs) in England from the Home Office's 'Alcohol and Late Night Refreshment Licensing England and Wales data' for the years 2007/2008 and 2011/2012,²¹ which are completed by each LTLA's licensing lead. More details on LTLAs can be found elsewhere.²²

Performance of various alcohol-reduction policies, programmes or initiatives are often benchmarked against official data of related harm. For monitoring of trends in alcohol-related harms, several measures of alcohol-related hospital admissions for England have been developed by Public Health England,²³ with the two most used being the 'broad' and 'narrow' measures²⁴ based on the International Statistical Classification of Diseases and Related Health Problems (ICD 10).²⁵ The broad measure counts every admission where one of the diagnoses is a condition that is at least partially alcohol attributable, whereas the narrow measure counts only those admissions where the primary diagnosis is alcohol-related. Since every admission must have a primary code, the narrow measure is less sensitive to variations in coding practices (either between hospitals or over time) but may also underestimate the overall burden of alcohol on health services compared with the broad measure.²⁴ We therefore used the narrow measure in order to ensure maximum comparability in the data used across different LTLAs, which may have heterogeneous coding practices. Quarterly data of directly age-standardised rates per 100 000 population (standardised to the European standard population) of unique persons (all ages) admitted to hospital with alcohol-related conditions were obtained from publicly available Local Alcohol Profiles for England (LAPE) data for the period 2009–2015; four full years and the first quarter of 2015.²⁶ Alcohol-related crime rates were also obtained from the LAPE data set and used in the analyses to adjust for non-random implementation of policies.

Annual population size and deprivation data (measured using the index of multiple deprivation²⁷) for 2007 and 2010 were obtained at the same LTLA level from the Office of National Statistics.

Exposure—licensing intensity

The level of implementation of CIZs and the intensity of licensing scrutiny aimed at controlling licensing and alcohol availability (ie, the exposure) for each LTLA was based on whether a licensing authority used CIZ (coded as yes/no); and whether any licences for new premises were successfully challenged by the LTLA in a particular year (coded as yes/no). These were aggregated for each available year to obtain a three-level metric for CIZ implementation and licensing enforcement intensity: the area has no CIZ and also no licensing applications have been refused (0), some new licenses applications have been

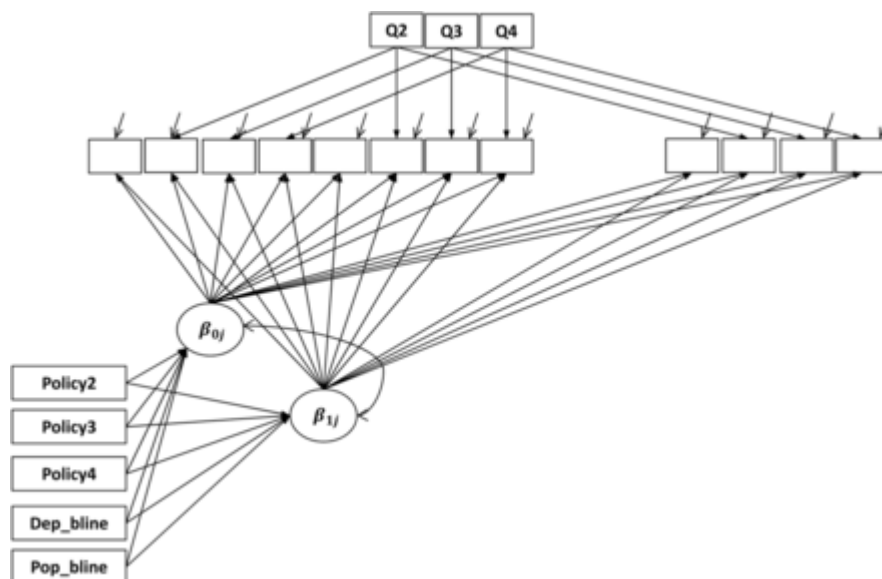
refused OR a CIZ is in place (1), and new license applications have been refused AND a CIZ is in place (most active=2). The outcome of a new application can result in a conditional licence rather than one which is refused; something that is not included in this metric because we a priori interpreted refusal of new applications as being indicative of more intense licensing scrutiny compared with procedures resulting in conditional licensing. Although local alcohol policies were relatively stable over the period 2007–2015, changes did occur within some LTLAs, and to incorporate these, we aggregated the annual scores for each LTLA to generate a total 2007–2015 (cumulative) licensing intensity score. This cumulative score was then divided into four categories: no activity (passive), and three levels of intensity (low, medium, high), based on tertiles of the distribution. This categorisation was subsequently added to the statistical models described below both as a main effect, to adjust for baseline differences between the areas with different policy intensities, and as an interaction term with time to evaluate if policy intensity was related to different trends in rates of alcohol-related hospital episodes.

Analytical methods

Hierarchical growth modelling was used to analyse these data. Quarterly age-standardised alcohol-related hospital episode statistics (HES) rates (Y) were log-transformed and estimated to be related to a set of explanatory covariates; that is, a log-rate model.²⁸ Because the main aim was to determine average changes in alcohol-related hospital admission rates, variability between LTLAs at baseline and individual LTLA time trends were modelled by means of hierarchical random-intercept-random slopes mixed-effects models with quarter (eg, January–March to October–December) included as a covariate to account for seasonal trends. This unconditional growth model, without additional covariates (for clarity, see equation S1 in online supplementary material), had an acceptable fit to the data, although there were several outliers in different LTLAs (see details in online supplementary material figure S1). In multivariate analyses, models were further adjusted for baseline (2007/2008) population size, deprivation and alcohol-related crime rates to control for non-random implementation of policies in LTLAs (eg, more intense alcohol policies were more likely to be implemented in areas with more problems).

We also conducted two sensitivity analyses (data presented in online supplementary material): (1) instead of the cumulative policy intensity metric, classification of LTLAs the year before health outcomes were available (2007–2008) was used. The 2007–2008 status was interpreted as the cause of alcohol-related hospital admission trends in the subsequent years (2009–2015); and (2) because the 2014/2015 data were only preliminary data at the time of analyses, we ran the same model but using only the data from 2009 to 2013.

All models were run using the *lme4* package and corresponding p values for fixed effects were obtained using the *lmerTest* package in R (V.3.0.1). CIs were calculated using profile likelihoods. Model fit was assessed based on evaluation of residuals and with comparisons based on Bayesian Information Criterion (BIC), since all models are considered equally probable a priori.²⁹ For clarity, the model described above is shown graphically in [figure 1](#).



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Figure 1

Graphical representation of the conditional model 2. B_{0j} indicates intercept, β_{1j} indicates slope, Pop_bline and Dep_bline indicate population size and deprivation at baseline (2009/2010), Q2–4 indicate quarterly, seasonal estimates and Policy 2–4 indicate effect of low, medium and high cumulative (relative to none) policy on intercept and slope. Empty boxes indicate repeated measures within a lower tier local authority.

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Results

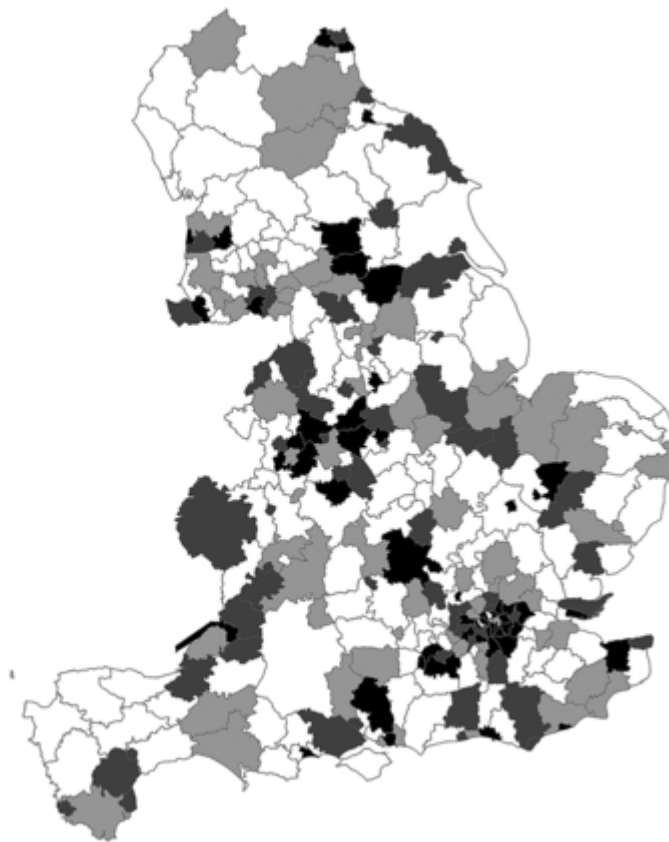
The available data are shown in [table 1](#). From a total of 326 LTLAs, data relating to 319 could be used in the analyses. Seven LTLAs were excluded primarily because data on licensing activity were unavailable. Up to a fivefold difference in age-standardised rates of alcohol-related hospital episodes between LTLAs was observed at baseline. One hundred and eighteen LTLAs (37%) were classified as having some form of active alcohol policy in 2007/2008, and 24 of these (20% of them and 7% of total) used CIZs as well as an active policy for new premises. Cumulative policy intensity, as described above, was medium or high for 19% and 16% of LTLAs, respectively. There were changes in local policies in the 2007–2014 time period in 63 LTLAs (201 minus 138) moving from having no active policy in 2007/2008 to adopting one for the period thereafter. [Figure 2](#) shows the geographical spread of cumulative policy intensity stratified in the four groups across England.


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Table 1

Study sample demographics



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Figure 2

Lower tier local authority cumulative policy intensity, stratified in the four categories: none (white), low (light grey), medium (dark grey) and high (black).

[Table 2](#) shows the results for three versions of the growth models. The unconditional model describes the trend without additional explanatory variables, the first conditional model includes baseline covariates and an interaction between policy and time, and the second conditional model describes an expansion of conditional model 1 to include interactions with time for all covariates. The unconditional model indicates that the variance in time trends (slopes) between the different LTLAs is twice as large as the LTLA 2009 baseline variances (0.115 vs 0.057, respectively), and that there is a small national decline in alcohol-related hospital admission rates in the 2007–2015 period (-0.048 meaning that the annual rate is reducing by about 0.5% per annum).

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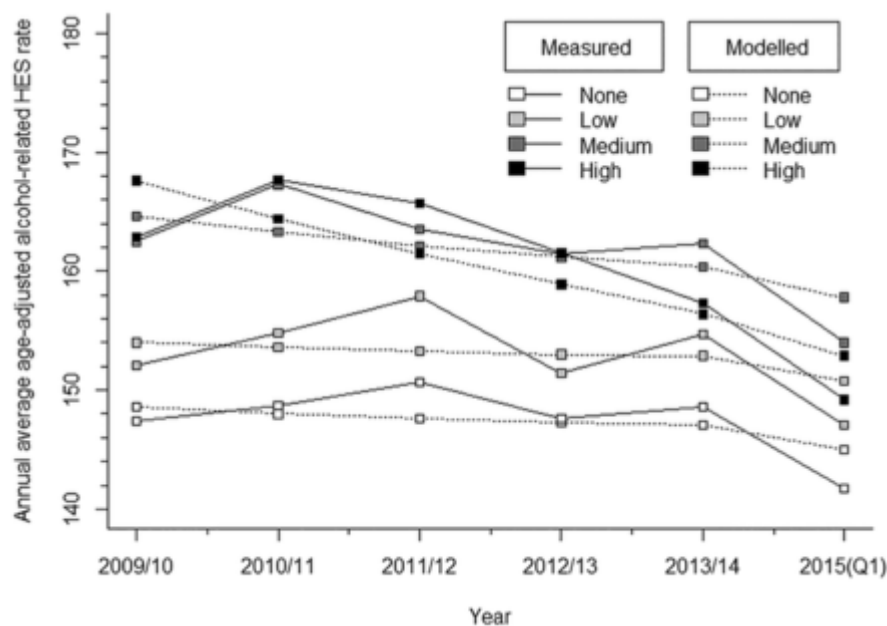
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Table 2

Results growth models (2009–2015 alcohol-related hospital episodes statistics)

Inclusion of baseline deprivation, population size and alcohol-related societal harm (modelled as alcohol-related crime rates)—conditional models 1 and 2—explains about 50% of the baseline variability in admission rates between LTLAs. Beyond that, they do not provide any evidence that differences in population deprivation, population size or alcohol-related crimes could explain observed changes in admission rates over the 2009–2015 time period (p values 0.34, 0.26 and 0.16, respectively). There was some evidence that areas with more active (cumulative) alcohol licensing policies may have had higher baseline rates of alcohol-related hospital admissions compared to those with no active policies (p values 0.23 and 0.05, depending on the model).

The most important finding of these analyses is that we observe different effects on the slope depending on the cumulative policy intensity (p=0.006). These results indicate that the intensity of alcohol licensing policies in LTLAs was associated with measurably larger reductions in alcohol-related hospital admissions, with larger effects in LTLAs with more intense policies. More specifically, these models indicate an additional, non-significant, decrease in admission rates of 0.6% annually in LTLAs with a medium intensity policy, which equates to a doubling of the reduction in the average admission rate over the 2009–2015 time period compared with the non-active LTLAs. The change in alcohol-related hospital admission rates in the areas with the highest intensity policies was –2% (95% CI –3% to –2%) annually (p<0.05), equating to (accounting for other modelled changes in population) an additional 5% reduction, or eight unique alcohol-related hospital admissions per 100 000 people fewer in 2015 compared with what would have been expected if these areas had not had active policies in place ([figure 3](#)).



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Figure 3

Measured and modelled annual average rate (eg, $\exp(Y)$) of alcohol-related hospital episode statistics (HES) admissions (narrow definition). Deeper colour indicates more active policy in the 2007–2015 period. Note that the figure shows annual averages instead of the modelled quarters, to reduce scatter and improve clarity of figures.

Sensitivity analyses using the policy intensity in 2007/2008 (see online supplementary material table S2) instead of baseline policy show comparable results, and sensitivity analyses using validated 2009–2013 data only (see online supplementary table S3) also show similar results, although with smaller effect sizes and weaker evidence ($p=0.06$).

[Figure 3](#) shows the measured and modelled national annual average hospital admission rates. (Annual averages have been used instead of quarterly data to make the figure easier to interpret.) These show that (1) the conditional growth model reflects the measured data well and (2) that the more intense the alcohol policies in local areas were during the 2007–2014 period, the more pronounced was the reduction in admission rates. Online supplementary figures S2A and S2B show the measured and modelled age-adjusted alcohol-related hospital admission rates for the six selected LTLAs, which are case studies in complementary research being conducted by the NIHR School for Public Health Research (Bristol, Islington, Ipswich, Bradford, Newcastle-upon-Tyne and Blackpool) and similarly indicate that the model fits the data well for a range of different situations.

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Discussion

An average decrease in alcohol-related hospital admissions of 0.5% per year was observed during the period 2009–2015. Our analyses show that there was a greater reduction in alcohol-related hospital admissions in local government areas where CIZs were present and with more intense scrutiny of alcohol licence applications. Although the effects on the age-adjusted rates are modest, about an additional 2% per year in the areas in the high-intensity group, given the expected relatively large amount of non-differential measurement error in especially the ‘exposure’,³⁰ we would expect the modelled effect sizes to be an underestimate of true effects.

These data do not allow for firm conclusions on the causality of the observed association to be drawn, because although they indicate a dose–response association where larger reductions in admission rates are observed in the LTLAs classified as having the highest cumulative (covering the entire time period) intensity of enforcement and presence of CIZs, this could also be the result of these councils being more proactive not only in implementing CIZ, but also in adopting a range of alcohol policies in those areas for which we do not have data. These could include, for example, co-introduction of late night levies or co-investment in a range of polices aimed at reducing social and health harms, including alcohol screening and brief intervention programmes. Additionally, it may be that the shift from the selling of

alcohol to be consumed on the premises (on sales) to sales for consumption off the premises (off sales)¹⁷ has been less pronounced in the areas where CIZs and more intense scrutiny was in place (potentially, but not necessarily, as a result of these policies).

The sensitivity analyses provide further support for our interpretation of the results; use of the 2007/2008 baseline policy data to categorise LTLAs results in comparable associations, but with slightly less fit, than would be expected from a result of changes in policy in the 2007–2014 period. We included outcome data that are yet to be fully validated for 2014; however, restricting the analysis to 2009–2013 data results in a similar pattern to that observed for the complete dataset, but with around an additional 1% annual decrease and weaker statistical evidence given lower power.

Although our stratification into four ‘cumulative exposure’ groups is relatively crude, we believe this to be less subject to measurement error compared with individual LTLA data, which have been shown to contain errors in the registered number of CIZs or in the number of licensing cases in some LTLAs.³⁰ By grouping LTLAs into three groups based on the presence or absence of CIZs and licensing application refusals rather than the actual numbers, and because we defined the categorisation a priori, it seems unlikely that misclassification would have been substantial or differential. Nonetheless, a stronger argument on causality could be made if intermediate data on consumption or local area sales data were included. Unfortunately, these data were not available for these analyses.

Alcohol policies, as confirmed by the statistical models, are not introduced in random areas, but more active policies are introduced in areas with greater (baseline) levels of harm. We have adjusted for this in both models by using baseline deprivation, population size and alcohol-related crime as markers of societal impact of alcohol consumption, but residual confounding may still be present. A possible approach to assess this post hoc in more detail is to match areas using propensity scores and evaluate matched pairs in more detail using, for example, a qualitative methodology to gain insights into LTLA-specific policies for areas with similar baseline characteristics (F de Vocht, R Campbell, A Brennan, *et al.* Propensity score matching for selection of local areas as controls for evaluation of effects of alcohol policies in case series and quasi case-control designs. Submitted for publication, 2015).

Temporal autocorrelation was adjusted for by the mixed-effects models used. Although spatial autocorrelation was present ($p < 0.05$), this was minor (Moran's $I = 0.024$). In addition, since alcohol policies are neither implemented nor evaluated at this level, we opted not to include this level, as we were also limited in statistical power by the 319 LTLAs in our analyses. [Figure 2](#) shows the spatial distribution of our policy metric.

Although counts were also available from LAPE,²⁶ we used log-rate growth models instead of Poisson models to allow for direct modelling of age-standardised available rates. Parallel analyses were conducted using quasi-Poisson models (*glmPQL* in the *R MASS* package³¹), with comparable results (data not shown).

The outcome measure is a composite measure including a mixture of conditions wholly attributable to alcohol, such as alcohol liver disease and ethanol poisoning, as well as partly attributable conditions, such as malignant neoplasms of the oesophagus and hypertensive diseases.²³ Therefore, what remains unclear from these analyses is how much changes in admission rates reflect changes in the distribution of pathologies rather than an absolute change in incidence. A further disadvantage of this metric is that HES does not include

accident and emergency (A&E) department visits. Local council alcohol policies are often primarily aimed at reducing acute societal impacts such as criminal behaviour, acute alcohol poisoning and nuisances in public areas,¹⁴ and, as such, a more direct link between A&E department visits and alcohol policies is likely to be present. Further analyses of the impact on alcohol-related A&E or splitting hospital admissions by different disease types could help further explain the patterns seen in our study. Nevertheless, in terms of public health impact, our analyses indicate a potential longer lasting benefit of a more intensive licensing policy.

The tendency to focus on acute harms in studies looking at alcohol availability in relation to harm¹⁷ also applies to evaluations of initiatives to restrict licences in proscribed geographical areas comparable to CIZs, such as the Sydney licence freeze.³² Our current approach, therefore, in terms of public health impact, may be indicative of a longer lasting benefit. For local authorities in the UK, where Directors of Public Health have now been allocated ‘responsible authority’ status with regard to being consulted about new licence applications,³³ the results may also encourage a broader appreciation of the definition of harms that can be taken into consideration and may ultimately help make the case for inclusion of health as a fifth licensing objective of alcohol policy in England.

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Conclusions

These analyses suggest that, the more intensely alcohol licensing policies are implemented in a local area, the stronger their effect on reduction in alcohol-related hospital admissions, with an additional annual average reduction of 2% in alcohol-related hospital admission rates; or about eight unique admissions averted per 100 000 people in 2015, had those licensing policies not been in place. Moreover, because of the inherent measurement error in the available data, the actual impact may well be larger, but further elucidation will require more specific data and a better understanding of the measurement error to enable incorporation of this in the statistical modelling.³⁴ These analyses contribute to the available evidence on the effectiveness of population-level alcohol licensing policies specifically for England, and are the first to demonstrate that the intensity with which selected alcohol licensing policies are implemented and scrutinised is related to measurable reductions in alcohol attributable hospital admissions.

What is already known about this subject

- Although all local authorities in England operate under the same policy framework, concerns with the societal and health harms of alcohol consumption led to differences in the prioritisation of alcohol control interventions.

What this study adds

- This paper shows that local government areas in England with more intensive alcohol licensing policies are also the places where measurably larger reductions in alcohol-related admissions have taken place. This may be direct causation of the policies themselves or it could be an indirect association, but in either case, these analyses suggest a longer lasting population health benefit of local government initiatives to restrict alcohol licences.

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Acknowledgments

The authors would like to thank Dr Matt Egan (LSHTM) for valuable input.

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Footnotes

- Measurable effects of local alcohol licensing policies on population health in England.
- Contributors FdV conceived of the study. FdV, JH, JM and MH established the methodology, with subsequent input from all the other authors. FV and JH conducted the statistical analyses with input from MH, CA and AB. FdV wrote the first draft, and all the authors reviewed this and provided input. All the authors read and approved the final version.
- Disclaimer The views expressed are those of the author(s) and not necessarily those of the NHS, the NIHR or the Department of Health.
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- Competing interests None declared.
- Provenance and peer review Not commissioned; externally peer reviewed.
- Data sharing statement All data are publicly available as described in the manuscript.

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ISLINGTON



**METROPOLITAN
POLICE**

Operation

Nightsafe

Creating safe social environments

Annual Summary Review

1st November 2015 - 31st October 2016

Operation Nightsafe

Annual Summary Review

1st November 2015 - 31st October 2016

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This review is of the Parkguard Team's actions only and excludes Police, Council and Licensing Team data or outcomes generated, either independently by them or as result of follow-up action enabled by this team (such as criminal or civil prosecutions, imposing regulation/conditions or other subsequent interventions).

Background and Service

In 2014 Islington adopted the power to impose a Late Night Levy on all businesses selling or supplying alcohol between midnight and 6am. The amount of levy payable is prescribed by central government to help improve the Night Time Economy (NTE).

By law 70% of the income generated by the levy must be allocated to the Police to spend on activities to reduce crime and disorder associated with the late night sale and consumption of alcohol. The remaining 30% will be retained by the Local Authority to spend on activities to improve the local NTE and the environment in which these activities are concentrated.

In Islington, the Police and Council, with support from the Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime (MOPAC), have agreed to pool the levy income and to deliver a dedicated, multi-agency partnership called Operation Nightsafe. The team consists of Police and Council Licensing, the Parkguard Nightsafe Patrol Team, Special Constables and Policing resources from Safer Neighbourhoods.

The Parkguard element of Operation Nightsafe consists of a Police Accredited, street-based tasking team, delivered by Parkguard on behalf of Islington Council and working in partnership with the Metropolitan Police in a support capacity. The overall aim of this four person team is to provide a dedicated service at key times to aid in tackling NTE issues through presence patrolling, safeguarding, information and intelligence gathering, as well as enforcement where required. The primary purpose of this operation is to support the public, licensees and other partner agencies in the overall management of public disorder, crime and other forms of nuisance associated with NTE and to minimise risks to public safety and impact on the wider community.

Winners of the first Metropolitan Police Police and Security (PaS) London Awards 2016

Partnership & Engagement category



The area of responsibility is borough wide and the deployment is determined on a nightly basis by intelligence-led tasking, call response and Police team briefings.

The team provides a dual function service, combining medical and policing support that is focused around key crime generators such as off-licences, pubs, clubs and high footfall streets for NTE. In addition to general crime and anti-social behaviour their role also includes addressing licensing, street trading and taxi touting issues. To deliver this role, Parkguard Officers are appointed persons empowered to act on behalf of the Local Authority in an enforcement capacity, as well as utilising delegated powers as part of the Metropolitan Police Community Safety Accreditation Scheme under the Police Reform Act.

Promoting public safety and providing support

Supportive Action & Promotion of Safety

Assisted member of public in need	536
Health & welfare check People checked due to a concern for safety	724
Medical Support Provided *Note: Ambulance called to attend x20. Which is a potential reduction on LAS NTE calls of 77	97
Crime Prevention Advice Provided to people found in a vulnerable position	157

The reasons for checking on welfare ranged from serious assaults down to inebriation

“The team provides a dual function service, combining medical and policing support that is focused around the Night Time Economy.”

Operation Nightsafe

Patrol Medic Overview

Due to the nature of the role being that of proactive patrolling, the team predominantly find issues or arrive on scene just as an incident unfolds or it is coming to a conclusion.

Over this period the Patrol Medic has attended to:

29	Patients requiring treatment, solely due to intoxication
25	With traumatic injuries requiring specialist treatment
17	Patients with significant head injuries
14	Patients with serious facial injuries
5	Patients with life threatening injuries to a limb
18	Minor injuries

Parkguard needed to ensure that the team are equipped to deal with a wide variety of incidents until other relevant service can be alerted and arrive on scene. Given that our focus is the night time economy, we are often first on scene to incidents that involve injury or concern for safety through alcohol, drug use, trips and falls, assaults and so on. Based on this, we anticipated that we would require a medical element to the patrol team, to ensure that we can give the best immediate response to all, to safeguard and support them. Over this period, the Patrol Medic has provided care on 108 occasions to those either working in or enjoying Islington's NTE.

We have also further invested in training and equipment over the period to provide an enhanced level response and to enable the best possible care until the arrival of the London Ambulance Service (LAS) or other appropriate services.

As a by-product this has also enabled us to help reduce unnecessary demand on the LAS by resulting calls that did not require an emergency response. This is due to calls being made due to poor judgement or panic and often from the callers also being drunk. Through assessment and intervention of a Medic, we were able to cancel or prevent the dispatch of 57 ambulances that could be re-deployed to life threatening emergencies and which prevents a minimum spend of approximately £14,478.

The Patrol Medic has also provided definitive treatment to 108 patients on the street that would have required attendance to an Emergency Department or Urgent Care Centre, again preventing a minimum spend of approximately £11,664 (source: NHS evidence.nhs.uk, NICE, kingsfund.org.uk).

Medical Support

Examples of good work:



Team found a collapsed male and the Medic identified male was in cardiac arrest. CPR was conducted by the team whilst the Medic secured an advanced airway and attached the defibrillator. The third and final shock proved successful in restarting the male's heart just as the advanced trauma team arrived. They were able to progress straight to administering life support drugs. The male was transported to St Barts Heart Attack Centre where he received lifesaving treatment. **The Medic and team were commended by the consultant surgeon and HEMS advanced trauma team for providing lifesaving interventions.**

The teams attention was drawn to a female bleeding profusely from her head. It was established she had fallen back landing on a cocktail jug which penetrated her head, resulting in her losing around 2 pints of blood. Medic managed to eventually control the bleed using specialist trauma dressings. Due to a lack of available ambulances the team rushed the female to a nearby trauma centre where she received definitive treatment. **The team were thanked by the Ambulance Duty Officer.**

Medic provided lifesaving interventions to an unconscious male that had been subjected to a serious assault where his head had been stamped on. Spine and airway protected prior to ambulance arrival, allowing specialist trauma team to package and transport male immediately to a trauma centre.

Medic stabilised a male that had been stabbed in the abdomen. Bleeding stemmed and wound closed using specialist dressings which proved to be lifesaving. **Handed over to HEMS trauma team who commended the medic for his management of the patient.**

Medic identified a male leaving a venue that appeared to have overdosed with a recreational drug. Ambulance summonsed without delay and male conveyed to a specialist centre due to body temperature. **Early intervention saved the male's organs from serious damage.**

Team located an unconscious female down an alleyway on her back, with vomit blocking her airway preventing her from breathing. **Airway cleared and oxygen administered which proved to be lifesaving.**

Team found a male that had sustained significant head injuries following a serious assault with bottles. **Bleeding stemmed by Medic and handover to Trauma Team.**

Medic responded to call for assistance from Police due to lack of available ambulances, with an unconscious male with a significant head injury. Lifesaving intervention was provided by the Medic who identified the male had a blocked airway due to trauma.

Team came across a male having a violent seizure in the middle of a busy carriageway. The team protected the scene whilst the medic stabilised the male. **It was established the male had absconded from hospital and needed urgent treatment.**

Welfare Overview

A core function of this team is to safeguard people who become vulnerable through circumstances, excess alcohol or drug and to prevent them becoming victims of crime or injured or worse.

These individuals are normally located in the immediate vicinity of licensed premises or more isolated locations where they have wandered off before their situation deteriorates.

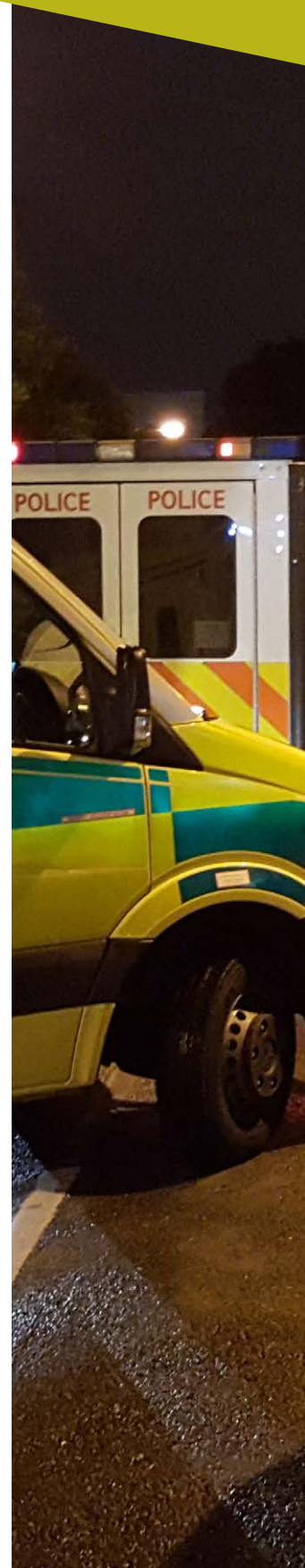
The support provided is very wide ranging, but the most regular types of support were:

- Locating people unconscious or asleep or suffering exhaustion at bus stops, in adjacent residential areas or in side streets and alley ways as a result of the influence of alcohol and or drugs.
- Finding people alone, vomiting and vulnerable. The Patrol Team assisted them in cleaning themselves up, providing medical assessment, water and refuge at the vehicle until transport home can be secured or guardians located. The teams have often also provided disposable bowls and waste bags for the onward journey and assisted with cleaning the scene due to bodily fluid left outside front doors etc.
- People who are disorientated and have become lost while trying to make their way home or are unable to get themselves to a transport hub as they are incapacitated through excess alcohol. Many of these also had minor cuts or abrasions from falls or stumbling along building walls. Cleaning wipes and plasters were often provided but they did not want to be treated officially by the Patrol Medic so these are not included within the medic returns.

S.O.S / Welfare Unit

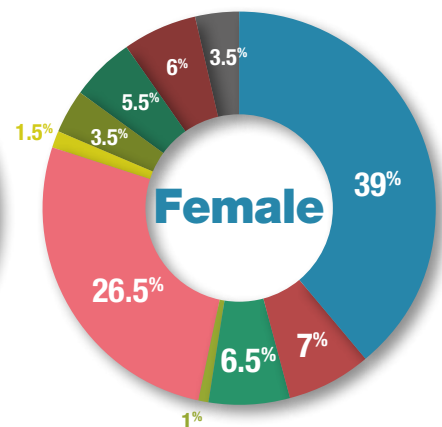
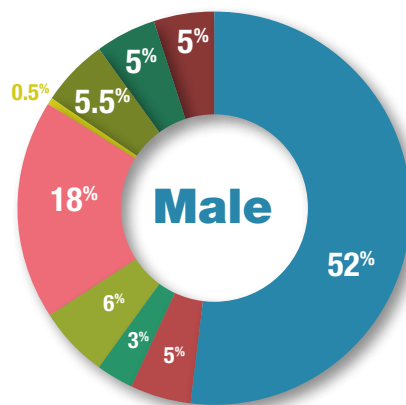
Over this period we deployed a fully equipped and marked emergency Ambulance for **23** shifts at peak time on core nights. This deployment comprises of two medics' stationing as directed by the Nightsafe Team and Police, predominantly in the most high foot fall and priority night time economy areas. These locations changed as the night progresses, mirroring that of party goers transition from pubs to late bars and clubs and then routes to transport hubs. The deployment also contained a reactive element in which they were re-tasked to different areas and incidents based on information and intelligence received from Police and patrol units in real-time. The purpose of this deployment was to provide medical care to those injured or ill through drugs and or alcohol and provide a safe place for people to seek assistance and be safeguarded. The unit also acted as additional, capable guardians to alert the Police and Nightsafe Team to any potential or actual issues, as well as providing general advice, information and referral to other means of support.

23
Shifts



Welfare support by category

Reason	Male	%	Female	%
Drunk	238	52%	186	39%
ill	22	5%	32	7%
Victim	13	3%	30	6.5%
Asleep	26	6%	5	1%
Waiting Transport	84	18%	126	26.5%
Taken Home	2	0.5%	7	1.5%
Medic	24	5.5%	17	3.5%
Directions	23	5%	26	5.5%
Friends/Lost	23	5%	29	6%
Phone	0	0%	17	3.5%
Total	455		475	



- Drunk
- Waiting Transport
- Directions
- Ill
- Taken Home
- Friends / Lost
- Victim
- Phone
- Asleep
- Medic

In terms of victim code by gender, males tended to be victims of crime ranging from snatches to major assaults. The majority of females found were feeling unsafe in unfamiliar surroundings as lost or alone, or in fear following unwanted or aggressive attention being paid to them by individual males or groups of males. In terms of the Medic/Illness code, males tended to require assistance due to accidents as result of risk taking, horse play or altercations. With females it tended to be illness as a result of excess alcohol or trips and falls.

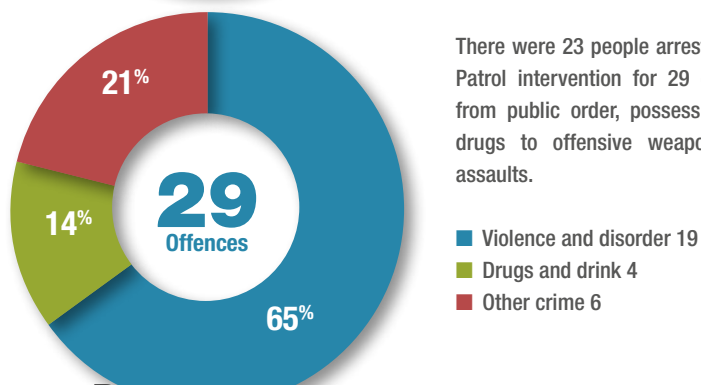
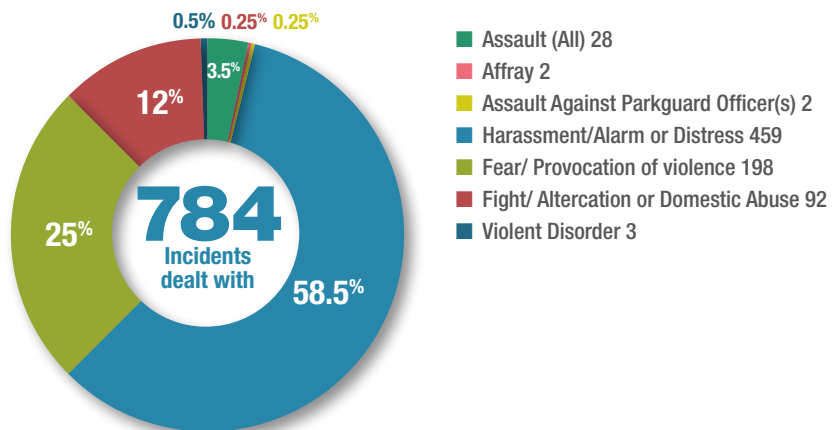
NTE Violence and disorder



Over the 12 months the team have dealt with 784 incidents involving violent or aggressive behaviour within a NTE setting and the majority included multiple individuals and people under the influence of alcohol and/or drugs.

The specific delivery of this service is complimentary of borough policing, but intrinsically different in aspects of deployment. This enables the team to apply predominantly proactive patrol techniques and therefore focus on early intervention, through being present at the time of potential escalation to violence.

This early prevention means the team intervene through verbal resolution or physical interventions, which reduces the number of actual assaults. The large number of incidents shown below where violence was either threatened or intimated would more often than not have been added to the total number of assaults if not for the team's intervention and de-escalation. Equally where there were people already found starting to physically engage in a fight, the intervention has served to prevent these escalating and then resulting in serious injury. Of the 784 incidents there were 31 confirmed and processed assaults, the majority of which occurred prior to the team's arrival.



There were 23 people arrested as a result of Patrol intervention for 29 offences ranging from public order, possession of a class A drugs to offensive weapons and serious assaults.

- Violence and disorder 19
- Drugs and drink 4
- Other crime 6

Enforcement action

The majority of arrests were as a result of varying types of assault including domestic abuse.

Enforcement action taken	
Patrol generated arrests	29
Person (s) Requested / directed to leave/ disperse	675
Person (s) Warned & Advised at scene due to conduct	1235
Suspects, Offenders and relevant issues brought to the attention of the Police	51
Person (s) Warning via Report/other (20) and Relevant Person Informed (32)	52
Person (s) Warning via Report / other	20
Area Search - Person/Article	5
Area Search – For suspect or witness appeal	152
Persistent / prolific offender detected, Monitored & Reported	22

Violence / Disorder

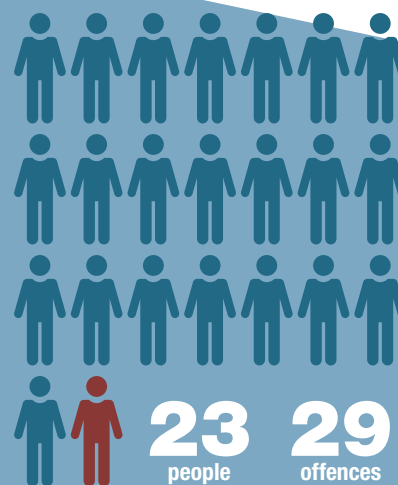
Of the 784 violent incidents there were 31 confirmed assaults, the majority of which occurred prior to the team arrival.

Examples of patrol generated arrests of note include:-

- The Team were called to a large scale brawl at the premises involving approximately 30 people fighting using belts and other weapons. On Parkguard's arrival several suspects made off before they could be detained. Police were called and Parkguard Officers assisted with disarming and detaining 3 suspects. The Patrol Medic rendered intensive first aid to several victims of this fight. Three arrests were made for Violent Disorder.
- Whilst parked opposite a venue Officers observed an altercation taking place outside the venue. An investigation took place and one victim was Italian but Parkguard were able to speak to him due to the multi-lingual ability of one of the officers. As a result of this investigation a male was detained and subsequently arrested by Police for Actual Bodily Harm (ABH). First Aid was rendered by the Patrol Medic.

- The Team were called to an assault and whilst the Patrol Medic administered treatment the other Officer made local enquiries which resulted in the detention and arrest of a male for ABH.
- Whilst on a short foot patrol Officers witnessed a drug exchange and intervened, 1 female was arrested for possession with intent to supply a class A drug (MDMA).

These are excellent results when considering the patrol is one vehicle, covering borough wide 4 days per week and that the primary focus is supportive roles for the public, Levy payers, Police and Council through prevention, safeguarding and welfare as opposed to enforcement.



NTE Violence and disorder

Consistent, familiar liaison and forming trusted relationships are vital to effective information gathering, crime reduction and prevention. It also aids in finding collaborative solutions and delivering tangible, productive support to new and emerging issues. As this team has a far lower call demand than emergency services, they are able to dedicate sufficient time to engagement and liaison.



- Liaised - (Public) For the purpose of reassurance information & intelligence gathering. These are occasions not number of people (36.2%). Average encounter per visit or specific area patrol 5 to 10
- Liaised - Door Supervisors, Designated Premises Supervisor (DPS) & venue owners and council staff (56.2%) Occasions not number of people. Average encounter per visits 2 to 6 door staff (Repeat liaison)
- Liaised (Police) 343 occasions (7.6%)

Joint working and additional service provision

Supportive Action & Promotion of Safety	
Police Joint Patrol	8
Met S/C Development Duty	0
Attended Police Operation	0
Joint Patrols with Licensing/ Street trading	0
Additional Tasking Team Deployed (2nd unmarked vehicle to focus on specific taskings)	31
NTE meetings (Pub Watch, Review, monitoring & forward planning)	16
Attended court to give evidence	0
Welfare Unit Deployed	23

Other priority returns

Street population related incidents dealt with	
Begging	4
Homelessness	43
Disorderly Street Drinkers	44
Known Street Drinkers present - No Offences	20
Vehicle related incidents dealt with	
Vehicle (ASB/Nuisance)	45
Road Traffic Collision	12
Road Traffic Offence	56
Suspicious Vehicle	64
Taxi Touting	107
Drug Offences	
Drug Offence – Possession/ Supply (PWITS)	12
Drug Paraphernalia Found	72
Acquisitive crime	
Theft	11
Robbery	0

Nuisance: rowdy and inconsiderate behaviour

Nuisance - Incidents dealt with	
Nuisance (Adult/over 18)	1445
Nuisance (Illegal Traders)	83
Nuisance (Littering)	141
Nuisance (Licensed Premises)	223
Nuisance (Noise complaint)	554
Nuisance (Urinating in Public)	83
Nuisance (Youths under 18)	85

The Team's enthusiasm and commitment has been the cornerstone of the success in making the night time economy a safer place.

The Metropolitan Police 2016

Other incidents dealt with	
Criminal Damage	2
Discrimination – Racially Aggravated	7/2
Dog Related Incident (All)	1
Gathering Young People - No ASB	27
Offensive Weapon Recovered	6
Person check and/or Suspect person monitored	109
Property found and handed in	4
Health and Safety concerns	8
Intelligence received from member of the public	12
Street Refuse; Fly Tipping (4) Nuisance Litter (141)	145

Information and intelligence gathering

In the 12 months that this report covers, this single patrol team working 4 days per week, generated patrol reports that totalled 620,292 words of information and intelligence. This creates an intelligence picture which is not only quality assured, but produced in real time after each shift into Council Licensing, Police and Public Protection, which makes the volume usable and of significant value in the overall management and response to NTE. This is a picture that is unlikely to be held by any other Local Authority/Police Service when it is then combined with Police calls and Officer reports, Licensing reports and calls to the Council's out-of-hours ASB reporting line. This makes mapping and proportionately and efficiently responding to NTE issues at specific venues and areas, exceptional. This enables a multi-agency collaborative service delivery to encourage a busy and popular NTE and create a safe social environment.

words of information and intelligence generated:

620,292

Increased presence to promote public safety

Assigned to this service is a marked, dedicated and highly visible vehicle. This serves the purpose of preventing crime and disorder by **detering, disrupting and displacing** offending, as well as providing reassurance through high profile presence patrolling. Over this 12 month period this vehicle has travelled 9150 miles, over less than a 9 square mile area, predominately within high footfall areas. This is the equivalent of driving from the London Borough of Islington to Miami and back; or the length of the borough, from Archway to Farringdon (via Holloway Road and Upper Street) 1900times.

Triggers - Total directed attendance

1715

Pre-Shift: Non-Police Tasking visits & request (self-generated, Council, other partners)

1031

Pre-Shift: Police Tasking visits & request (email & nightly briefing)

400

Called by Public/ Door Staff (Direct) to attend

175

Called by ASB Line Control Room to attend

68

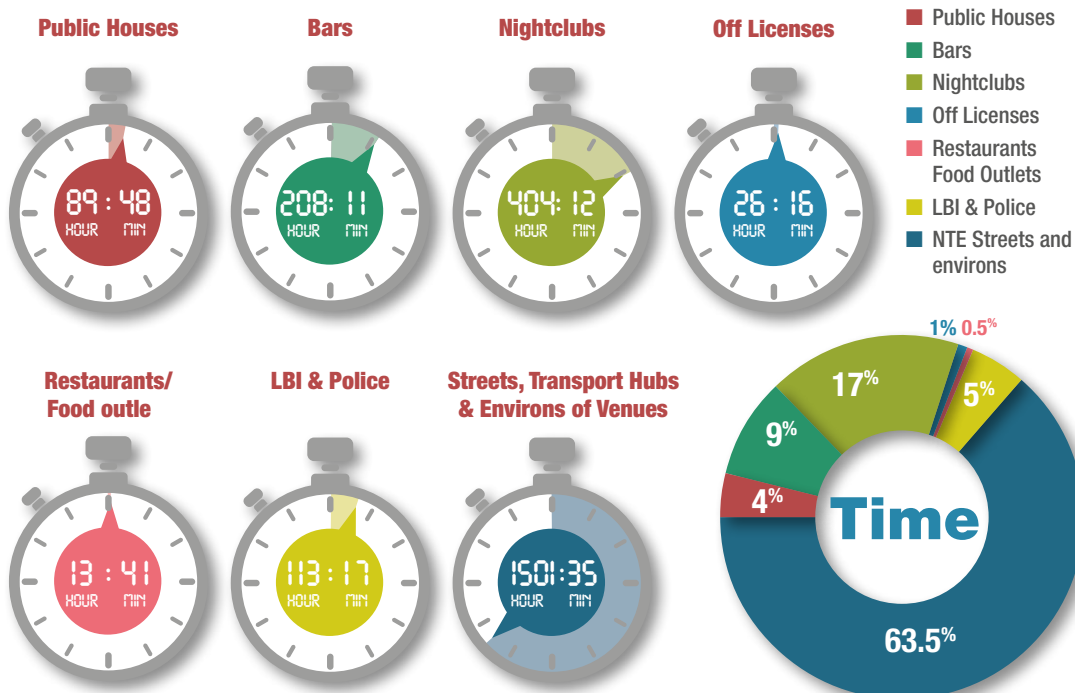
Called by other Parkguard unit

26

Called by Police to attend

15

Breakdown of premises by time and type:



Ward Coverage 260 days

(Thursday to Sunday inclusive per week)

*Data excludes no ward specified entries recorded under LBI

Ward	% of Visits	Number of Visits to Ward	Number of actions
St Mary's	23.14	738	242
Barnsbury	20.01	638	189
Clerkenwell	14.83	473	211
Bunhill	14.3	456	216
Caledonian	11.57	369	156
Junction	5.3	169	39
Finsbury Park	3.38	108	17
St Peter's	2.69	86	24
Holloway	1.53	49	18
Highbury East	1.09	35	7
Highbury West	1.06	34	6
St George's	0.28	9	2
Canonbury	0.25	8	1
Hillrise	0.18	6	0
Tollington	0.18	6	0
Mildmay	0.09	3	0
		3187	1128

Since the introduction of this team after the 1st 11 months there was a 17% reduction in alcohol – related crime and a 14% reduction in violence.

The Metropolitan Police 2016



In addition to the locations & venues which are all ward based, visits were conducted and incidents dealt with at venues which are not on the provided Islington Licensed Premises Register. Where possible the incident was tagged to the nearest premises on our system. Where we are called to or deal with a premises on a repeat basis then that venue is added to the reporting system. However, NTE problems are by their nature fluid, so numerous incidents occurred away from establishments, on the way to transport hubs and main roads. This necessitated mobile patrols along these routes. The Appendices show the breakdown and statistics around them. In addition to the ward based venues noted above, 289 visits were made under the umbrella location of London Borough of Islington. These would include “Street Patrols” i.e. the vehicle conducted passing patrols around an area rather than just a single street and did attend a given venue. This generic location is also used for “one-off” visits to new premises.

The remaining patrol time has been spent in the vicinity of licensed premises and high NTE footfall roads, addressing NTE related issues generated by people on the way to and from venues. Although is not linked to a venue type, it is of equal importance as the issues are still related to the commercial activity of the collective licensed premises, as a safer area supports better business.

Company Overview

Parkguard provides a wide range of community safety services, predominantly on behalf of Local Authorities and Police, as well as in partnership with various other statutory providers.

Parkguard is an Association of Chief Police Officers (ACPO) approved company under their Crime Prevention Initiatives and a Police accredited company under the Police Reform Act 2002 for the Metropolitan Police Service, Hertfordshire Constabulary and Essex Police. This Act allows Chief Constables to accredit certain organisations that work within a community safety remit and can meet extremely strict Police criteria. As such, we have become part of the extended policing family under the Community Safety Accreditation Scheme (CSAS). As an accredited organisation since 2005, Parkguard was the first private sector company and currently the only organisation to hold multiple area accreditations which facilitates cross-border working.

By being part of the wider Police family our services are sanctioned by state and our staff have to pass National Police Personnel Vetting and receive enhanced training above the standard industry requirements currently in the private sector. Our staff hold a number of delegated Police powers, not normally available outside of the Police service. We have maintained this standard and exercised these powers appropriately and consistently for over a decade across our service areas. Having a lawful right to act within the public domain, and the ability to exercise these powers means that we deliver tangible, effective action against offenders and our services operate within their own right, generating legitimacy and public confidence. Parkguard has a proven track record of delivering consistent partnership services, which hold value to local communities. By performing these roles collaboratively with the Police, Local Authority and other agencies through information sharing and established processes as a recognised partner, we are able to provide supportive roles that compliment local policing and the work done by partners. This aids in the reduction of a broad range of local issues and provides greater promotion of community safety when responding to public concerns. Due to these services being delivered in this way, as part of the wider Police family, we are subject to statutory control and afforded inclusion, which is often not found with private companies. We deliver our services in line with public service controls, ensuring transparency and accountability which allow protection in terms of delivery standards to the public that our Local Authority clients serve.

Generally our services fall into two main areas:

1

The design, implementation and subsequent delivery of public services on behalf of the Local Authority, such as Community Warden Schemes, Parks Patrol Services, Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) Response Teams, outreach support and Night Time Economy policing support.

2

The second is alternative approaches for specific local concerns such as gang exit programmes, youth diversion, outreach/harm reduction, education-based responses and dealing with irresponsible dog ownership and dangerous dogs.

Our main activities within these areas include high-visibility patrolling to deter and disrupt offending and to gather information and intelligence to aid in efficient wider action. These patrols promote community safety by providing early intervention, prevention and by actively targeting and prioritising lower level nuisance and other forms of Anti-social Behaviour. The overall aims of our services are to enable, facilitate and support wider action by the authority and Police to then collaboratively achieve longer term solutions to community issues and also elevate service demand. This enables the Local Authority and Police to address higher priority calls, improve response with appropriate use of resources and also focus on their core responsibilities without being abstracted to action tasks that do not require a Police or higher level response.



Parkguard Ltd

Service provider to Local Authorities & Police

www.parkguard.co.uk

Our Local Authority and Police support services are regulated by the authorities for whom we work to ensure accountability and transparency. As a result many are integrated within existing Local Authority or Police teams in order to deliver tangible results in a complimentary way - as one service, in which all members of the community have open and equal access.

Parkguard is an innovative company, which covers all areas of crime prevention, specialising in partnership approaches to solve problems. Parkguard is not an opportunistic product of austerity or diversifying focus, to capitalise on current perceived fear of rising crime and reductions in policing by the public. Parkguard continues, as intended to be from the start, a community safety service provider. Our core services have been delivered for many years with little change to delivery or role type and are well established within our areas of work.

The company also has a General Security Division which compliments our specific and unique approach outlined above. We have selected a pricing structure for the General Security Division that is competitive within the security industry, placing us in the low to mid-range pricing bracket. However, due to our Police Accredited status, this division is of a higher standard than the industry average to prevent any negative impact on the primary company focus and our reputation. This means clients using our General Security Division are afforded high quality staff and equipment, combined with specialist area policing knowledge, while maintaining low industry prices.

From our unique ways of working, Parkguard has achieved numerous awards. In 2010 we were recognised by Hertfordshire Police for our significant contribution to community safety. In 2012 we received an award from Essex Police for our commitment to community safety and being the longest serving accredited organisation and we also achieved BS ISO 14001. In 2013 we were awarded by the Metropolitan Police as Partner of the Year and during 2014 we achieved ISO 9001 status and awarded the London Living Wage Mark. In 2015 we achieved BS ISO 18001 and we developed a supportive policing role to aid in managing Night Time Economy issues in partnership with Islington Council & the Metropolitan Police; this type of approach was a national first. In 2016 we were awarded by the Metropolitan Police Service for partnership & engagement in London at the Police & Security Awards and also received a certificate of appreciation from Ealing Police for our hard work and continued support to the Police and the people of Ealing.

Follow Parkguard on Twitter

- Main Feed: @ParkguardLtd
- Night Time Economy policing support (Islington): @Parkguard_NTE
- Recruitment: @Parkguard_Rec

Alternative Contacts:

- Parkguard Office: 0845 467 3023
Email Info@parkguard.co.uk

Community Safety Accredited Company:

- Association of Chief Police Officers (ACPO) Approved Company
- Accredited by Essex Police
- Accredited by Hertfordshire Constabulary
- Accredited by Metropolitan Police

Awards:

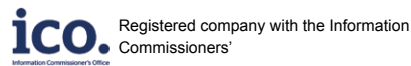
- Awarded by Hertfordshire Constabulary for significant contribution to community safety
- Awarded by Essex Police for commitment to Community Safety as the longest serving CSAS Company
- Awarded Metropolitan Police Partner of the Year (Islington Borough) 2013
- Winners of the Metropolitan Police "Police and Security (PaS) London Awards 2016" for Partnership & Engagement
- Awarded by the Metropolitan Police "For hard work and continued support to Ealing Police and the people of Ealing" 2016

Company Information

Company Registration Number: 6157958
VAT Registration Number: 906598196
Registered with the Information Commissioner's Office

- BS EN ISO 14001: 2004
- BS EN ISO 9001: 2008
- BS OHSAS 18001: 2007

Accreditations





Islington Alcohol Summit 2017	
Date and location	28 th June 2017 Platform, Hornsey Road Baths, 2 Tiltman Place, off Hornsey Road, London, N7 7EE
Introduction to this document	<p>A total of XX delegates attended the event and represented a range of organisations and stakeholder partners including: Councillors, community safety; Public Health; licensing; commissioning; substance misuse treatment providers; London Fire Brigade; Metropolitan Police; London Ambulance Service; supported housing providers, licensed premises; Whittington; UCLH; Camden & Islington NHS Foundation Trust; Islington CCG; ASB team; park guard; children's services; GPs and service users.</p> <p>This document provides a brief summary of the session and key points raised during each activity undertaken throughout the day.</p>
Event objectives	<p>The aim of the day was :</p> <p>To focus on reducing alcohol related harm in Islington</p> <p>And the objectives were:</p> <p><u>Raised awareness of licensing</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To provide an overview of work carried out around prevention of alcohol misuse and enforcement • To provide an overview of alcohol licensing policy, what has been achieved and future plans <p><u>Shared knowledge of the health and social impacts of alcohol misuse</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To understand the national and local picture of alcohol harm • To understand the impact of alcohol misuse on both Council and other services, including police, crime and public safety • To give an overview of treatment services available <p><u>Development of future plans</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To develop recommendations to improve the alcohol misuse services locally • To provide an opportunity to input into the Islington alcohol harm reduction action plan • To identify approaches and partnerships for maximising the impact of data and intelligence around alcohol • To learn from examples of good practice elsewhere • To explore how we can improve awareness around reducing alcohol related harm • To identify gaps and opportunities for reducing alcohol related harm
Format	The summit involved a mix of approaches including guest speakers, presentations, workshops and round table discussions.
The Programme	



<p>Welcome</p>	<p>An initial welcome was conducted by Councillor Watts followed by an introduction to the day by the independent facilitator, Alison Wheeler.</p>
<p>Setting the scene</p>	<p>A number of short panel presentations were provided. These set out the achievements and specific local challenges. Speakers were also asked to identify ‘their ask to the room’. The salient points of the presentations are given below.</p> <p>Paul Hobbs, London Fire Brigade:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shift to early intervention is key. • In 2016, 2 incidents relating to alcohol resulted in fatalities. But alcohol has range of impacts on LFB, not just fires, but also issues such as providing assistance when someone is so intoxicated they fall and can’t get up. • The fire service carry out home visits every month but they feel they aren’t always visiting the right places. • Ask of the day is around better identifying those who could benefit from a visit - and working closely with organisations who can direct the fire service to the most vulnerable. <p>Nick Davies, Metropolitan Police:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Want to work with pubs and clubs to support a well-run Night-Time Economy (NTE). • Alcohol has a massive impact on police – estimate 80% of weekend arrests are alcohol related. • Half of the police’s time is taken up by alcohol related incidents and often the issues they are responding to need a response from other agencies. • Previously there was an 11pm busy peak, but this has expanded to the whole night up to 5am. Thursday – Sunday busiest days between 11pm – 5am. • April – September is when anti-social behaviour rises. • Park guards help with NTE. • Need a longer-term solution, 1 – 2 year plan. Also, can we work together to do some targeted (ward) work around particular issue areas <p>Jan Hart, Public Protection and Community Safety (Islington Council):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One area of focus is responsible management of off licenses including selling alcohol to those under 18. • A lot of requests from bars wanting to serve until 3 – 4am. Particular issue is every shop wants to serve alcohol now. • Late night levy is in place, extra police and patrolling from midnight to 6am. • The number of license applications is the same but a lot more interesting and different applications. • Positive - alcohol related violence has reduced. • Problems – people buying alcohol and drinking at home or on the streets, does feel bars are under control. • Ask would be around how we can improve the information we get from partners around areas of concerns for instance shops selling alcohol to those who are clearly intoxicated or who are vulnerable because of their drinking.



	<p>Charlotte Ashton, Public Health (Islington Council):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have developed a systematic process for reviewing and submitting representations • We have increased our approach to identification brief advice • We have developed approaches to ensure wider health and well-being of those in alcohol services are addressed e.g. NHS health checks at treatment services • However alcohol continues to have a major impact on the health of borough residents. • Islington experiences significantly higher rates of hospital admissions than England - the highest rate across London and 31st highest out of 150 boroughs in England • Over a one year period, 563 individuals were admitted to hospital as a result of alcohol, and in total there were 1025 admissions. With a group of 41 individuals each having 5+ admissions. These 41 accounted for 31% of all admissions. • Actions during the next 12 months: Early help intervention/awareness raising; Treatment service redesign; Local alcohol action areas. • Ask of the day: How we can maximise our approach to alcohol harm reduction by working closer together - better share information and ensure our messaging is clear and consistent. As an example how we can work more closely together to support those 41 people admitted to hospital more than 5 times in 12 months.
<p>Key speaker</p>	<p>Learning from Liverpool, Ian Canning, Strategic Lead Alcohol & Drugs / Head of Neighbourhood Management</p> <p>A presentation about the approaches and outcomes of the Liverpool Alcohol Strategy.</p> <p>Segmentation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chardonnay socialites. • Ritual relaxers. • Balanced bingers – less receptive to health messages. • <i>Drinkers in denial - less receptive to health messages (living for today).</i> <p>Chardonnay socialites & Ritual relaxers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • People don't respond to units. • Calories are a big driver for men and women. • Contextualise food to drink in calories. • Receptive to change and health information. <p>Balanced bingers & Drinkers in denial – Drink less, Enjoy more:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Started intervention before people arrived at the city centre – e.g. outdoor advertising on routes in to the city. • Bars received information about fines – stop serving people if too drunk. • Media activity - Capital FM, outdoor advertising, Google ads, social media. Tweets sent out on specific days and times of the week. • In bar promotion – beer mats, bar mats. 20 – 30 minute staff training before the night starts in most at risk bars. • Communication campaign isn't enough. • Police contact was key - they sent letters to bars stating it's illegal to serve alcohol to



	<p>someone who's very drunk or for people to buy them alcohol.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bar staff felt more confident to refuse alcohol. • When bars re-license the bar staff training is compulsory. • Working with door staff didn't work as well as we'd hoped. <p>Evaluation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Awareness; Media coverage, digital advertising. • Engagement: Digital advertising. • Behaviour change: Survey Monkey.
<p>Table discussion 1</p>	<p>What I can do for licensing and what can licensing do for me?</p> <p>Issues experienced:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Convenience stores selling to street drinkers – but then complaining about ASB at their premises. • Low turnover businesses – find a tool to keep businesses, “change their behaviour”. • Changing appearance of small convenience stores to attract different clientele. • Bar in Kings Cross targets drunkenness and uses sensitive approach to manage them. • Difficulty for off license premises being able to say NO to drunk customers. • Uncertain how decisions are made when granting licenses. • Population groups – can segment population by premises type and think about issues associated. • Can we encourage non-alcoholic led businesses to open in Islington (e.g. ping pong bar) – encourage more food-led premises. • Local advertising by premises needs to be more responsible (e.g. happy hour). • Reduce stigma around licensees selling non-alcoholic drinks and offer alternatives e.g. Dry January, mocktails. • Zero % scheme – companies can show they support this. • Street drinkers in hostels – vulnerable, attacks. • Hospital admission – White Ace, key product. Special K also brand of concern. • Post Office next to off license – benefits then to ‘offy’. • Off licenses serving residents that are drunk; street drinkers served under the influence. • Bigger groups of street drinkers. • Begging – spending on alcohol. • Lots of soft intelligence about where people buy alcohol. • Premises knowing when enforcement teams are out. • Football crowds - manage messages. <p>What could I do to support a robust approach to licensing?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adherence to “good management standards” and training of good practice in premises. • Longer term approach – supporting store staff to refine selling alcohol, can do but



would affect resources elsewhere.

- Explore the revolving door, detox cohort (background, help and support etc).
- Provide information to licensing about where cheap alcohol can be obtained by drinkers and information on the source of cheap alcohol.
- Four audiences in licensing – champions, residents, licensing officers; key messages targeted licensees.
- Need to do more to involve the different target groups so their values are well represented.
- A pathway to licensing to refer issues.
- Community safety – coordination – MAGPI was useful – troubleshoot.
- Location of off licenses – think about high risk groups in relation to this.
- Identify wet/dry centres – conditions around super strength for premises nearby.
- Raise awareness of people in shops about local issues – e.g. mental illness/mental health, spotting vulnerable people.
- Can we deliver mental health awareness and alcohol awareness training in shops?
- Target off-licenses and put strict control on them – mystery shoppers to check.
- Reducing strength campaign.
- Communicate more with voluntary sector.

What further information from licensing would be useful:

- Other responsible authorities – public health, London Fire Brigade – not just the police.
- Need to share information, need local repository for intelligence.
- Use powers from other organisations e.g. fire brigade.
- Data from ambulance service, A&E data too vague?
- Route of communication to pass on intel to licensing.
- Residents need to be clear on licensing pathways.
- Information sheet on what licensing and trading standards can do
- Clarity on licensing laws and times alcohol can be sold – publicity, social media, leaflets. Using social media, more tweets to staff so that it's in their heads. Eyes, ears of all staff.
- Information on home drinking, what licensee role is on home drinking?
- Council share posters, for premises that are concerned about reducing strength campaign – big impact.
- Specifics about premises/times people are using.

Other thoughts, comments or actions:

- Stores don't always understand licensing process/rationale – need to get message across.
- Increase in convenience stores becoming unofficial cafés.
- Feedback from stores/CCTV to gather intelligence on buying patterns and how drinkers get around restrictions like "single can" purchases.
- Local authorities can offer consistency with issuing/approving license applications.
- Adopt "higher standards of management", can store staff effectively communicate to



	<p>explain reasons for refusal for sale.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Some stores struggling financially – hard to incentivise to not sell to street drinkers. • Reinforcing knowledge of legislation. • Obligatory water on tables for people (and sell water in bottles) – enforced by late night levy. • ‘Undercover’ assessments of off-licenses could be more frequent. • Would be good to regenerate areas in general so there are alternatives to drinking. • Can’t reprimand people. • Really interested in Liverpool and culture change. • Neighbourhood profiles – for licensing applications. • Publicise the good work that staff are doing. • Education, information on super strength alcohol. • Consistent messages – campaign on off licenses/supermarkets. • Voluntary schemes and trusts between owners. • Lack of consistency across London.
<p>Speakers</p>	<p>The local Impacts: perspective from Providers and Service Users</p> <p>Dr Voi Shim Wong</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Detox in hospital for 5-7 days, this doesn’t have to be in hospital. • They have an alcohol nurse in a side room in A&E. • Loss of job, death in family etc. all start of the downward spiral. • Patient age group has got older – as we get older we spend more time alone. A lot of patients are living alone and will fall/hurt themselves. • Good to link services together – a lot of people I see need somewhere to live and social support to prevent them from the downward spiral. <p>Will Digan, Service user representative</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Services have started coming together. • Alcohol misuse and mental health getting treated at the same time – always relapsed because the cause of drinking wasn’t addressed. • ‘Services that work together make it easier for service users’ to maintain a sustained recovery. • Had a good key worker when I came out of rehab – they noticed there was something more (depression, anxiety). • Had 100 hours of counselling and now weekly therapy. It’s taken 40 years to sort and finally stopped being passed around – if people don’t work together the system isn’t going to work. • Service users want to make sure that different parts of different services don’t undermine each other but provide Islington with a co-ordinated approach and understanding of recovery within the community to support those who have been affected by drugs or alcohol into long term sustainable recovery. • Service users don’t want to have to keep repeating themselves by telling their stories over and over again, we want to see a service, that see us as a whole and don’t simply



try to treat 'part' of our needs.

- Key message – cannot address issues on their own – need to look at the whole picture

Ruth Beecher, Targeted and Specialist Children and Families Service (Islington Council)

- Parents and carers sometimes not being classed as dangerous drinkers but their behaviour will affect children.
- Can lead to child neglect causing mental health issues, learning and behaviour problems.
- Children may become young carers.
- Debt, poverty and risk of becoming homeless.
- Any reports – family will get help from schools etc.
- Only 4% of adults will be honest – a lot of families come to us with other issues such as debt or child's bad behaviour. Alcohol issue hidden and comes out later.
- 1 in 10 families is an under report (of alcohol related issues). 800-900 families have domestic abuse related to alcohol.
- Key message: Ban "referral", notice what is happening to children that come into your view and offer support to parents how you'd offer it to your sister. Ban "signpost", do it with them, guide them and help the more vulnerable to services.

Dr Liz McGrath, Camden and Islington NHS Foundation Trust

- Ambivalence – a word often used in client meetings.
- Young people are confused about guidelines and units, people are losing out on that education.
- Think about your own attitudes towards alcohol and how to approach conversations.
- There's a gap in people that need us and how to get to us.

Kate Robinson and Dr Annie McGuinness, UCLH

- Brief and extended interventions.
- Homeless – challenge. Only place for them to go is A&E, not going to get into rehab or hostels.
- A lot more homeless women who've lost everything to alcohol
- See every weekend homeless coming in after drinking bottles of vodka but don't have money for food or accommodation
- It would be great to have a safe place (a dry out unit). Drunk people don't always have to come to A&E, they could go to a place to sober up and be directed to services.
- Alcohol is too cheap, can buy a bottle of vodka for less than £10.
- Price of non-alcoholic drinks is expensive compared to alcohol
- Sweden alcohol outlets close at 5pm.
- It's not socially acceptable to smoke around children now, let's make it the same with alcohol.

Table discussion 2

Working better together: *Consider the key issues partners are experiencing in their area relating to alcohol and how could the issues be addressed by*



working together.

What are the major issues:

- Street drinkers
- License conditions – longer drinking times, violence/aggressive behaviour towards staff attending to repair damaged property.
- Discharge planning – mutual aid, AA.
- Safe spaces particularly for individuals with no fixed abode
- Big issues linking mental health and substance misuse – working in isolation and different assessments.
- Looking at a person as a whole and not just a specific area (alcohol issues, mental health services etc.)
- Better joint working and communication between agencies.
- Consistency of procedures across the agencies – when to refer people and at what time.
- Information sharing across services. One agency withholding data from others because of data protection – need investment in this.
- People with alcohol dependency are signposted but not given appointment so onus is on them to self-refer.
- Culture around alcohol.
- Local resources not working together. Not taking a preventative approach but dealing with crisis.
- Caseloads increased – managing expectations. Having to tell story to different partners after referral.
- Availability of cheap alcohol – knock on effect to late night economy (pre-loading).
- Services changing all the time.

Who are those that are affected/key groups to target:

- Old people.
- 13+.
- Those affected by alcohol on the periphery e.g. families.
- LGBT group.
- Sex workers – female.
- Chronic drinkers using services intensively. A&E/urgent services used by people in the absence of anything else.
- Revolving door residents, complex needs, couples conflict and parents.
- Older people on streets.
- Pre-loading – younger: older people can afford on license – locals.
- Non-UK nationals sitting on the streets.

How could the issues be addressed by working together?

- Sharing information.
- Establish data sharing agreement between organisations – allowed to track street



drinkers.

- Initial concerns not necessarily being shared – early intervention and prevention.
- Look at improving the information flow across services around an individual (transferrable records).
- Set up more satellite services so one user is seen all at once – plan coordinated care.
- IT can help but issues of data protection to share information.
- Need to limit availability of alcohol.
- Need to create cultural shift around alcohol.
- Increase education and awareness.
- Need shift around not making alcohol acceptable (need to take population level approach to think about everyone's risks).
- Knowing how to have conversations when you aren't an alcohol specialist.
- Not assessing people by type i.e. middle class also have drinking habits.
- Changing boundaries, different ways of working – i.e. on phone, named housing officer who can talk to client.
- Taking a long-term approach.
- Good practice – identify and amplify, advertise the innovation.
- Make sure residents know what has changed – marketing messages.
- More regular contact between departments/services to discuss issues/co-produce solutions.

Identifying actions: What tangible, clear actions and commitments would those around table make to support this work:

- Calorie counting promotion.
- Encourage young people to enjoy socialising without alcohol.
- Putting together a core package which has been contributed to by all agencies.
- Shift in culture of drinking – make it more ASB related. Some form of deterrent, not as extreme as being charged.
- Responsibility of agencies exposed to alcohol dependant people who may have mental health issues (for example) to highlight these to right people.
- Need more people who can provide dual diagnosis and support – need a service that provides that (addiction and mental health).
- Change messaging around alcohol and campaigns around alcohol harm.
- If you are a business, need to promote responsibility – reducing alcohol sales, happy hours.
- Voluntary scheme around responsible alcohol sales – for everyone.
- Agreement amongst retailers to reducing health harms – needs to be consistent and coherent.
- Nationally, culture change needed like for smoking.
- Integrated services.
- Train and motivate staff - having conversations, upskill all staff.

Other thoughts, comments or actions:



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Covert monitoring of venues to see where people are coming out of. • Map of provision (VCS). • Don't think much emphasis on targeting the at-risk drinkers that are coping but could downward spiral – largely being missed out in terms of prevention.
Breakout session	<p>Targeting our awareness work: an area in development</p> <p>Gary Wootten, Hitch Marketing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Social marketing; looking at behaviour change and what incentivises and disincentivises people's behaviour, based on a sound evidence base. Can be used to inform policy, designing a service and used for targeted campaigns. • Piece of work just starting across Islington to develop more targeted messaging around reducing alcohol related harm. • Process to include scoping (desk research, stakeholder mapping/interviews, interviews with segments of population), developing campaign/interventions, implementing during 12 month period, and evaluating behaviour change linked with increasing risk, and risky drinking behaviours. • Invitation for stakeholders to inform and shape the project.
Speakers	<p>Working together to bring about change: Thinking differently</p> <p>Mahnaz Shaukat and Emma Stubbs, Islington Council</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Islington has been working with the Design Council to think differently about how we can improve outcomes for people in supported accommodation, who often have multiple needs. • The presentation conveyed the importance of using methods to understand issues from a human centred perspective as opposed to a service perspective. All of which are very relevant to work around alcohol harm reduction • The experience with the Design Council introduced tools such as observations in and out of context, journey mapping, getting service users to keep journals about day to day activity. This insight has led to a shift from the original focus which was largely on case co-ordination, transitions, no wrong door, to areas such as alleviating the boredom that residents are experiencing, better ways of motivating residents to develop structure to their day and making better use of peer mentoring support.
Breakout discussions	Open space discussions were undertaken with delegates free to choose the area of interest. This involved in-depth discussions on a variety of themes, summarised below.

1. Increasing links with, access to, and use of treatment services

What are the major issues:

- Supporting those with no access to public funds.
- Focus on need not person.
- Managing older people needs is an increasing issue
- No consistent responses from services.

Suggested solutions & opportunities:

- Recommissioning.
- IDASS & CAL attending hotels and hospitals (ward rounds).
- Information sharing.



<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Accommodation that is stable • System vs individual outcomes. • 3 months of sobriety required for dry accommodation (blocks to accommodate). • Service user has to go to agency – not enough outreach. • Opening times specifically prescribing for drug users. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Awareness raising of what's available – reduce duplication. • Meaningful activities. • Partnerships with other boroughs. • Peer mentoring – support with getting to appointments. • Managing messages regarding street activity. • Training for staff. • Training for GP receptionists about registering homeless people. • Think about outreach contract management process.
<p>Commitments of those on table to take this forward:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Share integrated care network information. • Share information on FAS meetings • Whittingham and UCLH sharing more info on admissions and liaison, how to facilitate this? • Challenge other services. • Sharing good practice 	<p>What success would look like:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Service users using services appropriately – only using A&E for emergencies. • Registered with GPs. • Accessible services – open when people need them. • Drop in numbers of new people entering services. • No barriers to anyone accessing what they need. • Discharge planning from hospital on day 1. • Service users feel life is worth living.
<p>2. Supporting the night-time economy:</p>	
<p>What are the major issues:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ease of access vs zero tolerance. • Enforcement vs education of alcohol. • Alcohol promotion – companies making money from alcohol. • Media – “one” extra before you leave. • Off-licences. • Bigger and smaller venues together to share best practice. • Kings cross development. • Strength of drinks. • Everyone's judgement of drunk is different. • Baseline standard. • Lack in duty of care. • People are just 'let off' if drunk. • Every shop wants to sell alcohol. • Every café wants to sell alcohol – alternative offer needed. 	<p>Suggested solutions & opportunities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Health – continued pressure and encourage minimum price. • Not many premises doing deals? • Cost of drink in Islington prohibits young. • Education not for under 25 – going out less, spending less. It is the 25 years and older that are the issue. • Support work Hitch is doing. • Licensing policy – hours. • Charter – we have had this in the past. • Reduce the strength. • Diverse NTE. • Share information about problematic groups – e.g. those refused. • Engage early on in life. • Linking premises and ward partnerships and Pubwatches and can we include night watch/pub? • Working with major drinks companies
<p>Commitments of those on table to take this forward</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Poster campaign – push away from alcohol, middle age people drink more. • Messages – how to influence • Park guard look out for preloading. 	<p>What success would look like:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Genuine diversity in NTE - not just alcohol, late plays, late films. • Sharing information.



<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prevent preloading. • Pubwatch – reinvigorate. • Liverpool lessons around bar staff • Off license training increasing participation • Support for charter/DPN night safe. • Champion venues that have engaged in activity as an alternative to alcohol e.g. night markets, retail. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Licensing – all partners feedback information, where, when, who, what? • Bespoke trading hours. • Opening hours – 7am not acceptable. • Educate buyers. • For problematic premises, park guard – feedback information. • Education – Liverpool way. • Diversity of NTE services available – e.g. leisure/gyms.
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3. Supporting families/young people

<p>What are the major issues:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reluctance to disclose. • Identify – not set up well to talk to children. • Do not let children into treatment services. • Identification during assessments but do not do much. • Not many 18 year olds referred. • Notification of services. • Is it a high priority to link in well across the board? • Supporting services to navigate each other. • Challenge is secondary schools as not as engaged with parents at that age. • Treatment services with no childcare – impacts on some service users engaged. • Home office – are online sales of alcohol of challenge – no digital age identification. 	<p>Suggested solutions & opportunities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Out of hours - outreach including children. • Some in-house services for children. • Making services better – focused at identifying young people earlier. • Co-locating CASA with families. • Outreach to be better for groups of street drinking. • Engagement with schools and colleges about substance misuse/alcohol. • What do we do to find alternatives for young people outside of school? • Supporting parents through schools to discuss alcohol use of young people. • Understanding the young drinkers need to be approached differently.
<p>Commitments of those on table to take this forward:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve the profiles of the young drug users. • Improve the profile of the ASB. • Feeding back to licensing where young people are getting alcohol. 	<p>What success would look like:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supporting substance misuse services – CASA/FF. Family services to input into services. • Circulate family services to everyone. • More education for families. • Starting or trialling a parent group. • Integrating alcohol into parenting groups – through IYPDAS.

4. Preventing harm through early intervention, better awareness and messaging

<p>What are the major issues:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cultural/social normalisation around drinking nationally and amongst particular groups in Islington. • Structure of British daily life and certain life circumstances seem to be linked to increasing and higher risk drinking behaviours. • Some of the barriers to reducing alcohol consumption seem to be related to lack of awareness and education 	<p>What success would look like:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Islington residents have improved understanding about the health risks related to alcohol. • Current drinking behaviours are de-normalised amongst Islington residents. • Islington residents (particularly increasing and higher risk drinkers) reduce their alcohol consumption.
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<p>around the harms, but for some people e.g. doctors and nurses and others, there may be more complex reasons.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Particular groups of residents in Islington are more vulnerable than others to increasing and higher risk drinking. The discussion group identified the following middle-aged “segments” in Islington: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Irish community, London born. Eastern Europeans – post work drinkers (come from working sites). Binge drinking related to football – before, during and after match. Professionals – finish work and start drinking (even from lunchtime). Second generation non-worker, single parents unable to get out – drinking at home. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Islington residents seek advice and support for their drinking, where appropriate. Support for social marketing being one way to the achieve success.
<p>Commitments: Actions I will take back to my organisation?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Happy to engage with the social marketing project to help inform further insights about the target groups. Take some of the shared insights about local alcohol issues and resident ‘segments’ back to their organisations to inform their work and support these ‘segments’/address these issues. 	<p>Suggested solutions & opportunities</p> <p>Use social marketing approaches as one way to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> De-normalise current drinking behaviours in Islington. Improve awareness and understanding around current understanding of health risks associated with alcohol. Target the groups in Islington who are more vulnerable to increasing and higher risk drinking. Continue engaging with local stakeholders and residents to ensure our work around alcohol harm reduction is informed by local knowledge and need.

Posters

Posters were placed around the room to allow all participants to make comments on the various issues that were discussed during the day. Comments made are summarised below.

Licensing: Issues experienced by partners & information held that could support local approach to alcohol licensing

- Multi agency days of ‘positive action’ (support, health advice, licensing visits) using mobile office in street drinking hotspots.*
- Licensing and others should do more to encourage non-alcohol and more activity-led and food-led venues in the borough.*
- Create an exciting borough and NTE and setting a different culture.*
- Services need to work together by treating the service users as a whole person and not one piece of a jigsaw.*
- Better routes of communication to licensing to pass information about where cheap drinks are being purchased.*
- Off licenses considered most tricky. Customers often only go to these to buy alcohol. These may not feel able to say ‘no’ to drunk customers.*
- Could we take more of a zero-tolerance approach when conditions of licensing are breached?*



- Service users want to make sure that different parts of different services understand each other.
- Need to empower residents/champions to feedback on problem premises.
- 'Begging' – understand where your money goes when you fund people who beg.

Working better together: Local issues related to alcohol – related harm & how can we address these?

- Services that work together make life easier for service users.
- Need to make sure people with alcohol dependency also have their mental health needs seen to in a timely and holistic way.
- Source information and data, also sharing neighbourhood profiles.
- Training – local issues and area profiles.
- Consider introducing a local, voluntary agreement amongst retailers to reduce alcohol harms. E.g. include reduction/control around happy hour and increase in sales on non-alcoholic drinks. Needs to be consistent and coherent.
- Keeping discussions going.
- Continuity of care – supporting before and after.
- Need a cultural shift around alcohol and de-normalising consumption and reducing availability.
- Increase awareness and education.
- Work with other councils and need strong leadership/messaging from central government.

Licensing: Issues experienced by partners & information held that could support local approach to alcohol licencing

- Role of premises sharing best practice through venue meetings (alternative to Pubwatch).
- Using radios (or WhatsApp) for premises to share information on problem (drunks).
- Would be useful to segment the population by the premises that they use/visit.
- Lack of consistent approach across London (licensing and treatment).
- Information about where wet hostels are to support evidence around licensing application – community responsibility around alcohol sales.
- Do we/can we provide neighbourhood profiles for premises?
- Helping community members and organisations to understand the role they can play in licensing: supporting representations and proving information for reviews.
- SHP: can we get a regular feed around information on alcohol incidents related to alcohol in hostels and other housing officers, supporting people.
- Investment in good IT systems for service providers to share information in a database that can be accessed by all who need to know.

Facilitators thoughts on the key themes

- How do we pull everything together into a single plan?
- Closer partnerships where everyone can feed their concerns to one point.



- *Longer terms solutions at a ward level, working with the problems.*
- *How can we work differently around most significant vulnerable 41 people?*
- *What does partnership working mean?*
- *How can we link services together to wrap around people as they leave services?*
- *How do organisations work together to improve and include service users?*
- *How do we support services to have conversations with people that they will understand?*
- *How do we ensure as a borough that we talk to people about alcohol?*
- *How do people find services that don't fit people and vice-versa?*
- *Work with pubs*
- *Tackle price and availability of alcohol.*



Street Population Islington Picture

6

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May 2017

Crime & Disorder Intelligence Analyst.

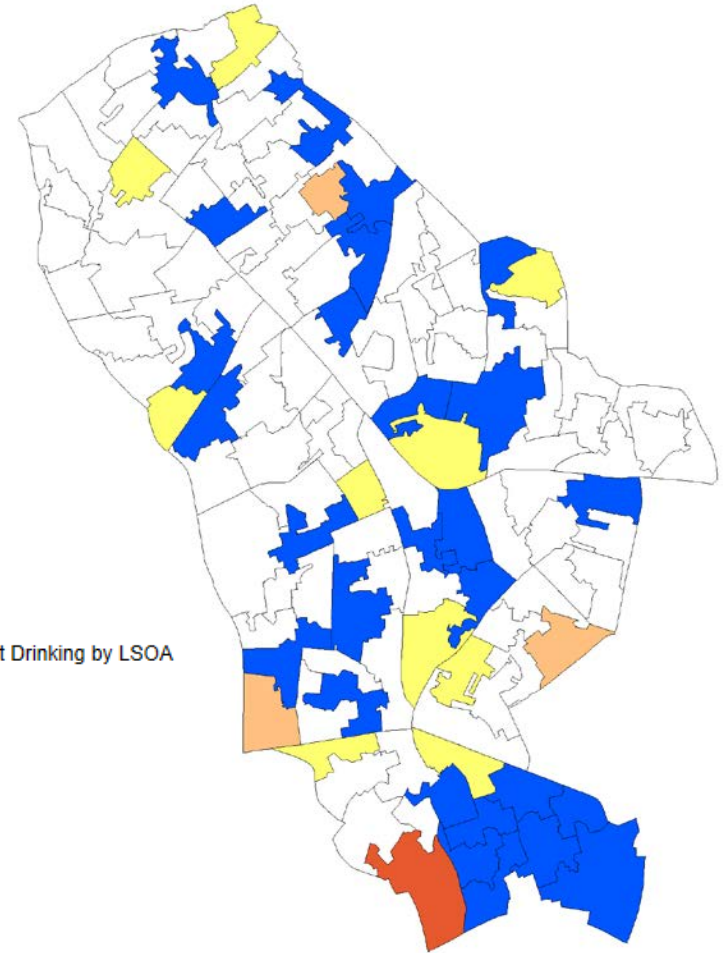
Council Out of Hours ASB Reporting Line

All complaints to the council out of hours team in 2016/17, categorised as related to 'Street Drinking' were mapped. A thematic map showing the number of incidents by Lower Super Output Area (LSOA) is shown below.

- There were 63 reports to the council categorised as 'drinking in a public place' (35 in 2016/17 and 28 in 2015/16).

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• Incidents peaked between **2200 and 0059**.

- There were hot spots at Ray Walk, Wilton Square and Britton Street

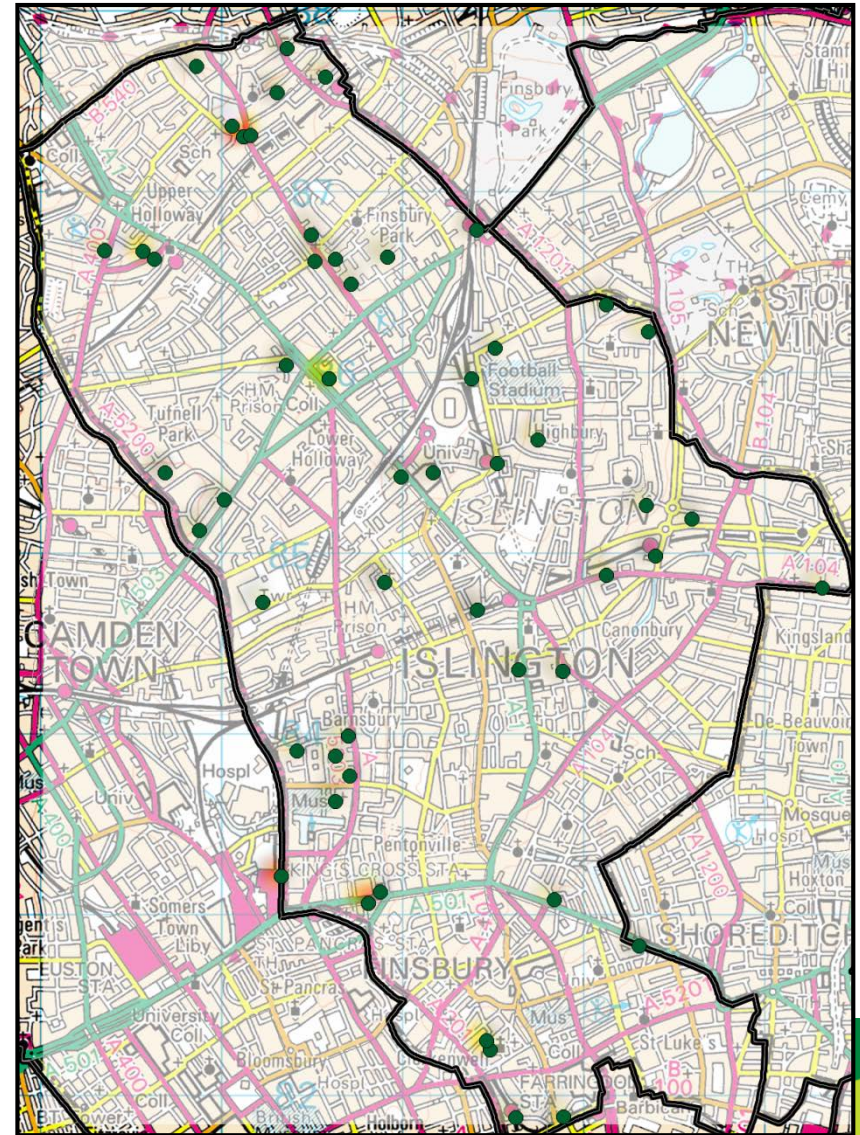


Police ASB Calls (999/101) Street Drinking

All ASB calls to the police categorised as ‘**Street Drinking**’ were extracted and mapped. There were 30 calls to the police in 2016, representing an 11% increase from 2015. The points mark rough location.

Due to small numbers, there were no real hot spots identified, however there were more incidents recorded in **Elthorne Park**, the **Kings Cross area/** **Copenhagen Street** and also around the **Andover Estate**.

Based on the last two years of data, incidents peaked between 1800 and 2059 hours.



Islington Police – overview of Policing issues in the Night-time Economy in Islington

June 2017

Superintendent Nick Davis

- Islington has about 1300 licenced venues and is one of the biggest night time economies in London and therefore the country. We all want a successful, safe NTE. As the police, we want to support well-run premises when they have problems and take measured, proportionate action, in agreement with our partners, when we have to deal with more difficult venues.
- There is no doubt that alcohol fuelled crime is a major issue from a policing perspective. An Institute of Alcohol Studies paper of 2015 estimated the total cost to the police, and ultimately therefore the taxpayer, to be between 8-13 billion pounds every year.
- Approximately 80% of weekend arrests are alcohol related
- About 25% of crimes during the NTE in Islington take place inside licensed premises. However, the higher concentrations of alcohol related crime in the borough are associated with a greater number of licensed premises which suggests the impact of off-license sales and crimes occurring after people leave venues.
- Half of police officer's work time was estimated to be taken up with alcohol related issues
- 92% of police survey respondents stated that they had done the job of another emergency service when dealing with alcohol related incidents.
- 68% of police survey respondents blamed the introduction of 24 hour licensing for alcohol fuelled crime and ASB. Perhaps more pertinently, the licensing laws have led to logistical problems for the police in that 'closing time' at about 2300 is no longer the busiest time; this has been pushed in to the early hours of the morning and is not predictable from area to area.

Islington

- There aren't many surprises in the data regarding violence against the person and anti-social behaviour associated with alcohol use; it is highest between April and September when the weather tends to be better.
- With specific reference to Islington, four areas of the borough can be identified as of particular concern around alcohol fuelled crime and ASB:
 - Angel (19% alcohol fuelled crime)
 - Highbury Corner
 - Old Street (7%)

Finsbury Park

- 55% of offences in Islington flagged as alcohol fuelled took place between the hours of 2300-0500. This is probably an under-estimation given that the times of some offences, for example criminal damage, can't be determined.
- We estimate that about 54% of alcohol fuelled offences in Islington are violent crimes.
- The busiest days are Thursday to the early hours of Sunday morning – very predictable – but the busiest times are 0000-0300. 0400 in the morning is busier for alcohol fuelled crimes than the period between 1900-2100. This has a big impact because most of the time, the only people working to tackle that issue are the emergency services. In Islington, we are lucky to have the support of Parkguard and council teams.
- 51% of the victims of these crimes are between the ages of 20-30.
- Analysis from 1st April 2016 to 31st March 2017 shows that Islington had the fourth highest rate of alcohol related crime and alcohol related violent crime out of the 32 London boroughs.
- Five years ago, the Islington Alcohol Summit heard from Professor Jonathan Shepherd, Chairman of the Violence Prevention Group, Cardiff Community Safety Partnership. Among the actions taken as a result of the successful 'Cardiff Violence Prevention' project were a traffic light system established for crimes at pubs, targeted street patrols, CCTV, plastic glassware, identification of domestic violence – all of which we have collectively taken steps to address in Islington
- Taking as one example the use of glass/bottles as weapons, Islington sits in 12 place out of the 32 London boroughs with 282 offences during the past five years. Given the size of the night time economy, this is lower than would be anticipated and may be attributable to the use of license condition restricting use of glass. For example, another borough sits in eleventh place in the table with 311 recorded incidents despite having about 400 fewer licensed premises
- Challenges remain including
 - i) Street drinking with all the associated crime and vulnerabilities.
 - ii) Massively expanding night time economy in the Kings Cross area – it will affect Islington as well.
 - iii) Maintaining our response whilst absorbing reductions to our budget.

Late Night Levy Police Funded Activities

Year 2 - 1 November 2015 to 31 October 2016

Police Licensing

Targeted deployment and briefing of dedicated police night time economy officers every Thursday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday

102 arrests in the NTE for various offences including serious assaults, possession with intent to supply drugs, sexual assault and public order

Responded to over 500 calls to 999 or 101 from licenced premises requesting assistance in relation to violence, public order, drugs, weapon or theft

Applied for and enforced 12 closure notices

Called in 54 premises to the Licensing Officer Panel for action planning purposes

Completed 245 licensing compliance visits,

788 site visits and meetings with licenced premises managers, supervisors, promoters or licence holder to provide advice and support

Reviewed 2253-night time economy crime reports relating to licenced venues and taking appropriate follow up action, including action to assist investigation and action planning

16 meetings with hotel operatives held to develop good working practices regarding Child Sexual Exploitation awareness and licensing

European Championship football – 180 advisory visits to licenced premises

Domestic Abuse Proactive (Alcohol) Unit:

Arrests: 291 – for outstanding domestic abuse suspects.

Arrest Enquiries: 461

Victim welfare and action planning visits: 469 – individual action plans put in around victims and vulnerable people including safe houses, attack alarm installations and multi-agency care plans.

Prisoners processed: 78 – interviewed, advice sought from Crown Prosecution Service, charged or otherwise disposed of.

ALCOHOL RELATED HARM IN ISLINGTON

PUBLIC HEALTH - CAMDEN AND ISLINGTON

1. Alcohol-related harm in Islington is a particular cause of concern, with analysis highlighting how in a number of areas Islington is experiencing some of the greatest levels of alcohol-related problems in London.
2. Alcohol plays an important and positive role in social and family life and contributes to employment and economic development locally. However, social traditions and economic benefits should not mask the fact that alcohol is a toxic substance that can have a detrimental effect on physical and mental health and wellbeing.

DRINKING LEVELS AND PATTERNS

3. The Chief Medical Officer's¹ guideline for both men and women is that:
 - To keep health risks from alcohol to a low level it is safest not to drink more than 14 units a week on a regular basis
 - If you regularly drink as much as 14 units per week, it is best to spread your drinking evenly over 3 or more days. If you have one or two heavy drinking episodes a week, you increase your risks of death from long term illness and from accidents and injuries.
 - The risk of developing a range of health problems (including cancers of the mouth, throat and breast) increases the more you drink on a regular basis.
 - If you wish to cut down the amount you drink, a good way to help achieve this is to have several drink-free days each week.

ALCOHOL RELATED HEALTH HARM

4. Regularly drinking more alcohol than the recommended daily limit can damage health. Excessive alcohol consumption is associated with over 60 medical disorders. For instance, alcohol has been identified as a causative factor in the following conditions²:
 - Mouth, throat, stomach, bowel, liver and breast cancer
 - Cirrhosis of the liver
 - Heart disease
 - Depression
 - Stroke
 - Pancreatitis
 - Liver disease
5. Islington currently experiences some of the greatest levels of alcohol related problems in London, for instance³ (also see appendix 1A for further information):
 - The highest rate of alcohol-related deaths
 - Second highest rate of alcohol specific deaths

- Second highest rate of under 18 alcohol-specific admissions
 - Highest rate of both alcohol specific hospital admissions (19th highest in England) and alcohol related hospital admissions (31st highest in England)
6. Alcohol is estimated to contribute to one in fourteen deaths in Islington (this includes deaths in which alcohol is wholly responsible and those where it has played a lesser role). Over the period 2013-15, 60 people died directly as a result of alcohol consumption.
 7. Estimates from 2012 suggest the cost of alcohol-related admissions for Islington residents to be nearly £7.5 million, equivalent to £39 for every Islington resident.⁴
 8. In 2016, there were 1324 ambulance call-outs responding to alcohol-related incidents in Islington. Analysis has shown that the number of alcohol-related calls peak during the evenings and early hours, particularly at weekends, when the night-time economy is at its busiest. Calls tend to be clustered around areas where there is a high density of licensed premises and good public transport links, mirroring the same patterns seen for alcohol-related recorded crime and violent crime (see also appendix 1A).
 9. Given the scale of alcohol-related harm in Islington, a proactive and collaborative approach is required to reduce the detrimental health impacts of alcohol. Alcohol harm reduction has been identified as a priority issue by Islington Health and Well-Being Board. Islington plans to publish an alcohol harm reduction plan in 2017, with local licensing activity being seen as a core component of this work.

AVAILABILITY OF ALCOHOL

10. There is national and international evidence that availability of alcohol is linked to alcohol consumption and alcohol related harm. Reducing the density of licensed premises and reducing permitted hours of sale can reduce violence and other alcohol-related harm. Evidence indicates that increasing numbers of outlets or extended hours of sale potentially increases the competitive pressures on existing outlets, which may result in price reductions that tend to lead to increased levels of consumption⁵. This is supported by work from the National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE)⁶ who, in an evidence review in 2014, suggested that a higher density of off-premises alcohol outlets may be associated with increases in deaths, rates of admission to hospital because of assault or alcohol-related disease, and domestic violence. Higher density of other types of licensed premises may also be associated with increases in admission to hospital because of assault or alcohol-related disease.
11. One study from Scotland⁷ showed similar findings to those in the NICE review but additionally identified that alcohol-related hospitalisations of those under the legal minimum drinking age were also related to off-site outlet densities. The study suggested that the local impact of off-license sales of alcohol is much higher as people tend to use off licenses that are close to the place they consume alcohol, such as the home. This emphasises the importance of addressing off-license sales in harm reduction and licensing work.

12. Several studies have looked at the impact of changing licensing hours on alcohol related hospital admissions. For instance, a retrospective analysis⁸ of admissions to St Thomas' Hospital in London showed a 5.1% increase in alcohol-related attendances, 0.9% increase in alcohol related assault, 2.5% increase in alcohol related injury and 1.9% increase in alcohol-related admissions. These findings were also seen in attendances for assault to a Cambridgeshire emergency department using a retrospective design⁹. The mean annual number of assaults rose by 133 from 1,083 to 1,216 following the implementation of the Act. Similar to other studies, the peak time of presentation moved from a sharp peak between 01:00am and 01:59am to a broad peak between 01:00am and 3:59am.

BINGE DRINKING AND PRELOADING

13. It is not only the amount of alcohol consumed that increases the risk of harm, but also the amount consumed in one sitting. Binge drinking, which refers to a pattern of drinking in which a person consumes a lot of alcohol in one sitting (defined as women drinking more than 6 units, men more than 8 units), can cause acute intoxication and lead to acute, short-term problems. Short term risks are the immediate risks of harm, injury and accident (sometimes fatal) linked to drinking a large amount of alcohol on one occasion, which often leads to drunkenness. They include:

- head injuries
- fractures and other injuries
- facial injuries and scarring
- alcohol poisoning
- accidents

14. The risks of injury to a person who has been drinking recently have been found to rise between two and five times when 5-7 units are drunk in a 3-6 hour period.

15. It is estimated that among Islington residents 16.4% binge drink on their heaviest drinking day, which is similar to the estimate for England (16.5%) and higher than the London average (13.2%)³.

16. The detrimental impact of binge drinking in Islington is particularly significant because of the vibrant night-time economy which attracts visitors from across London as well as further afield.

17. Most common in younger age groups, binge drinking is often associated with 'preloading'. Preloading is a term that relates to people, particularly young people, drinking alcohol at home or in streets before going on to pubs and clubs. It has been associated with higher overall alcohol consumption and a greater likelihood of being involved in a violent incident¹⁰.

18. People pre-load on alcohol because it's much cheaper to buy in the supermarket or other off licence than in a pub or bar. More people are now drinking at home, and over 70% of all alcohol in England is now purchased through the off trade¹¹. For instance it was estimated in 2012 that 6.4 litres of alcohol per person were consumed off-trade compared to 3.2 litres on-trade¹². This highlights the

importance of considering the impact of the off-licence trade within local licensing policy.

19. Later closing hours of licensed premises and cheap off-licensed alcohol create problems for the on-trade sector because customers can attend premises intoxicated from drinking at home. It is against the law to serve alcohol to those who are intoxicated, but research in the UK shows this law is routinely broken. A study conducted in Liverpool in 2013 found that 84% of alcohol purchase attempts by pseudo-intoxicated actors in pubs, bars and nightclubs were successful (i.e. alcohol was sold to the actor)¹³.
20. Multi-component programmes are the best approach to addressing issues relating to preloading. These aim to reduce alcohol-related harm in drinking environments by co-ordinating and strengthening local preventative activity. If effective, they can help reduce costs to health services, criminal justice agencies and other public services. These typically include efforts to mobilise communities, such as media campaigns and community forums, supporting and working with licensed premises such as server training and voluntary schemes to avoid easy access to cheap alcohol from off-licences (such as through reduced the strength campaigns and not selling single cans and bottles) and increased enforcement activity, such as targeted visits and training.

STREET DRINKING

21. Street drinkers (including those who are homeless and those who are vulnerably housed) are likely to be a subset of a wider group of change resistant drinkers who are particularly vulnerable. Their drinking is likely to be having a significant impact on their health as well as causing a range of problems in the local community. A small number of street drinkers can incur significant costs: crime and anti-social behaviour on the street but also associated costs such as hospital visits, repeated 999 calls and the opportunity costs of resources used to target their needs. Alcohol Concern's Blue Light¹⁴ project estimated that the average annual cost of a high risk, change resistant drinker is around £35,000 including health, criminal justice and anti-social behaviour costs.
22. Street drinkers depend on a local supply of alcohol. They tend not to buy large quantities for fear that it will be confiscated, or that they will be targeted by other drinkers. Therefore, most need to be near shops¹⁵. They also tend to drink particularly high strength, cheap alcohol such as white cider. For instance, one study in Glasgow and Edinburgh showed 25% of alcohol treatment patients drink white cider, and of these 45% drink it exclusively¹⁶. According to ThamesReach¹⁷, which works with rough sleepers in London, "super-strength drinks have become one of the biggest causes of premature death of homeless people in the UK", with their data indicating that super-strength drinks are doing more damage than both heroin and crack cocaine, with 78% of the deaths in ThamesReach hostels are attributed to high strength alcohol.
23. 2016 guidance from the Police and Crime Commissioners¹⁸ suggest that a multi-component approach is needed to tackle street drinking, which includes a multi-agency group, alcohol services which provide outreach and supports change

resistant drinkers and appropriate legal powers aimed at individuals. This needs to be supported by a retail environment which discourages street drinking.

24. Initiatives designed to tackle the problems associated with street drinking have removed the sale of low-priced, high strength alcohol products, through voluntary agreements with local retailers. Such schemes have resulted in a reduction in crime and anti-social behavior.
25. Cumulative Impact Areas can also support areas particular affected by street drinking¹⁹. Through the use of policies not 'aimed' at the night-time economy but instead targeting off-licences and late night refreshment in areas with significant health inequality and a large number of hostels. This can include can marking initiatives to identify where cans used by street drinkers came from and having targeted patrols from the police in areas where there are concerns. Such measures can have a significant impact on alcohol related crime and anti-social behaviour.

ALCOHOL RELATED VIOLENCE

26. Islington experiences a considerable amount of alcohol related violence. For instance based on all offences with an alcohol related marker on the Metropolitan Police Crime Reporting Information System (CRIS), Islington was ranked 4th out of 32 boroughs in London for alcohol related crime per 1,000 population and 4th for alcohol related violent crime per 1,000 population. Violent alcohol related crime accounted for 55% of all alcohol related crime.
27. Studies have shown that intoxication can lead to violent behavior in those predisposed to aggression and it has been suggested that consumption leads to weakened inhibitions and relaxed normative behavior (i.e. perceived allowance of aggression). This can result in an increased risk of alcohol-related violence inside and around drinking premises. For instance Livingston et al²⁰ found that all types of license were significantly associated with admissions to hospitals because of assault. The largest effect size was for off-licences (0.54), with smaller effect sizes for general (0.13) and on-premises licences (0.06).
28. Glassing related violence is another important issue that can be addressed through licensing. A "glassing" is a physical attack using glassware as a weapon. These attacks especially affect bars and clubs, where glassware is the principal weapon in licensed premises related violence. It is estimated that 80,000 glass and bottle attacks occur in the UK each year, accounting for 4% of violent crime²¹. These attacks, fueled by alcohol, put a huge strain on NHS resources.
29. Research undertaken by the University of Bristol estimated that bar glassware accounted for 10% of assault injuries in A&E departments²². The Licensing Act 2003 enables licensing authorities to require glassware to be replaced by safer alternatives in individual licensed premises where a problem has been identified and representations have been made. The impact of such action has been found to be positive. For instance:
 - In Lancashire, a study into the differences between annealed glass, and polycarbonates found that there were no glass breakages in the venues with

polycarbonates²³. Surveys suggest that patrons were happy to use polycarbonates, and that this did not affect sales in licensed premises.

- Glasgow City Council banned glassware from all venues holding an Entertainment Licence within the city's centre during the hours after midnight. Drinks had to be served in toughened glass or other recognised safety products. No conventional glass bottles, whether open or sealed were allowed to be given to customers. Overall patrons responded positively, with people feeling safer in these venues, and venues that took up plastic were found to incur less injury risk²⁴.

CHILDREN AND ALCOHOL

30. CMO guidelines²⁵ state that an alcohol-free childhood is the healthiest and best option. However, if children drink alcohol underage, it should not be until at least the age of 15 years. If young people aged 15 to 17 years consume alcohol, it should always be with the guidance of a parent or carer or in a supervised environment. Parents and young people should be aware that drinking, even at age 15 or older, can be hazardous to health and that not drinking is the healthiest option for young people.

31. If someone is under 18, it's against the law:

- to sell them alcohol
- For them to buy or try to buy alcohol
- For an adult to buy or try to buy alcohol for them
- For them to drink alcohol in licensed premises (eg a pub or restaurant)

32. National surveys suggest 30% of young people in London aged 11 to 15 have never had a drink, which is lower than average for England (45%). National data also suggests a steady decline in the proportion of young people who had drunk alcohol. For those young people who did drink alcohol, the most commonly reported sources were friends (21%), parents (20%), asking someone else to purchase alcohol (proxy sales, 13%) and taking alcohol from home (12%)²⁶.

33. Consideration also needs to be given to the harm alcohol causes to people other than the person who is drinking, sometimes referred to as 'social harm' or 'passive drinking'. Children of parents misusing alcohol may experience severe emotional distress, physical abuse and violence as well as a general lack of care, support and protection. Alcohol is a very common feature of domestic violence, with alcohol, in 2016/17 there were 938 criminal offences with an 'alcohol related marker' of which 32.5% also have a 'domestic abuse' flag attached.

34. Children and young people experience significant harm as a result of alcohol. The number of young people (under 18 years) admitted to hospital in Islington as a result of alcohol between 2013/14 and 2015/16 was 55, significantly higher than the London average³ – there would have been more who were taken to A&E but not admitted. In addition, there were 31 alcohol related ambulance call-outs to young people under the age of 18 years in Islington in 2016.

BEST PRACTICE

35. Islington strongly promotes working in partnership with licensed premises and the adoption of high standards of management at all premises. We recognise that many licensees are supportive of the need to address the health issues relating to alcohol and suggest the following actions that can be adopted through conditions:

- Restrict "special offers" like: cheap shots; 'Happy Hours'; Buy One Get One Free; or buy 2 glasses of wine, get whole bottle. This slows down consumption, the rate at which blood alcohol concentrations increase and the peak levels reached by drinkers. Rapidly ascending and high blood alcohol concentrations are shown to be associated with violence and uninhibited behaviour.
- Align pricing with Alcohol by Volume (ABV), and ensure that non-alcoholic drinks are kept much cheaper.
- Increase seating for customers to reduce more intensive drinking.
- Reduce the volume of music as loud music can increase alcohol consumption.
- Actively promote designated driver schemes where a driver is offered discounted or free non-alcoholic drinks.
- Make food available in late venues.
- Start the sale of alcohol later in the day and not align it purely with opening hours.
- No advertisements for alcohol in the shop window.
- Storing alcohol behind the shop counter.
- No display boards or other advertising showing on the shop floor.
- Cans of alcohol should not be sold singly.
- Bottles of beer under 1 litre should not be sold singly.
- No beer or cider over 5.5% ABV should be sold.
- No alcopops should be sold where they could attract under age purchasers.

¹ Chief Medical Office. UK Chief Medical Officers' Low Risk Drinking Guidelines 2016,

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- ⁸ Newton A, Sarker SJ, Pahal GS, van den Bergh E, Young C. Impact of the new UK licensing law on emergency hospital attendances: a cohort study. *Emerg Med J*. 2007.;24(8):532–4
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- ¹⁴ Alcohol Concern. Alcohol Concern's Blue Light Project Working with change resistant drinkers, 2014
- ¹⁵ Ward, M (2009) Tackling Street Drinking PCC guidance on best practice: Supporting evidence. Alcohol Concern <http://www.apccs.police.uk/wp-content/uploads/2013/11/Street-Drinking-Supporting-Evidence-and-Best-Practice.pdf>
- ¹⁶ Black, H. et al *White Cider Consumption and Heavy Drinkers: A Low-Cost Option but an Unknown price*. *Alcohol and Alcoholism*, 2014; 49:6, pp675-80
- ¹⁷ Thames Reach. Calls for high-strength cider duty increase. Available from: < <http://www.thamesreach.org.uk/news-and-views/calls-for-high-strength-cider-duty-increase/>> [Accessed 23 March 2017], 2017
- ¹⁸ National Consortium of Police and Crime Commissioners (2016) Tackling Street Drinking: Guidance on Best Practice. <http://www.apccs.police.uk/wp-content/uploads/2013/11/Tackling-Street-Drinking-PCC-Guidance-on-Best-Practice.pdf>
- ¹⁹ Police and Crime Commissioner (2009). Tackling Street Drinking PCC guidance on best practice. <http://www.apccs.police.uk/wp-content/uploads/2013/11/Tackling-Street-Drinking-PCC-Guidance-on-Best-Practice.pdf>

²⁰ Livingston M, Chikritzhs T, Room R. Changing the density of alcohol outlets to reduce alcohol-related problems. *Drug Alcohol Rev.* 2007;26(5):557–66

²¹ Kershaw C, Nicholas S, Walker A. (2008) *Crime in England and Wales 2007/08. Findings from the British Crime Survey and police recorded crime.* London, Home Office

²² DH. Safe. Sensible. Social. The next steps in the National Alcohol Strategy. http://webarchive.nationalarchives.gov.uk/20130107105354/http://www.dh.gov.uk/prod_consum_dh/groups/dh_digitalassets/@dh/@en/documents/digitalasset/dh_075219.pdf, 2007

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²⁶ Fuller E. (Ed.) *Smoking, drinking and drug use among young people in England in 2011.* Leeds: NHSIC, 2012

10

Islington Community Safety Intelligence Team

Alcohol related crime and the night time economy Islington

March 2017

About this profile

Purpose

This report looks at alcohol related crime and disorder across the London Borough of Islington in the last 12 months with the aim of informing the annual Late Night Levy review.

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Further information and feedback

This report was created by the Community Safety Intelligence Team led by Keith Stanger (Community Safety Manager).

We would also very much welcome your comments on this report, so please do contact us with your ideas and thoughts.

Summary

- In 2016, there were 921 crimes recorded with an alcohol related feature, accounting for 3.3% of all crime across the borough and representing a 21% reduction in alcohol related crime compared to 2015.
- ASB calls to the police with an 'alcohol' opening code and late-night economy related ASB incidents reported to the council have also shown decreases in 2016 compared to 2015.
- Alcohol related crime hot spots have been found down Upper Street and in the Old Street/City Road areas. This is similar to night-time economy related incidents reported to the Islington 'Out of Hours ASB reporting line'. A lot of repeat locations are around commercial premises.
- Offences categorised as Violence against the Person are over-represented when allocated an alcohol related feature (53% of crime) compared to all crime across the borough (23% of crime).
- Both alcohol related crime, ASB calls to the police and night-time economy related ASB peaks between 2100 and 0259 hours over the weekend.

Police Crime Data

In 2016, there were 27,832 total notifiable offences recorded across Islington (according to MPS performance data). Of these, 921 recorded an alcohol related feature on CRIS including “**Alcohol consumed**”, “**Suspect has been drinking**” or “**Victim has been drinking**”. This accounted for 3.3% of all crime. In the previous 12 months (2015), alcohol related crime accounted for 4.1% of all crime. Overall there has been a 21% reduction in alcohol related crime between 2015 and 2016.

Chart 1 shows crime with an alcohol-related feature by month between April 2010 and February 2017. Alcohol related crime has been steadily decreasing throughout the 7 year period. Chart 2 shows all crime across Islington by month for the same period. The same trend is not seen here.

Chart 1 – Long term trends showing all crime which has an alcohol related feature in CRIS

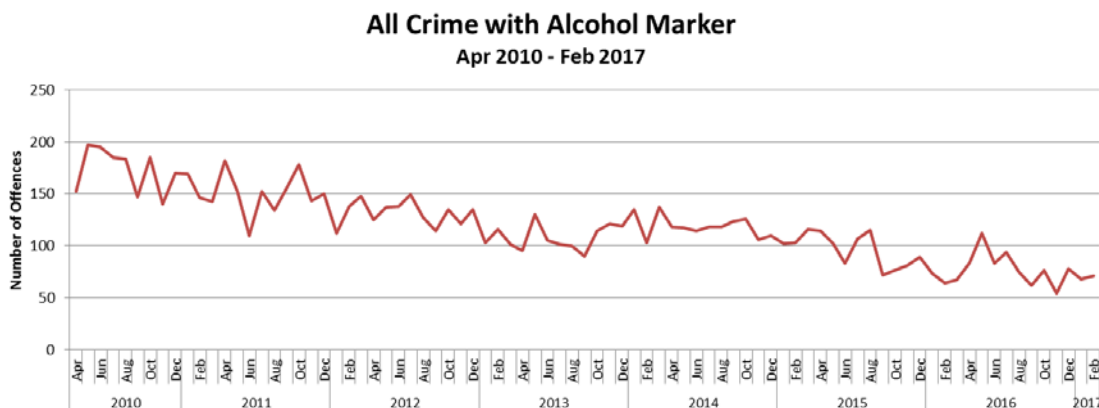
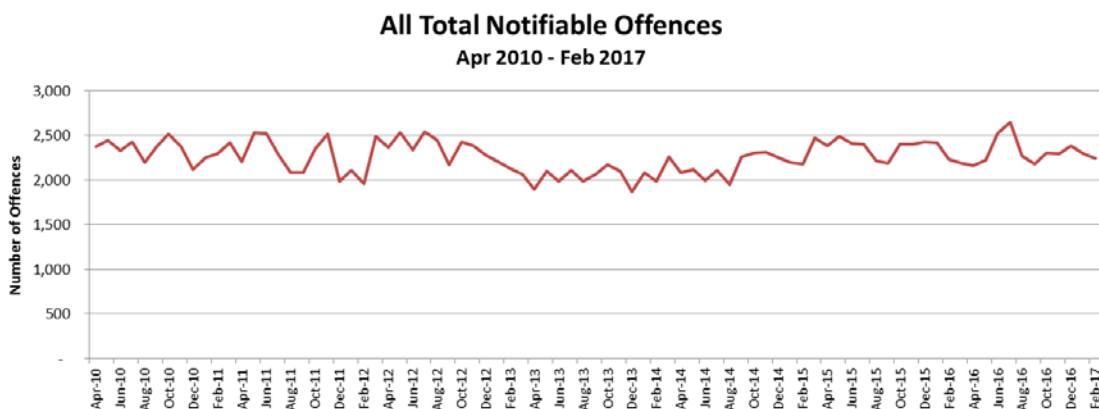


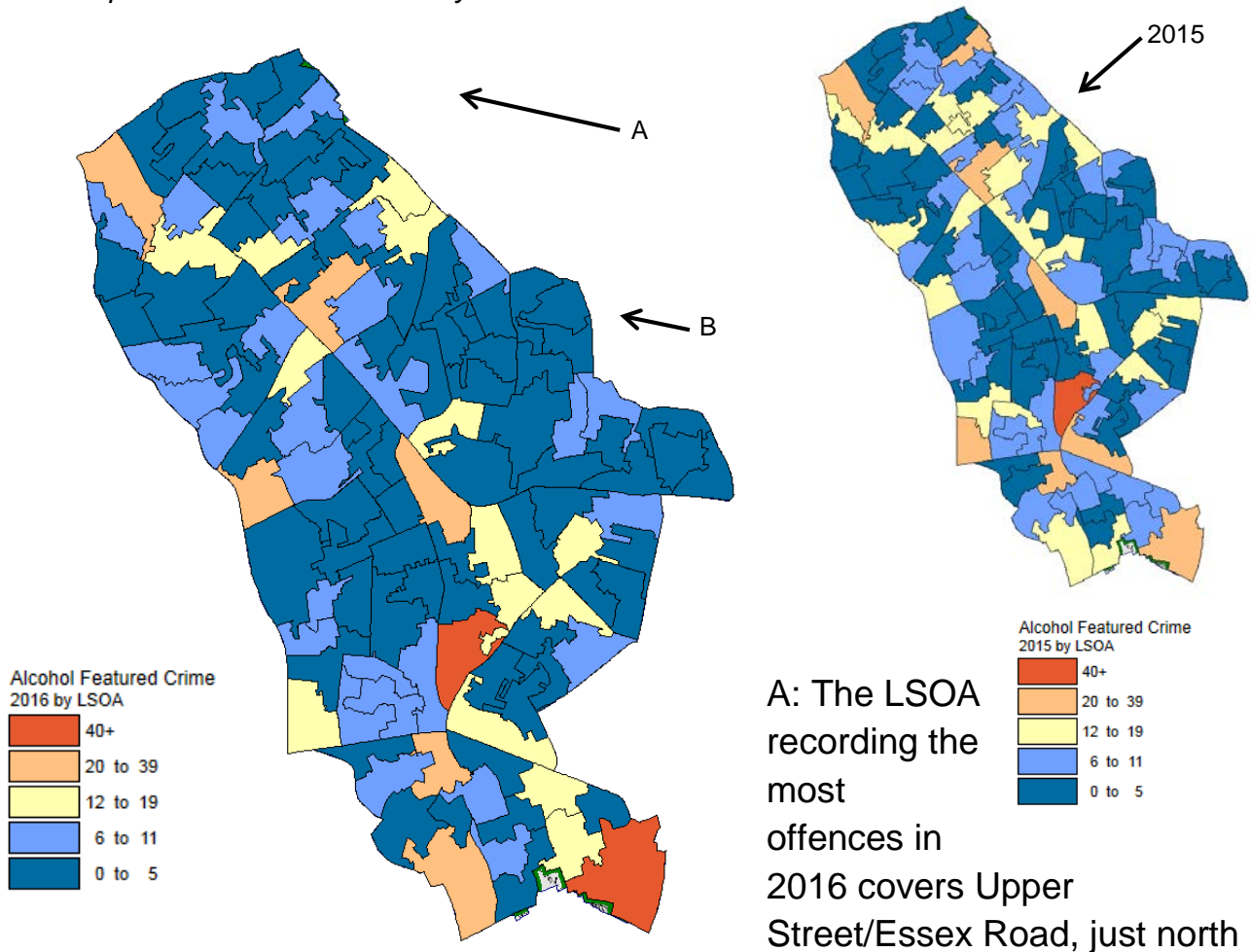
Chart 2 – Long term trends showing all crime (total notifiable offences) across Islington by month



Where are offences located?

Map 1 shows a thematic map of where crime containing alcohol related features in 2016 are located by Lower Super Output Area (LSOA). The map on the right shows how this compares in 2015.

Map 1: Alcohol related crime by LSOA



of Angel Underground station. There were 69 offences recorded in this LSOA during 2016. A lot of these offences can be attributed to commercial premises.

B: There were 44 offences recorded in the LSOA that covers Old Street. Again a lot of these offences can be attributed to inside or outside commercial premises.

What is happening?

The table below shows alcohol related crime by **crime type** (based on Home Office code). The table shows the number of offences and the proportion of crime this accounts for. In 2016, 53% of alcohol related crime was categorised as **Violence against the Person**, over-represented compared to all crime across Islington, where Violence against the Person accounted for 23% of offences.

Table 1: Alcohol related crime in 2015 and 2016 by crime type (including proportions)

Category	2015		2016		Proportion of <u>All Crime</u> Islington 2016
	Alcohol related crime (number of offences)	Proportion of Total	Alcohol related crime (number of offences)	Proportion of Total	
Violence Against the Person	575	50%	489	53%	23%
Theft and Handling	126	11%	103	11%	40%
Criminal Damage	82	7%	57	6%	6%
Sexual Offences	64	6%	53	6%	1%
Robbery	47	4%	37	4%	3%
Drugs	29	3%	23	2%	6%
Burglary	15	1%	16	2%	6%
Other Notifiable Offences	49	4%	26	3%	2%
Other Accepted Crime	173	15%	117	13%	12%
Total	1,160	100%	921	100%	100%

Of the 1,739 VAP domestic crimes recorded across Islington during 2016, 151 offences recorded an alcohol marker (9% of offences). The remaining 6,021 VAP offences that did not record a domestic violence flag, 338 recorded an alcohol marker (6% of offences).

When is it happening?

Over the last three years, there has been no notifiable seasonal trend with crime containing alcohol features; however in 2016 offences peaked in May.

Chart 3 shows the proportion of alcohol related crime by day and time period. There is a clear peak in both 2015 and 2016 between 0000 and 0259 on Saturday and Sunday mornings, peak times for the weekend night-time economy in Islington.

Chart 3: Alcohol related crime by day of week and time frame

Time Period	2015							2016						
	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
0000-0259	2%	2%	3%	3%	4%	7%	7%	2%	2%	2%	2%	4%	6%	7%
0300-0559	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	4%	3%	0%	0%	1%	1%	2%	3%	4%
0600-0859	1%	1%	0%	1%	1%	1%	2%	0%	0%	1%	0%	1%	1%	1%
0900-1159	0%	1%	0%	1%	0%	1%	1%	1%	0%	1%	1%	1%	2%	1%
1200-1459	0%	0%	0%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	0%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%
1500-1759	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	2%	1%	1%	0%	1%	2%	2%	1%	2%
1800-2059	3%	1%	2%	2%	2%	3%	2%	2%	1%	2%	2%	2%	3%	2%
2100-2359	1%	2%	2%	4%	5%	4%	3%	3%	3%	2%	2%	4%	5%	3%
Total	10%	10%	9%	13%	14%	23%	20%	10%	8%	11%	12%	17%	21%	21%

A similar trend can be seen when looking at just the offences categorised as ‘**Violence against the Person**’ (VAP).

Chart 4: Alcohol related crime categorised as VAP by day of week and time frame

Time Period	2015							2016						
	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
0000-0259	2%	2%	3%	3%	4%	6%	7%	2%	1%	2%	3%	4%	6%	7%
0300-0559	1%	1%	0%	1%	1%	4%	3%	0%	1%	1%	2%	1%	2%	3%
0600-0859	1%	0%	0%	1%	1%	1%	2%	0%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	2%
0900-1159	0%	1%	0%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	0%	2%	1%	1%	2%	1%
1200-1459	1%	0%	1%	2%	1%	1%	1%	0%	1%	0%	1%	1%	1%	1%
1500-1759	2%	2%	1%	2%	1%	1%	1%	1%	0%	1%	2%	2%	1%	2%
1800-2059	2%	1%	2%	2%	2%	4%	2%	2%	1%	3%	2%	2%	2%	2%
2100-2359	1%	2%	2%	4%	4%	4%	3%	3%	3%	2%	3%	2%	4%	3%
Total	5%	4%	5%	7%	7%	11%	10%	5%	4%	7%	7%	9%	10%	12%

Suspects and Victims

Based on data entered on CRIS, there were 812 records showing the age (or estimated age) of the suspect of crime containing alcohol related features and 994 victim records (there can be more than one victim or suspect listed for each crime). Table 2 shows the number of suspects per 1,000 Islington population and number of victims per 1,000 Islington population. Both victims and suspects were almost evenly spread across the 18 to 57 age groups.

Table 2: Age group of victim and suspect of crime containing alcohol features and rates per 1,000 Islington population

Age	Islington Population (2011 census)	Suspects	Suspects (Per 1,000 population)	Victims	Victims per 1,000 population
Under 18	36,385	18	0.5	20	0.5
18-27	43,761	247	5.6	286	6.5
28-37	47,540	261	5.5	314	6.6
38-47	30,096	166	5.5	186	6.2
48-57	20,160	96	4.8	128	6.3
58-67	13,555	18	1.3	44	3.2
68+	14,628	6	0.4	16	1.1

A total of 50% of victims were recorded as male, 45% were female and 5% were either not recorded or recorded as other. A total of 78% of suspects were male, compared to 16% who were female and 6% were not recorded or were recorded as other.

Police ASB CAD Data

Chart 5 shows ASB calls to the police on either 999 or 101 by month between August 2011 and December 2016. There is less of a clear trend here, where there have been peaks and troughs throughout the year. In 2016 there were 1,198 ASB calls allocated with an 'alcohol' opening code, representing a 9% decrease from 2015 (where there was 1,315 calls).

Chart 5: ASB calls to the police with 'alcohol' opening code

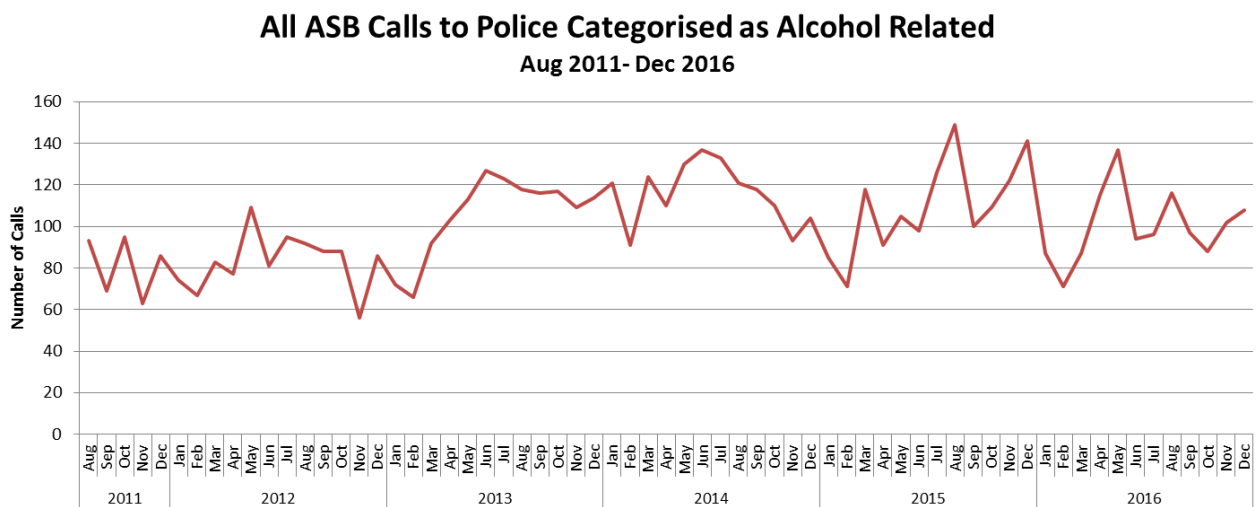


Chart 6 shows the times and day of the week of the calls. Peak times are Saturday and Sunday from 21:00 to 02:59 in both of the last two years.

Chart 6: Police ASB calls with 'alcohol' opening code by day of week and time frame

Time Frame	2015							2016						
	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
0000-0259	2%	2%	2%	2%	3%	5%	5%	1%	1%	2%	2%	3%	5%	5%
0300-0559	1%	0%	1%	2%	1%	3%	3%	0%	0%	0%	1%	2%	3%	3%
0600-0859	0%	0%	0%	1%	1%	2%	1%	1%	0%	1%	0%	1%	2%	1%
0900-1159	0%	1%	1%	1%	1%	2%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%
1200-1459	1%	1%	1%	1%	2%	2%	1%	1%	1%	1%	2%	1%	1%	2%
1500-1759	2%	2%	1%	2%	2%	2%	2%	2%	2%	2%	1%	2%	2%	1%
1800-2059	1%	2%	2%	1%	2%	3%	2%	2%	3%	2%	3%	3%	3%	2%
2100-2359	3%	3%	3%	2%	5%	4%	3%	2%	2%	2%	4%	4%	5%	3%
Total	10%	11%	11%	11%	16%	22%	19%	10%	11%	11%	13%	17%	21%	18%

Calls to Council Out of Hours ASB Team

Incidents reported to Islington Council ASB Team in 2015 and 2016, which have been categorised as;

- 'Licensed Premises Noise – Music'
- 'Licensed Premises Noise – People',
- 'Rowdy/Drunken Behaviour' and
- 'Drinking in a Public Place'

have been extracted from M3 and summarised in table 3. In 2016 there were 968 calls found in these categories, representing a 24% decrease from 2015. In 2016, 51% of these calls were categorised as 'Licensed Premises Noise – Music'.

Table 3: Night-time economy calls to ASB reporting line by type

Category	2015		2016	
	Number of Incidents	Proportion of Incidents	Number of Incidents	Proportion of Incidents
NI04 - Licensed Premises Noise-Music	482	38%	490	51%
NI05 - Licensed Prem Noise-People	324	26%	256	26%
RB01 - Rowdy/Drunken Behaviour	434	34%	193	20%
SD01 - Drinking in a Public Place	27	2%	29	3%
Total	1,267	100%	968	100%

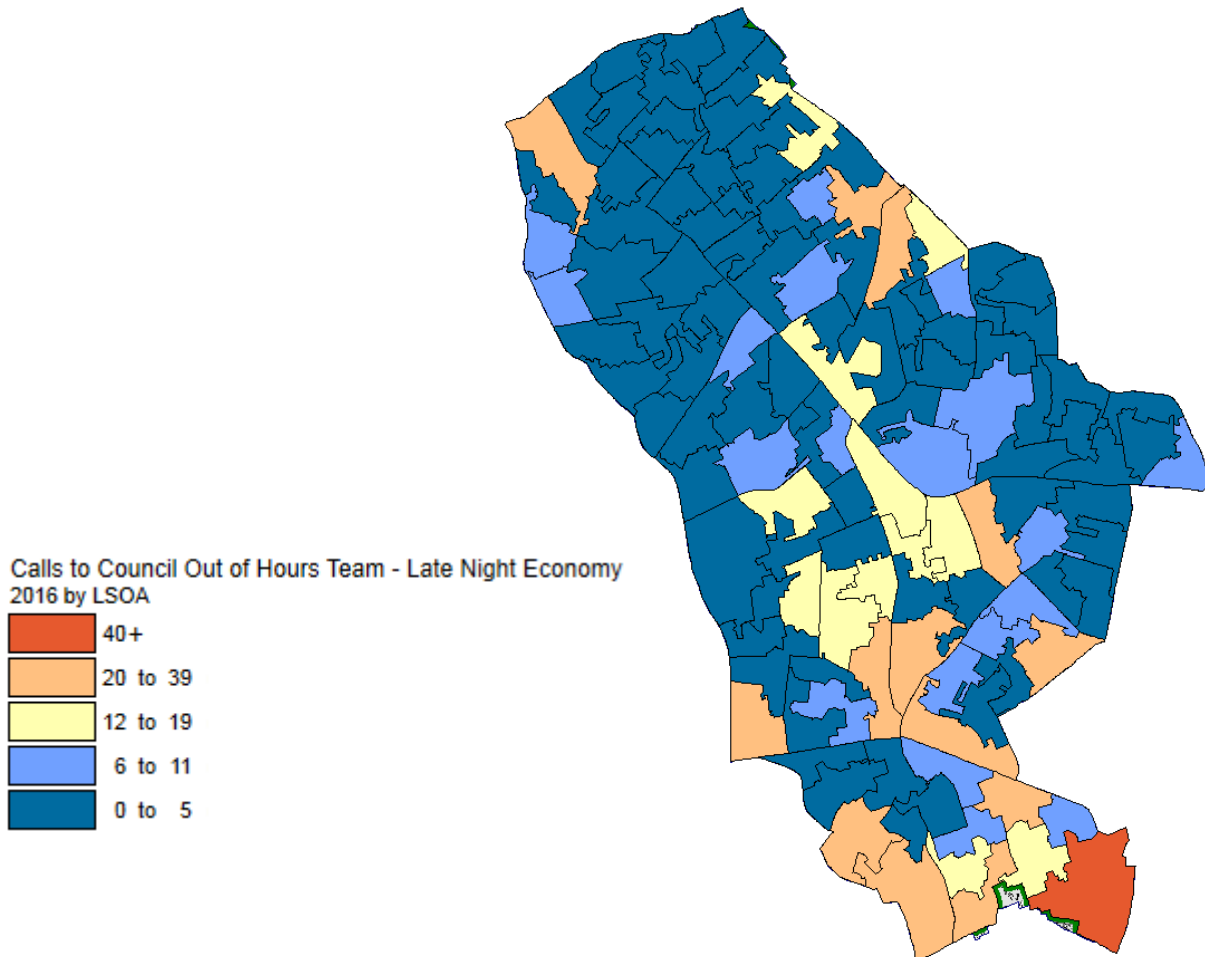
Incidents peaked Thursday evenings (between 2100 and 2359) and over the weekend between 2100 and 0259 hours.

Chart 7: Night-time economy calls to ASB reporting line by day of week and time frame

Time Scale	2015							2016						
	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
0000-0259	2%	1%	2%	1%	3%	6%	8%	2%	1%	1%	1%	2%	6%	7%
0300-0559	0%	0%	0%	0%	1%	2%	2%	0%	0%	0%	0%	1%	1%	1%
0600-0859	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	1%
0900-1159	1%	0%	1%	0%	1%	0%	1%	2%	1%	1%	1%	1%	0%	6%
1200-1459	1%	1%	0%	0%	1%	1%	0%	1%	1%	0%	1%	1%	1%	1%
1500-1759	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	2%	1%	2%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	2%
1800-2059	2%	1%	2%	4%	5%	3%	4%	1%	1%	2%	2%	3%	2%	2%
2100-2359	3%	3%	4%	6%	6%	9%	4%	3%	3%	4%	9%	7%	8%	3%
Total	11%	8%	9%	14%	16%	23%	19%	11%	8%	8%	15%	16%	20%	22%

Map 2 shows the number of reports relating to ‘night time economy’ to the ‘Council out of Hours ASB team’ by LSOA in 2016. There were high levels of calls along Upper Street, whilst the most calls were recorded in the LSOA close to **City Road** including **Tabernacle Street**.

Map 2: Night-time economy calls to ASB reporting line by LSOA



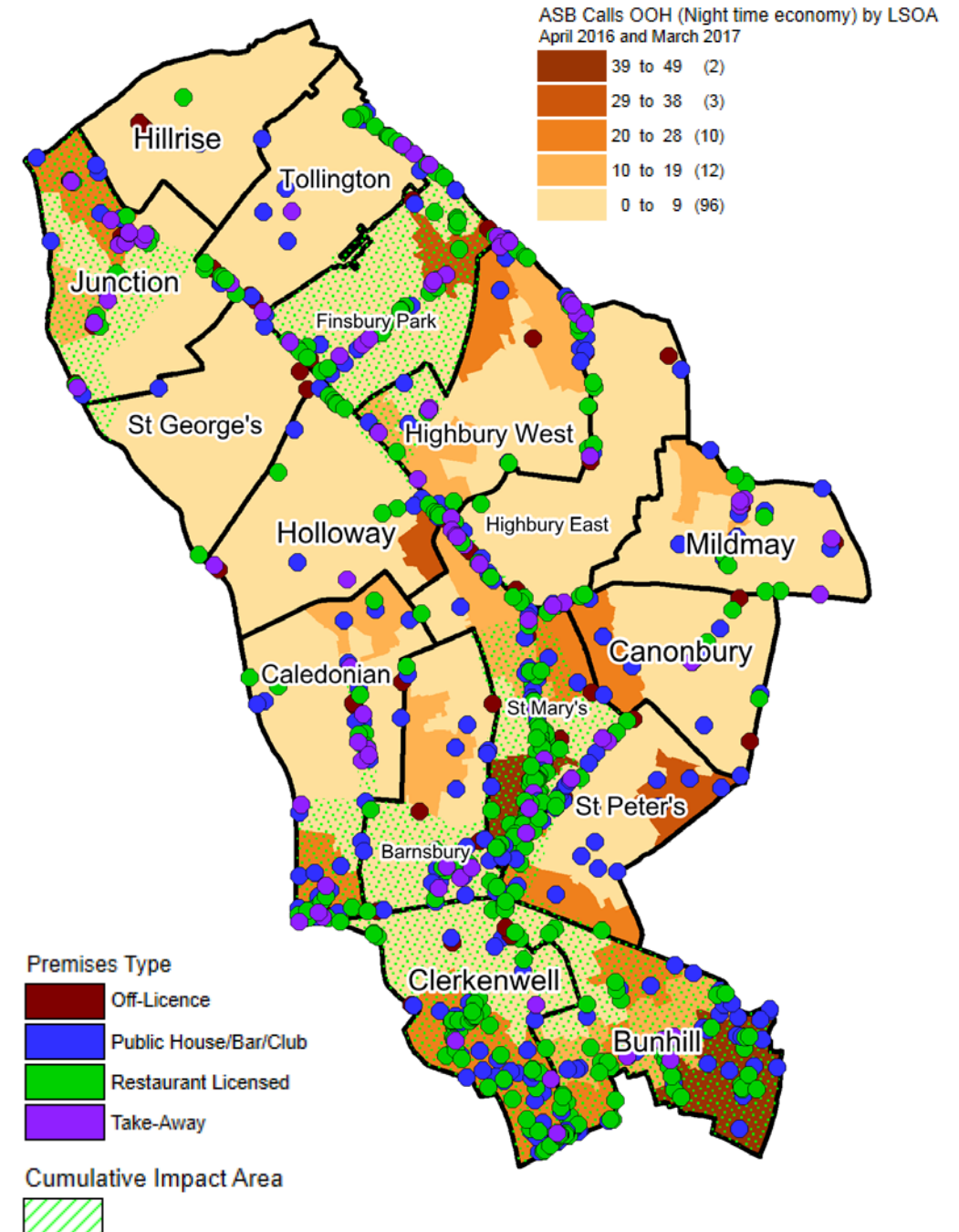
Night Time Economy ASB Calls & density of premises

Based on 12 months of M3 OOH ASB Calls relating to night time economy (raw data) (between April 2016 and March 2017). This include NI05, NI04 (and RB01 and SD01 complaints between 2000pm and 0359am and incidents on estates have been excluded).

There were a total of 800 ASB calls to the OOH team relating to the night time economy in Islington during the 2016/17 financial year, an average of 6.5 per Lower Super Output Area (LSOA).

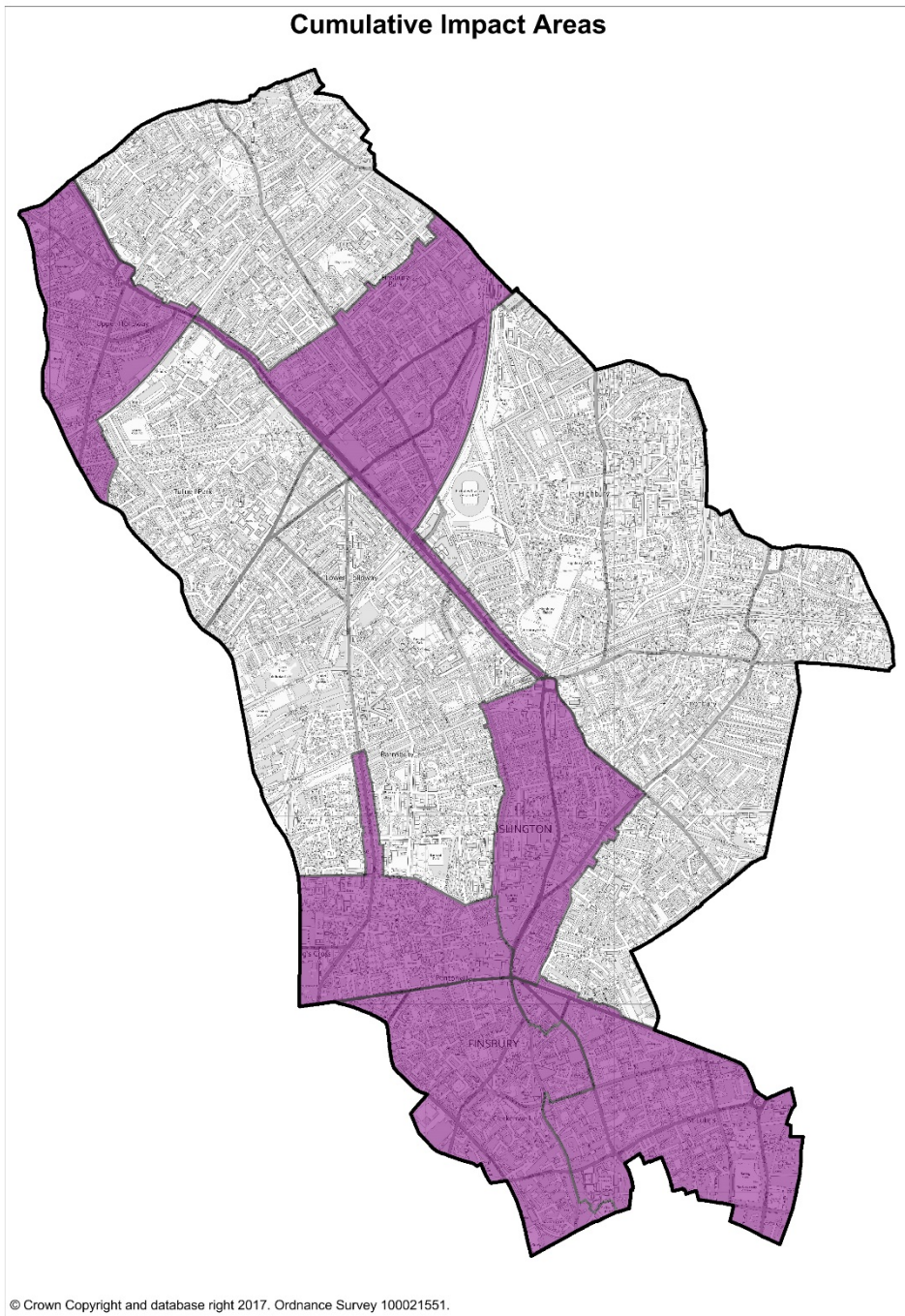
The darkest shaded areas on the map show the LSOAs where there were more than 7 times the average number of alcohol-related ambulance callouts compared to the Islington LSOA average.

In most cases there tends to be more ASB complaints (related to the night time economy) in areas of higher concentrations of licensed premises. However, there were lower levels of calls in the Caledonian Road area and higher levels of calls in the New North Road area (due to there being 23 complaints at the North Pole Public House).

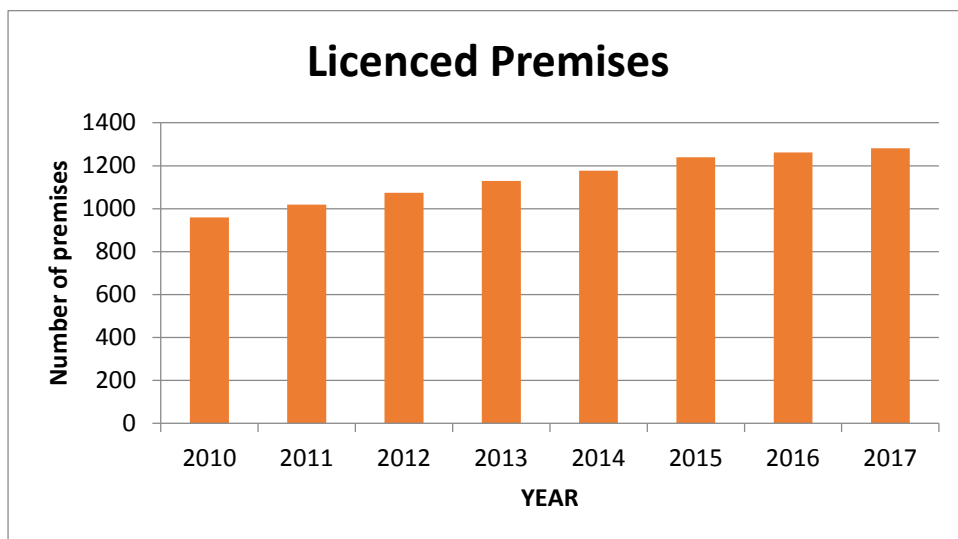


Charts and Maps

Cumulative impact areas in Islington

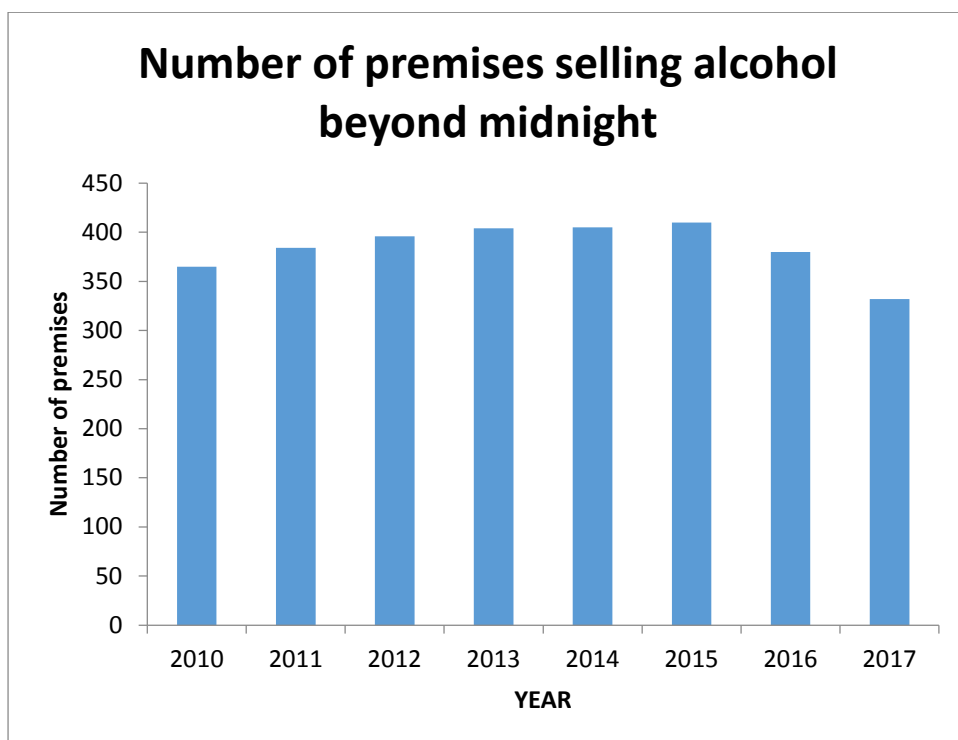


Number of licenced premises 2011- 2017



- Year on year increase in number of licenced premises

Number of premises selling alcohol



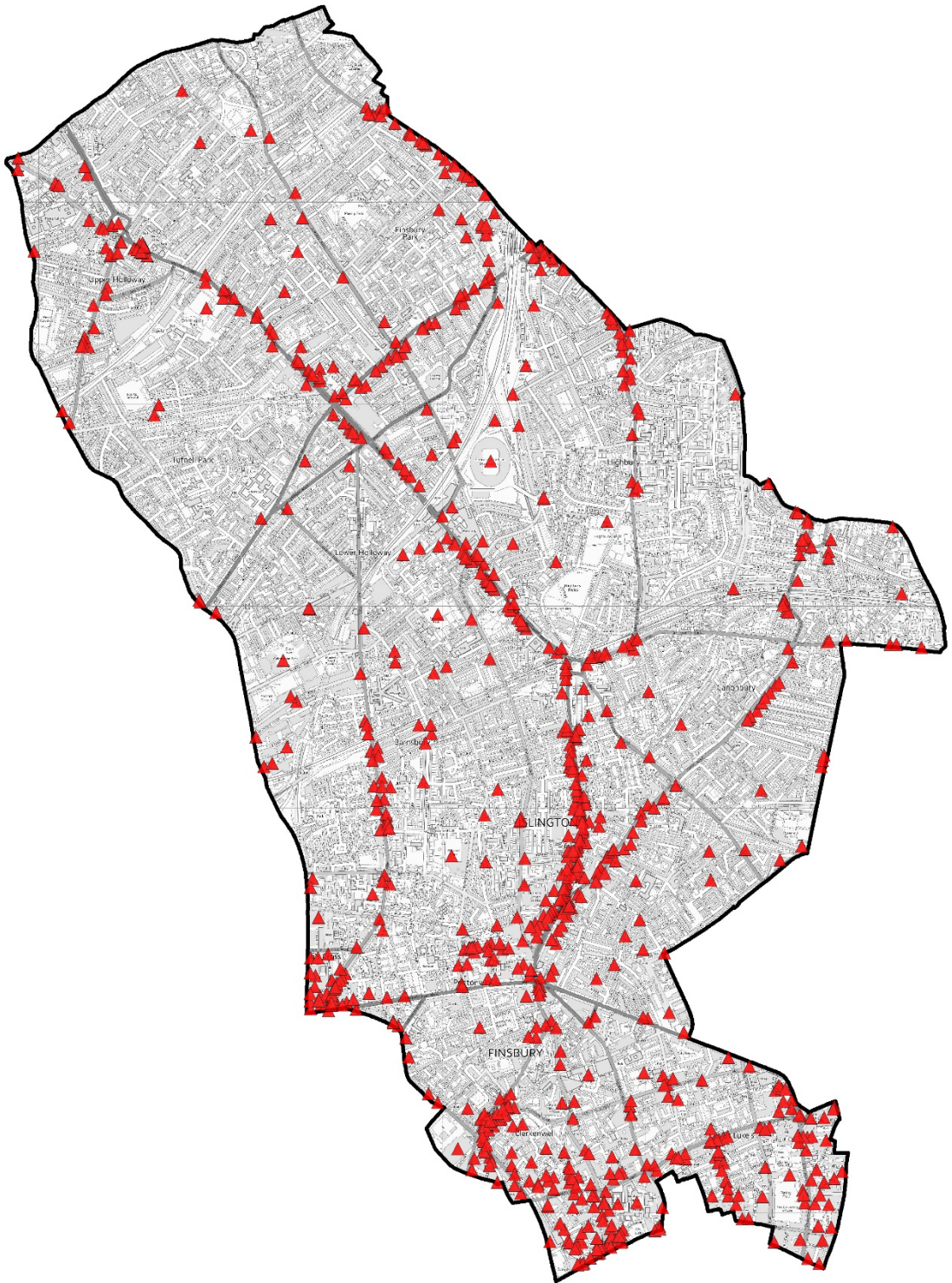
- Licensing Policy Framework hours introduced in 2013 resulted in the number of premises licenced to sell alcohol after midnight plateauing at approx. 400
- Late Night Levy introduced November 2014 resulted in a reduction in premises licenced to sell alcohol

Applications received and granted

YEAR	Number new apps received	Number new apps granted	No new and variation apps for A beyond midnight	No new and variation apps GRANTED for A beyond midnight
2009	68	67	46	44
2010	70	70	38	35
2011	77	70	26	23
2012	83	65	21	18
2013	77	51	9	4
2014	86	65	13	6
2015	105	73	3	0
2016	81	65	8	5

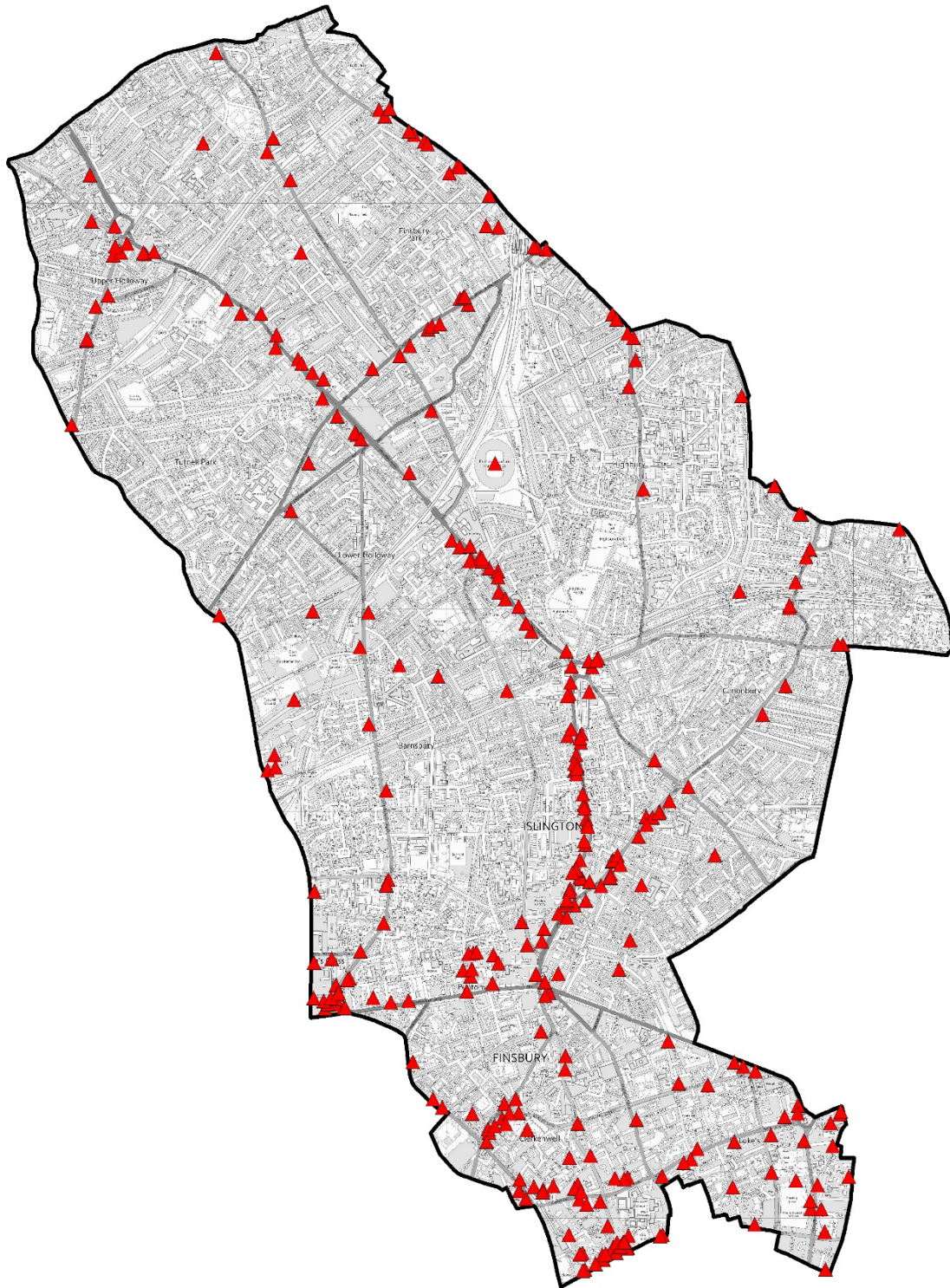
- Significant reduction in number of application granted to permit alcohol sales beyond midnight since introduction of 2013 Licensing Policy
- 5 late night alcohol applications approved in 2016 – 2 were for hotels and three where for premises that previously had late night alcohol licences that lapsed

On licenses and off licenses



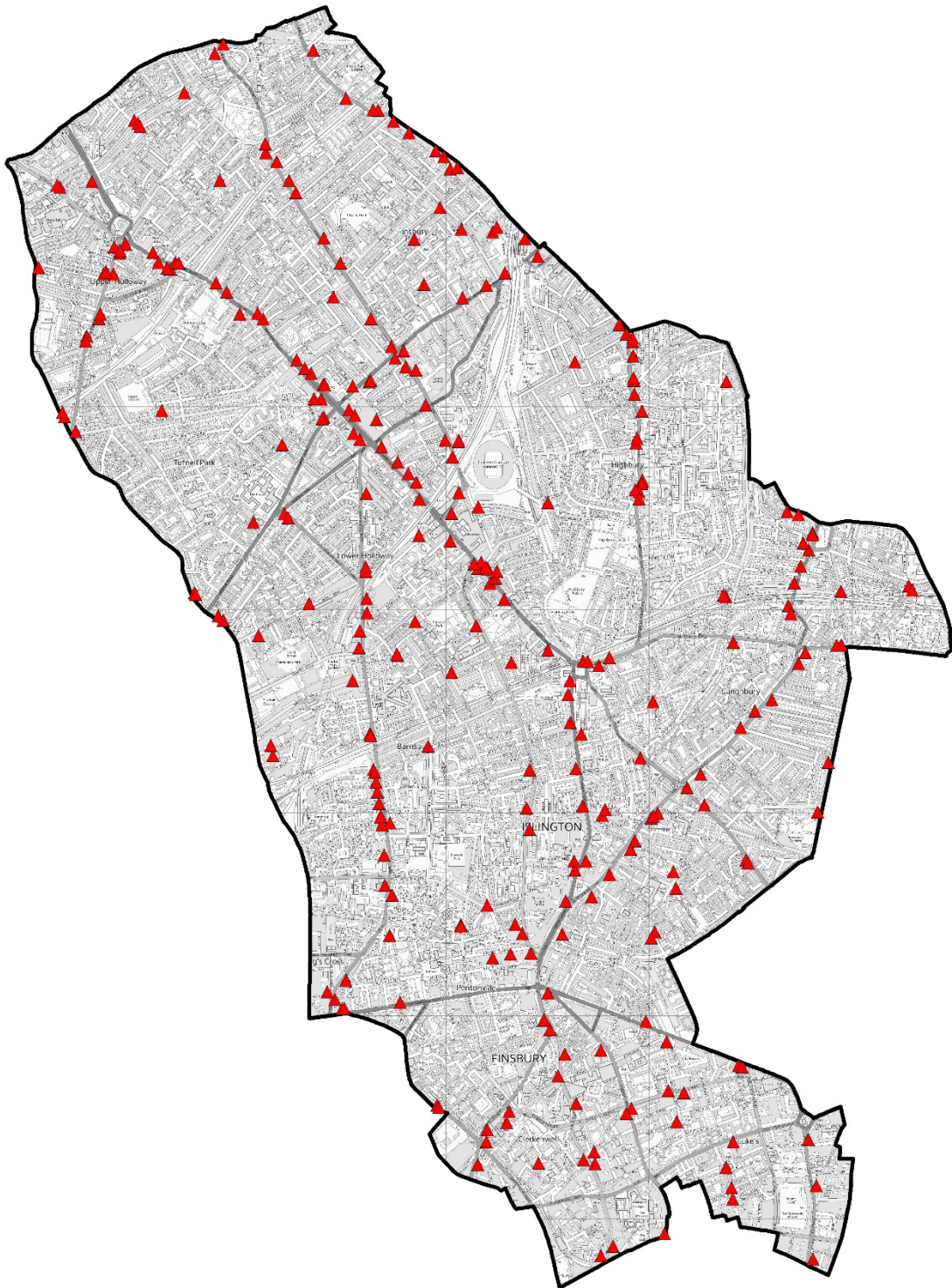
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Alcohol sales after midnight



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Off licenses

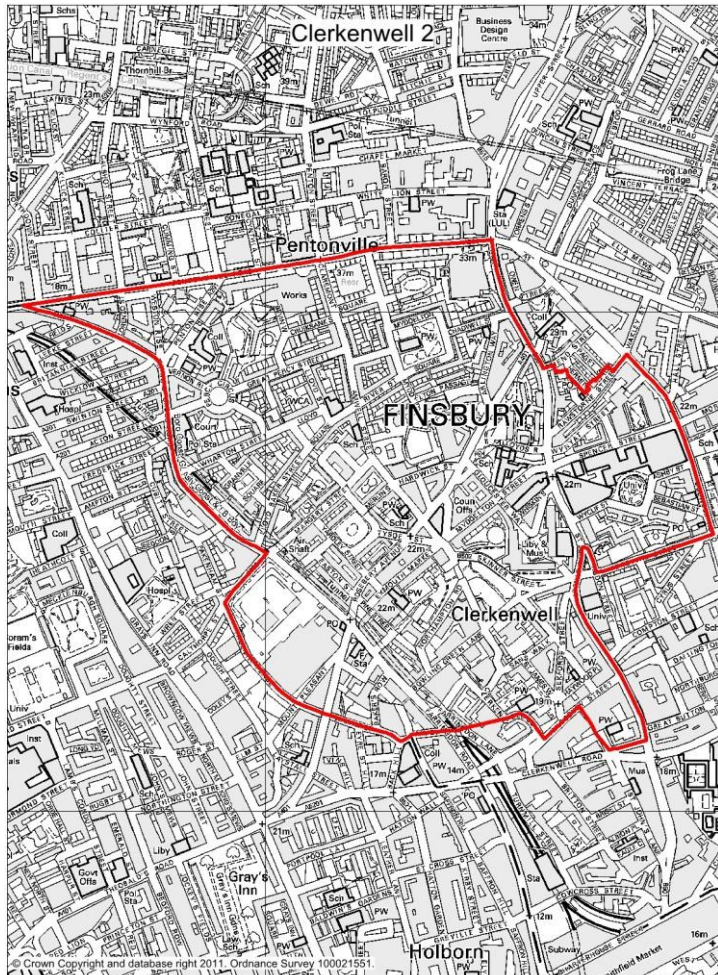


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CLERKENWELL CUMULATIVE IMPACT AREA

2017 Profile of Licenced Premises in Clerkenwell Cumulative Impact Area	
Pubs, bars, clubs	35
Restaurants and cafes	66
Shops	38
Culture/leisure	3
Takeaways	4
Other	7
Total	153
Premises selling alcohol after midnight	70 (46%)

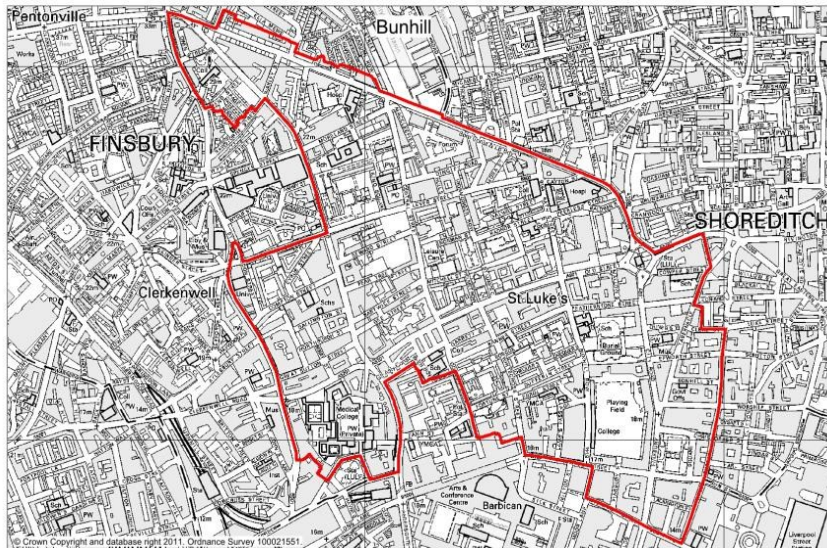
Map of Clerkenwell Cumulative Impact Area:



BUNHILL CUMULATIVE IMPACT AREA

2017 Profile of Licenced Premises in Bunhill Cumulative Impact Area	
Pubs, bars, clubs	43
Restaurants and cafes	67
Shops	16
Culture/leisure	3
Takeaways	6
Other	24
Total	159
Premises selling alcohol after midnight	61 (38%)

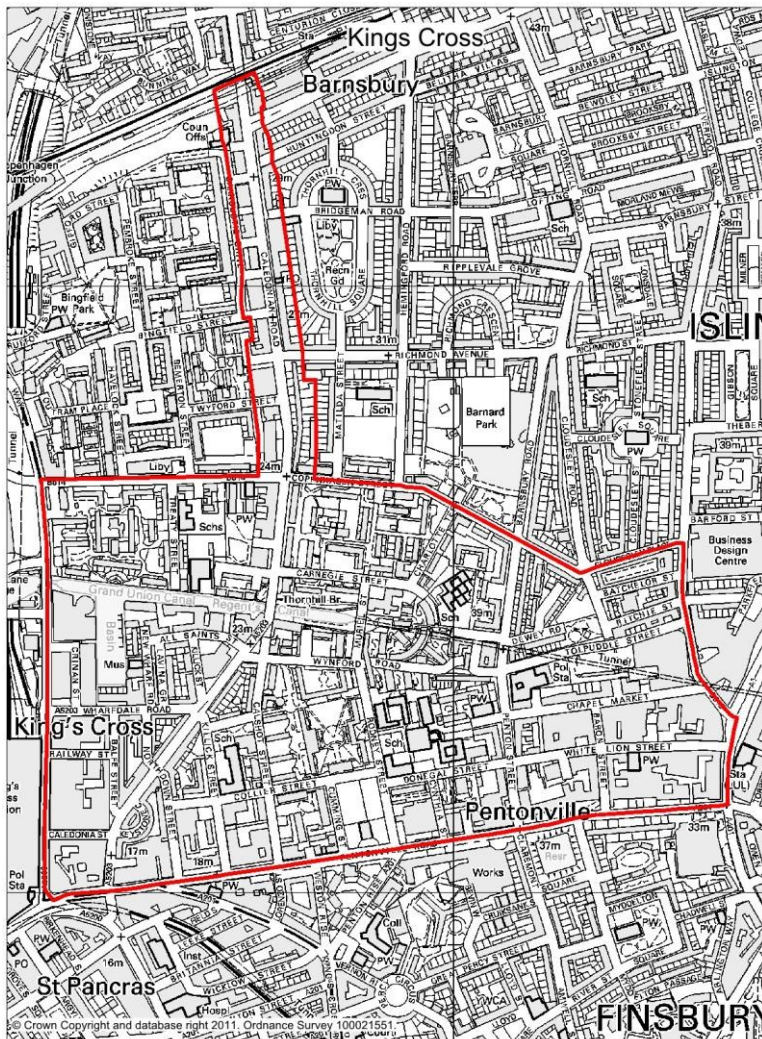
Map of Bunhill Cumulative Impact Area:



KINGS CROSS CUMULATIVE IMPACT AREA

2017 Profile of Licenced Premises in Kings Cross Cumulative Impact Area	
Pubs, bars, clubs	27
Restaurants and cafes	36
Shops	23
Culture/leisure	2
Takeaways	12
Other	8
Total	108
Premises selling alcohol after midnight	30 (28%)

Map of Kings Cross Cumulative Impact Area:



ANGEL AND UPPER STREET CUMULATIVE IMPACT AREA

2017 Profile of Licenced Premises Angel and Upper Street Cumulative Impact Area	
Pubs, bars, clubs	50
Restaurants and cafes	95
Shops	24
Culture/leisure	8
Takeaways	13
Other	13
Total	203
Premises selling alcohol after midnight	47 (23%)

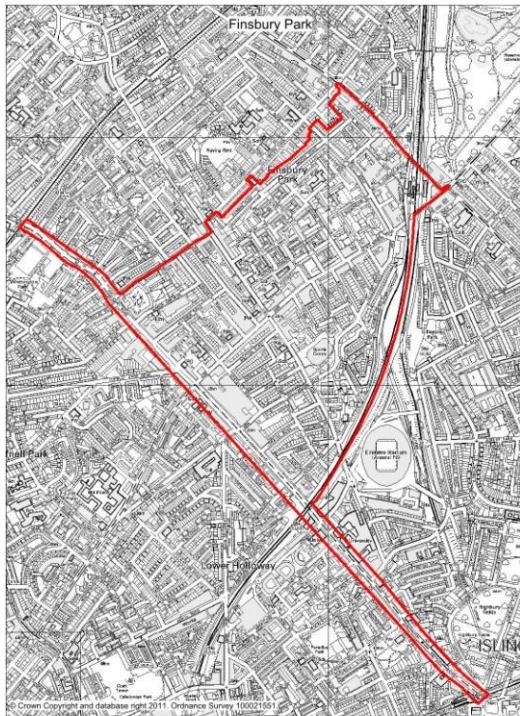
Map of Angel and Upper Street Cumulative Impact Area



HOLLOWAY AND FINSBURY PARK CUMULATIVE IMPACT AREA

2017 Profile of Licenced Premises Holloway and Finsbury Park Cumulative Impact Area	
Pubs, bars, clubs	18
Restaurants and cafes	54
Shops	18
Culture/leisure	2
Takeaways	14
Other	30
Total	136
Premises selling alcohol after midnight	45 (33%)

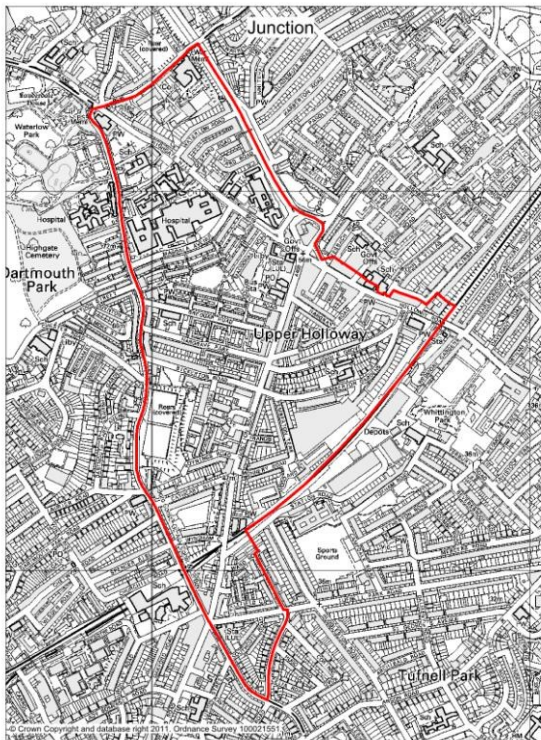
Map of Holloway and Finsbury Park Cumulative Impact Area



ARCHWAY CUMULATIVE IMPACT AREA

2017 Profile of Licenced Premises in Archway Cumulative Impact Area	
Pubs, bars, clubs	13
Restaurants and cafes	16
Shops	20
Culture/leisure	0
Takeaways	11
Other	3
Total	63
Premises selling alcohol after midnight	24 (38%)

Map of Archway Cumulative Impact Area





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Summary Respondents Reports Export Crosstabs

Activity

100% Completion Rate



229 Visits

41 Responses

41 Complete

0 Incomplete

Responses

Created with Raphaël 2.1.004812162017-10-232017-10-122017-10-012017-09-20

Filter: None ▼

Channels: 5 selected channels ▼

Hide incomplete responses

1. We are proposing to maintain our 6 cumulative impact areas.

Where the impact of a significant number of licenced premises concentrated in one area has a significant impact on crime, disorder and public nuisance or public safety the council can make it a cumulative impact area. Cumulative impact areas allow the council to impose stricter controls and limitations on applications for new premises licences.

Our intended approach is described in draft Licensing Policy 3 and paragraphs 10-72.


Do you agree with our approach? | [View responses](#)

Yes	89%		34
No	13%		5
Please add any further comments:	26%		10
Total respondents			38
Respondents who skipped this question			3

2. We are proposing to maintain our key policies relating to framework closing hours and to specify framework opening hours for different types of licensed premises. These are described in draft Licensing Policies 5 and 6 and paragraphs 82-91.

Do you agree with our approach? | [View responses](#)

Yes	76%		29
No	21%		8

Please add any further comments:	42%		16
Total respondents			38
Respondents who skipped this question			3

3. The objectives of our current Licensing Policy are to:

- Carefully manage the number of late night premises supplying alcohol, imposing restrictions where appropriate
- Encourage and support businesses that are unlikely to add to the cumulative impact in terms of crime, disorder and public nuisance
- Seek to promote high standards of management in licensed premises to ensure businesses operate responsibly and the experiences of residents and visitors are not ruined by poorly run businesses both on the premises and in the surrounding environment

We are proposing to add the two following new objectives:

- Promote a safe, welcoming and varied evening economy where businesses work with the Licensing Authority and Responsible Authorities
- Safeguard the interests of vulnerable residents and children

Do you agree with these objectives? | [View responses](#)

Yes	87%		34
No	13%		5
Please add any further comments:	26%		10
Total respondents			39
Respondents who skipped this question			2

4. The Kings Cross Cumulative Impact Area covers the section of Caledonian Road to the south of the the railway bridge at the junction with Offord Road. We are proposing to extend this cumulative impact area to the junction with Frederica Street and Wheelright Street.



Paragraphs 35-44 of the draft Licensing Policy cover the Kings Cross Cumulative Impact Area.


Do you agree with our proposal? | [View responses](#)

Yes	92%		35
No	5%		2
Please add any further comments:	11%		4
Total respondents			38
Respondents who skipped this question			3

5. We are concerned about the cumulative impacts of crime, disorder, public nuisance and public safety associated with the number of off licences operating in the borough. We are proposing to introduce a borough wide cumulative impact policy relating to off sales of alcohol to enable the council to impose stricter controls and limitations on applications for new premises licensed for the sale of alcohol for consumption off the premises. Draft Licensing Policy 4 and paragraphs 73-81 explain the intended approach.

Do you agree with our approach? | [View responses](#)

Yes	87%		34
No	10%		4

Please add any further comments:	33%		13
Total respondents			39
Respondents who skipped this question			2

6. The council works with the police and licenced trade to minimise the impact of alcohol related crime, disorder and antisocial behaviour and to ensure public safety on Arsenal match days. The current Licensing Policy outlines the arrangements that it expects pub, bars and clubs to implement on match days and the proposal is to extend these match day controls to any new premises providing off sales of alcohol on match days. Draft Licensing Policy 15 and paragraphs 116-117 explain the intended approach.

Do you agree with our approach? | [View responses](#)

Yes	85%		33
No	8%		3
Please add any further comments:	8%		3
Total respondents			39
Respondents who skipped this question			2

7. We are proposing a new policies on:

- safeguarding women and young adults frequenting pubs, bars and clubs
(See draft Licensing Policy 20 and paragraphs 127-128)

- preventing public nuisance
(See draft Licensing Policy 21 and paragraphs 129-130)

Do you agree with this approach? | [View responses](#)





Yes	77%		30
No	3%		1
Please add any further comments:	21%		8
Total respondents			39
Respondents who skipped this question			2

8. Please use the box below to provide any other comments that you would like us to consider when determining our Licensing Policy for 2018-2022.

Comments: | [View responses](#)

Total respondents			18
Respondents who skipped this question			23

9. Could you please tell us if you are a:

Local resident	76%		31
Body representing local residents	5%		2
Local business owner	12%		5
Body representing local business	5%		2

Premises license holder, DPS, manager or personal license holder	5%		2
Body representing local premises or personal license holders	0%		0
Responsible authority:	2%		1
Total respondents			41
Respondents who skipped this question			0

10. If you represent a responsible authority, or a body representing local residents, local businesses, or local premises or personal license-holders, please provide the name of the body you represent: | [View responses](#)

Total respondents			6
Respondents who skipped this question			35

Q1: Please add any further comments on our approach to cumulative impact:

Moreover, the policy should be strengthened (which would be supported by the vast majority of local residents, at least around Upper Street). By way of example, paragraph 11 of the draft policy should place a higher burden on applicants than mere 'unlikelihood' that applications will increase cumulative impact. Applicants should be required to show that any application would be VERY unlikely to add to the cumulative anti-social and criminal behaviour which the plethora of licenses already granted give rise to.

Approach gets abused by police and council to selectively target minority interests making the borough less diverse. Police and councillors can't be trusted

The cumulative impact area status has been extremely helpful in Archway with regard to applications for off licences and extended licensing hours which residents do not wish to see.

Fewer licences please

The approach seems to simply include any commercially busy area rather than areas of particularly high crime and should be reviewed

Checks on CCTV need to be carried out as far too many pubs have poor quality CCTV that does not help the Police.

It must also take into account the effect on residents and the area as a whole. Too many licences premises in one area will change the whole character and affect the existing businesses, rent levels, and increase noise throughout the day.

Licensing policy and the cumulative impact policy areas have been broadly effective thus far, and have met the objectives of reducing crime, anti-social behaviour and alcohol-related ambulance call outs across the borough. This has resulted in significant reductions in crime since 2011, including a 9% fall in calls to police about anti-social behaviour, a 24% fall in calls to the Council's out of hour's anti-social behaviour team between 2015 and 2016. However, the policy suggests maintaining largely the same restrictions on cumulative impact areas, the evidence to support this is weak given the falls in crime. There is not any evidence to suggest that maintaining the same levels of restrictions would cause crime rates and anti-social behaviour to reduce any further, particularly as crime and ASB levels have largely now flat lined at a lower level. Clerkenwell is an area that is already seeing huge inward investment due to the transformation of Farringdon Station ahead of Crossrail. The licensing policy acknowledges this growth, but makes no attempt to capitalise on it. The Clerkenwell cumulative impact policy is highly restrictive and proposals will prevent the growth and development of the ENTE in an area that is very likely to become a much more central, urban, 24 hour location once Crossrail is in operation. The crime and disorder concerns in the area have been particularly focused on street drinking, which is numerically very small. We welcome the new policy on off sales as directly targeting this issue. The focus should be shifted onto diversifying the ENTE in Clerkenwell and Bunhill cumulative impact areas. This has the strong potential to create a safe, more diverse and accessible ENTE in the area. When combined with high standards of premises management and partnership work with the council over ASB, further falls in crime and disorder could be achieved as well as a significant boost to the local economy. There is some movement on this in terms of the flexibility around possible exceptions to the Clerkenwell Policy (24.a). We welcome this but feel that a more strategic and flexible approach could be taken that looks at shaping the area as a more mature and diverse ENTE destination. This could particularly encourage high quality, culture led, non-vertical drinking type establishments being part of the mix of licensed premises past the framework hours. The Mayor of London's vision for London as a 24 hours city promotes this model, acknowledging that the city must change to accommodate changing working patterns and the expectations of visitors to a global city. London is increasingly a 24 hour city, yet this policy would maintain the post 11pm offer as largely alcohol-led clubs and bars, rather than a more varied offer. Since Islington's licensing policy was last reviewed, the area has seen significant investment in infrastructure and the public realm, including the introduction of the night tube. There is no recognition of this improved connectivity in the draft policy, which means that people are able to move around the borough more easily late at night on weekends. This presents an opportunity to maximise and diversify the ENTE in the area, and accommodate more flexible and staggered closing times, which the retention of cumulative impact areas in the same way would not support.

We would like to see examples of occasions where the Council has rejected applications on the basis of cumulative impact concerns and for there to be minimum steps applicants should be required to evidence when setting out steps they will take to promote the licensing objectives and mitigate potential cumulative impact issues.

Other comments

The interests of local residents, particularly those in cumulative impact areas, should be paramount. At present, applicants are able to make repeated applications which must be opposed if they are not be granted. This burden should not be on local residents. If this is the statutory framework within which the Authority must operate, the government should be asked to make the appropriate changes. If it is not, then the Authority should make clear that it will take into account the refusal of previous applications, whether or not similar, (i) from any applicant, (ii) in relation to any licensed premises.

Islington Council's licensing authority have gone power mad and need to be scaled back. Decisions they make do not reflect the wider community in the borough and are too influenced by police and councillors colluding for too narrow a set of interests. Stop before it gets too late and we have a hollowed out corporate shell of a borough with no diversity or anything for young people to do

It's great that you consider noise to be a pollutant. It is a serious public nuisance and health hazard.

It's also great that you recognise that excessive alcohol consumption is a public nuisance and a health hazard, including the broken glass that accompanies it. So, great, be brave with your controls to preserve the quality and safeness of the public realm and those affected by selfish behaviour!

A number of social problems are linked to unnecessary liberal licensing

The banning policy in licence policy 18 paragraph 119 is counter productive. For instance in the case of [REDACTED] stops people from seeking medical help knowing that they will be permanently banned from a popular venue. I have witnessed intoxicated people seeking to hide from staff in the venue rather than seek help. Rather I propose that anyone in need of help be offered amnesty from receiving a ban, ideally the only bans received would be to anyone found in possession with intent to supply and extended across Islington. Restrictive nightclub policies such as these only drive young people towards the incredibly unsafe environments in unlicensed warehouse parties which are hugely disruptive to local residents and businesses.

I would like number of residents adjacent to licensed premises to be taken into account. And also introduce a 10pm restriction on outside drinking. This. Would make a massive difference to noise in the evening. I currently cannot really go to bed until about 11.30 pm because of local pubs.

Basically, the Council's policies are good, but efforts should be made to stop early morning/ very late night alcohol sales. Also (I know its hard) high alcohol / too cheap alcohol (example the 'Ace' brand of 7.5% cider) should not be sold in Islington. Not sure how it can be done/ but its a problem

The huge increase over the recent years in shops selling alcohol has had a very detrimental effect on everyone (the drinkers themselves and of course residents). Licences to small shops must stop and those that already have licences should have restricted hours. Archway has a number of shops selling alcohol 24 hours, these should not be permitted and should be reviewed with regard to the impact this is having.

Islington is in danger of losing its diverse nightlife. When I first moved here, there were many independent bars and clubs, many of which are now closing due to high rents and restrictions. This includes the diversity that has been lost by the closure of just about every LGBTQ venue in the borough. Please be careful to consider the benefits to residents, to London as a whole and to your own revenue stream of our night time economy.

This is a summary of comments received from 9 local residents and business owners. It is a strong policy and we appreciate the hard work behind it. LBI are encouraged to hold their ground to make it work on the ground.

Premises are often run by junior short term staff with limited understanding or interest in licencing objectives. This means few intervene to enforce noise and outside drinking policies.

Any encouragement to local workers to stay in the local area after work needs more focus. There are already many large office groups standing inside and outside pubs and bars, often causing obstruction and noise disturbance. We strongly support restrictions on outside drinking. The policy alludes to this and we consider 10 pm a very reasonable limit. Many of the policies need practical support and enforcement. These include clear signage on when to move inside and where outside drinking is allowed, more obvious notices regarding impact on neighbours, allowing the Nightsafe team to levy on the spot fines for public urination, enforcement of highway regulations to stop pavements being blocked.

Enforcement is key to delivery of licensing objectives. Local residents and business owners cannot police night time activity. The Nightsafe team is a welcome support but operates later than some of the anti-social behaviour outside bars and pubs. We know that resources are tight but investment in enforcement may create a more popular and safer environment.

There are some areas where special considerations should apply. I live near Camden Passage so I will restrict my comments to that.

This section (from the York to the Camden Head) used to attract visitors from outside the Borough to buy antiques. It was full of independent self employed business people.

The streets and passages are narrow and noise travels and bounces off the buildings.It is also a dense residential area. Most of the shops have a least on flat above and there are buildings which are totally residential.

With the effect of 9/11 and the increase in rates and rents the antique dealers have in the main left but it is still Council policy to support and promote small independent businesses and also to limit the number of food and drink outlets. My information is that it is one food/drink to three non food/drink.

In the past few years there has been a slow eating into this policy and alcohol licences seem to have been granted on the basis that because of the size of the outlet another one will not have an effect of the "cumulative impact"

The outcome is that in the western stretch of Camden Passage from the Breakfast Club to Crepe affair there are only 3 retail outlets without an alcohol licence..In the remainder of the passage there are a further 6 licensed premises some large areas. Then there are the two pubs at the end.That is 13 properties in total in a cumulative impact area where before the policy there were only 5- two pubs and 3 longstanding family restaurants.

One result is the landlords have been able to increase rents because alcohol has a huge profit margin and that means that other traders cannot get a foothold on the passage. Soon it will not be a destination area but a series of food outlets or an alley way from the station to Essex road. This will be to the detriment of the passage and the borough as a whole and is also against Council planning policy.

In addition the noise has increased not only in the passage but also in the surrounding streets as people go back to their cars. There is also more ASB-and not just late at night.

The new licensing policy should specifically provide that no new licenses will be granted unless one is surrendered.

Any new licences granted on the surrender of an existing one should be restricted to 8pm, in acknowledgement of the large number of residential properties and the peculiarities of the architecture.

Any licences granted should only be to premises which are food led and there should be no vertical drinking.

This will not only protect residents but may also help cap rents enable Camden Passage once again to become an independent retail area and would support the Council's planning policy for the area

I would like the Council to put a clause in about access for Disabled People. At present there are too many pubs which do not even when they are revamping the place.

For question 7, For safeguarding women and young adults frequenting pubs, bars and clubs, I think you mean paragraphs 122-123

Islington's previous Licensing Policies have shown a proportionate response to the needs of residents and the users of licensed premises and I support the proposals in the new draft policy.

We feel that the overall tone of the policy is quite negative, and focuses too heavily on the harms associated with alcohol consumption and the nuisance that late night businesses can cause to residents. There is almost no recognition of the benefits that licenced premises or the ENTE bring to the borough in terms of investment, jobs, tourism, and local economic growth. While there is a detailed evidence base looking at the harms and the costs of the ENTE, there is no equivalent strategic view and costings of the opportunities and benefits that the ENTE brings, which is likely to be on balance positive.

There should also be greater recognition of all the work that premises have done over recent years to improve management and meet their licencing objectives. Licence holders have also increased their financial contribution to the borough's economy, despite having little flexibility as a result of work and crime reductions. We appreciate it is a challenge for a local authority to capture some of the value of the ENTE, while the costs largely fall on them. We hope that measures such as the Late Night Levy have mitigated some of that concern.

As mentioned in response to question 7, we would support the introduction of an 'agent of change' principle, which would protect exiting licensed and cultural venues threatened by new residential properties. This is especially important in Farringdon and Clerkenwell given the expected growth in the area over the coming years.

A number of the policies set out in the document are not backed up by a sufficient evidence base, and the evidence provided largely focuses on the harm associated with alcohol. For example, there is little evidence to support the continuation of restrictions on cumulative impact areas, or around the issue of ambient noise. Associated complaints have been falling in both these areas, and there is no explanation as to why greater flexibility would be harmful, or indeed whether they may be a benefit from encouraging a more diverse ENTE in Islington.

In relation to para 48, possible exceptions to the Angel and Upper Street Cumulative Impact Policy; One of the exceptions is "premises that change the area from being a place where people live work and shop to an area where people socialise in the early evening". This seems an extremely wide exception. Is it meant to prioritise early evening drinking over later evening drinking? If so, it is badly worded. The area already has a significant evening economy. The off sales related exception is proposed only in relation to this area. The exception relating to alcohol lead premises seating 100% of customers, is also wide. The combined consideration of these exceptions could make the Angel and Upper Street cumulative impact area a nominal designation.

Alcohol WITH food is best

Special consideration needed for Camden Passage where residential and retail is closely situated. Impact on local community of noise and anti social behaviour should be given greater importance by the Licensing Authority

No more licences should be granted in Camden Passage!

Q7: Please add any further comments on our new proposed safeguarding women and young adults:

These will just be used by police and councillors to destroy diversity and small neighbourhood bars. Police and council can't be trusted and don't represent the wider borough

Excellent idea.

Noise is also a hazard for people inside the venue, particularly staff, leading to loss of hearing. Limits should be imposed for health reasons.

It should be mandatory that there is a smoke-free zone of at least 5m of the outside walls (not just the entrance) of any restaurant/bar/pub (whatever) which has residents living above it. Patrons go outside to smoke and hang around just below the windows/balconies of residents, talking and smoking until - and after - closing time, causing nuisance. Smokers need to be kept away from these buildings. Many also are smoking pot, not just smoking, based on my experience of walking around Islington in late evenings.

again active enforcement is needed

all collections(not just glass) and deliveries should be avoided in those hours. Delivery van drivers slam their doors,the deliveries themselves can be noisy(metal beer barrels) and when reversing the vehicle emits warning sirens.

We strongly support Policy 20, and believe that it is important for licence holders to be able to demonstrate measures they are taking to ensure the safety of all customers and staff, and to protect women and young adults. This policy will help ensure that businesses behave responsibly, and that evening and late night venues in Islington are welcoming and safe environments for all. We are supportive of Policy 21 in principle, as we want to encourage all businesses to maintain high standards of management. However, it is important that a fear of creating extra public nuisance does not infringe on the council's willingness to grant licencing applications to new businesses that can demonstrate their application meets the objectives of the policy. Connected to Policy 21, is a particular concern around the language of Policy 22 related to noise associated with licensed premises. While it is stated that Islington is keen to preserve a diverse mix of premises and achieve a balance between the protection of residents and the noise associated with licenced premises, we do not believe that Policy 22 goes far enough to protect exiting license holders. For example, there are no protections against new residential developments making existing commercial premises unsustainable due to noise complaints. In line with GLA planning guidance, the 'agent of change' principle should be applied to this policy, which would mean that the person or business responsible for the change is also responsible for managing the impact of the change and there should be a level of protection for exiting venues from complaints. Farringdon and Clerkenwell is a part of the GLA's Central Activities Zone, which means that the area will be undergoing substantial changes with regards residential and commercial developments. Draft Policy 22 may mean that businesses will have to respond to any changes to accommodate new residents' demands, and absorb the costs associated with this. Introducing an 'agent of change' principle would mitigate any negative impact that upcoming developments in Farringdon and Clerkenwell may have on existing businesses.

Please just remember impact on local residents: after being woken in the night by drunken noise residents have to go to work as usual

Q6: Please add any further comments of proposal to extend match day controls to new off licences:

Broken glass in the streets is also a hazard for cyclists. It causes punctures and when cyclists swerve to avoid the hazard, their safety is put at risk by speeding traffic. The dangers should not be under-estimated and stiff fines should be imposed for licence holders that leave broken glass in the street outside of their premises.

Better CCTV needed

Q5: Please add any further comments on our proposed approach towards off licences:

Off licences provide a convenient service to the public. Council should back off

See above, this would also help reduce the number of outlets which sell to under age drinkers.

Sales of alcohol are becoming a public nuisance

The council should seek to enforce higher standards in off licences such as dummy purchases and random inspections. Simply reducing the number of off licences won't improve the quality of the existing off licences. People will simply obtain their alcohol from another store.

I think all 'off sales' should be limited to 11.00pm. But IN REALITY off-sales go on until 12.00pm. Enforcement examples should be made. Also known alcoholics should be refused alcohol at all times . This is NOT done. Alcohol should NOT be available before 12.00 noon on ANY day outside of pubs or bars

Yes absolutely essential. Street drinking is endemic with far too many shops selling alcohol. No more, and those must be restricted and regularly checked.

Again if you limit hours and monitor the issues described you will see a reduction.

This will have a chilling effect on small local businesses which are good for the community, and favour supermarkets which 1) aggressively discount cheap alcohol in a coordinated way with suppliers which smaller off licences cannot afford to do, and typically play less of a constructive role in their local community than smaller, independent retailers.

the proposals require new investment in enforcement

Bullet point 4 of 75 should include hospitals and there may emerge other areas where no new licences should be granted so wording needs to be amended to enable other sensitive uses to be added e.g "premises which are no in the vicinity of other premises where the ability to purchase alcohol could have a serious deleterious affect for example but not limited to schools,wet or dry centres,mental health establishments,hospitals and street population hot spots"

We welcome the introduction of a policy to combat the cumulative impact of off sales of alcohol. This policy offers some recognition that licensed venues are rarely the primary cause of street drinking and public nuisance. However, refusing licensing applications for late night premises may not always be the most effective way to counter this cumulative impact, and it is important that applications that would diversify the late-night offer, particularly those that are not alcohol led are given special consideration. This policy, along with policy 14, mentions that license holders will be expected to refrain from selling 'high strength alcohol'. While we are supportive of this aim in principle, the policy offers no definition of what is considered 'high strength', which renders the policy somewhat redundant as it is difficult for licence-holders to follow an undefined policy.

We would like better information on how the Council will assess the risk that alcohol purchased will be consumed in the street is minimum.

Agree strongly

Q4: Please add any further comments to proposal to extend the Kings cross CIP:

Council is going too far in its nanny state approach. We have cleaned up street prostitution and drugs, now let law-abiding fun follow. Not everyone wants to be in bed by 10:30, councillors.

to consider other 'hot-spot areas'

As Kings Cross does not fall within our mandated area of responsibility, this question is not relevant to Bee Midtown.

Q2: Please add any further comments on our approach to framework hours :

The Night Club hours are too long - to the detriment of local residents.

Council should be providing more flexibility, staggering closing times and supporting smaller businesses over corporate chains

Feedback from Archway residents indicates significant support for this, together with concerns about the nature of Archway Centre late at night, where the availability of alcohol contributes significantly to concerns regarding anti social behaviour.

Based on personal experience I am very concerned that a premise can apply for an extension to their licensed hours, have it rejected, and then can reapply again - seemingly without limit, within a very short period of time. Decisions on licensing hours should remain binding for a minimum of 5 years before any change to that decision can be sought. Also, any bars/pubs/restaurants which have residential premises above them should be limited to a latest 11pm licensing on any day (including Fri/Sat) and 10pm Sundays. More needs to be done to ensure that this is the closing time, not "last orders" which allows another 20 minutes of drinking up time. More enforcement officers are needed.

Not too many very late hours opening

Having short closing times only furthers disorder as it encourages riskier binge drinking due to the limited time with which to consume alcohol. These patrons will all be ejected at the same time at 2am causing disturbances between each other, and increased noise. When patrons leave at staggered times of their own accord, the risk of violence and noise is minimised as there are less groups coming into contact with each other.

I would like the council to bring down to 10pm any outside drinking in line with other councils such as Camden. I have two puts within hearing distance and am cumulatively affected by noise after this time. In addition, I would like to see enforcement when residents complain. The council licensing department can be very lax when disturbances are reported and appear to be more supportive of the businesses rather than the residents. I have personal experience of this and I have no confidence the council will support residents who live close to licensed premises

None

there needs to be fewer off-licence shops where alcohol is available for such long hours (9am-11pm increases daytime drinking)

You should trial closing at 11pm in an area and see the results. You would have to make this area / section large enough for it to be effective. Maybe consider a reduction in business rates for the premises involved in the scheme. We live in modern times and licensing laws and permissions have moved with that but that doesn't always equal improvement. The trouble that is related to alcohol is nearly always when too much has been drunk and after 11pm so try something like this and break with what every other borough and District councils are doing in the UK.

still too generous ivo local stats on drink related problems

Each licence application should be judged on the area in which the premises are located. Some premises should not be permitted to remain open into 11pm at any time ;for example those in an area where there are children or the sick or elderly.

We consider the hours proposed for off licences and off sales are too long.

Food served with alcohol is not only beneficial it reduces likelihood of aggression and violence

Q3: Please add any further comments on proposal to promote a diverse evening economy and safeguard children and vulnerable residents:

The second objective should (obviously) be to safeguard the interests of ALL residents (and visitors), particularly vulnerable residents and children.

Alcohol consumption is a key appeal for smaller venues and nobody stays late in a venue once alcohol stops being served. This will destroy businesses and leave nothing in their place.

We are keenly aware of issues relating to fake branded alcohol sold by mini markets who are happy to sell to under-age buyers. This constitutes a serious health challenge for those who ignore warnings about the danger of fake booze. While we appreciate that LB Islington needs to follow due process there would be support for an immediate loss of a licence for businesses found to be selling this type of product.

There may also be a need to consider the impact on other businesses as well as residents

Please see my above comment about enforcement, which the council is poor on, in my experience,

As stated in previous answer. But you also need a visible police presence in the areas concerned and adequate, properly trained private security at premises /venues.

Your main stress is late night premises and cumulative impact in terms of crime. "Ruin is too emotive a word it should be adversely affected. The objectives should apply to all applications. The two new objectives conflict with each other. The interests of all residents should be protected-in some cases they are the overwhelming majority in an area-"vulnerable" is a subjective term and should be deleted. The licensing committee may have no idea if there are any residents who have mental health issues heart complaints or cancer and the like.All residents including children need their interests protected.

N/A

Impact on local residents is also important, many of the bars and restaurants are situated in residential areas

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Licensing](#)
Subject: New Licensing Policy 2018 - 2022
Date: 29 October 2017 17:37:59

**For the attention of Ms Janice Gibbons
Service Manager (Environmental Health)**

Dear Ms Gibbons

Thank you for your letter of 18 September 2017 asking for comments on your proposed licensing policy for the period 2018 to 2022, which I set out below.

My main issue is that there has been a huge increase in the number of licences that have been granted in the Camden Passage area, including nearby Upper Street and Essex Road.

I understand your desire to have a vibrant night time economy, although I do not agree that this should be promoted, as you suggest. You are aware that alcohol related crime and disorder is a major concern, and that you are mindful that Islington has become saturated with late night premises selling alcohol.

In my opinion, we have now arrived at a point where more constraint needs to be imposed by the Council. In essence, the grant of licences should not be at the expense of the residents who live in the area, and who largely arrived before the bars etc.

Specifically, there are very many residents in Camden Passage, and they feel the considerable impact of the significant number of licenses that have been granted. This also flows into Charlton Place, which leads off Camden Passage.

I believe that the new policy should identify Camden Passage and the top end of Charlton Place (alongside Upper Street) as being considered to have special treatment. No new licences should be granted unless one is rescinded.

By having this special treatment, Camden Passage would act a quieter buffer between the vibrant Upper Street, and the residential streets behind.

Regarding hours for new licences in Camden Passage, I consider that Off Sales should be until 8pm, with other licences until 11pm (Licensing Policy 6). This would reflect the proposal for a quieter buffer.

Away from Camden Passage, I consider the following changes to the hours proposed under Licensing Policy 6:

- Public Houses and Bars: 8am to 11pm all days of the week
- Restaurants, Cafes & Coffee Shops: 8am to 11pm all days of the week
- Hot food and drink supplied by takeaways & fast food premises: 11pm to midnight all days of the week

I am happy to discuss this, should you so wish.

Regards

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Licensing](#)
Subject: licensing policy 2018-2022
Date: 27 October 2017 12:55:56

I have completed the survey but the lay out of that is such that I could not fully express my views on certain aspects so I am setting them out here.

The policy will affect the lives of both residents and businesses for the next 4/5 years and as such must take account of possible future trends as well as learning from the past. Whilst the control of late night premises is logical the problems do not just happen after midnight there are issues earlier in the evening and in the afternoon and people often buy alcohol early and preload.

I have noticed that when applicants come to committee they assume that if they come within one of the exceptions then they are entitled to a licence even if the premises are in a cumulative impact area. There is a general assumption that a licence should be granted if they close by 11 pm. The policy and the subsequent decisions of the committees should make it clear that licences are not automatic unless there are no objections.

Page 1 Para 6 -In introduction there is a statement that residents continue to suffer from late night anti-social behaviour. This is true but they also suffer from antisocial behaviour at other times after the wine bars pubs and off licences open. Such problems can start as early as 4pm. Thus the licensing policy should not just manage the number of late night premises supplying alcohol but all premises. This is not to say they will not be granted a licence but if they are in a problem area then additional restrictions may be required

Page 2 final paragraph -It is correct that poorly licensed managed premises can have an impact on local residents and this impact is negative. I live in Duncan Terrace and it is not uncommon to see people drinking on the grass banks, on the steps of houses and in the park from lunch time onwards-sometimes before. Thus the control should not be restricted to late night activities.

As I live within the Angel and Upper Street cumulative impact area I will restrict my specific comments to this part of the proposed policy.

Paragraph 45

-

The council should not just be addressing the impact of late night venues on local residents but all venues. IF it is thought that the venue might have an adverse impact on residents during the day then the licence should not be granted. The words "late night" should be deleted

-

Paragraph 48

The Council should not be encouraging an area to change character from a place where people live to a commercial area by granting alcohol licences. This will cause more noise in residential areas where there will be children, sick and the elderly all of whom need some peace in the afternoon and evening. The word "live" should be deleted from bullet point 2.

Bullet point 4 should be removed. There are already enough alcohol lead premises in this area and the addition of 100 more drinkers, whether seated or not, will add to the cumulative impact it cannot do otherwise. The fact that there are seats for them is not the issue and seats do not mean people will use them and they will go outside to smoke and socialise. Even if there is food

available there is no obligation for it to be served.

Camden Passage used to be a specialist market which attracted visitors from outside Islington who came and purchased antiques and other specialist items. The Council refers to the area as being one which attract visitors because of, amongst other things its “interesting niche or independent shops” Camden Passage has changed substantially and will soon die as a destination venue unless something is done to preserve the unique nature of small specialist shops. It did undergo a metamorphosis into retro fashion and specialist clothes area but these shops are having trouble meeting the rates and rent and they need help and support from the Council. Licensing should play its part in helping non-alcohol led traders keep solvent.

Alcohol has one of the highest profit margins in the retail and catering trade-along with coffee and tea. The licensing policy can do nothing about the proliferation of coffee shops and take away cafes but it can refuse licences. In the past I think that committees have looked at individual applications of what are fairly small premises and assumed that they are not going to add to the crime rate. The result is that a number of licences have been granted and the whole picture has not been looked at. There are now a substantial number of licences premises within that section of Camden Passage and Islington High Street which runs from the York to the Camden Head. People will not come into the borough to buy French cheese and a bottle of wine or to eat a crepe with a glass of beer.

In addition the passage is now an area which is as residential as it is retail and the rights of those residents should be taken into account.

In recognition of the unique character of the passage and the lay out of the passage itself (narrow streets of stone which echo sound) no new licences should be granted at all unless one is surrendered and this should be put into the Licensing Policy so that landlords and prospective tenants are in no doubt as to the outcome and will take this into account in any negotiations for shop leases.

Paragraph 49

-

This should specifically include a dispersal policy. Some patrons of the licenced establishments in Essex Road use Camden Passage as a route to the station and buses and also, along with Charlton Place, as a urinal or worse. Some of the patrons turn down St Peters street into Colebrooke Row which they use for similar purpose. They have a tendency to laugh shout and in some cases sing and any unaffixed street furniture or cones can be used as footballs. This is noisy and on Friday and Saturday often occurs at 4am. There is little point in alerting the noise team as by the time they arrive it is all over.

Licensing Policy 23

All collections and deliveries in an area where people live should be outside the hours of 23.00-7.00. Collections and deliveries are noisy whatever they are. Doors bang ,engines are often left to run and the delivery drivers sometimes have their radio on.

Licensing Policy 4 para 75

-

Given the length of this policy this should not be a definitive list and more may be needed especially bullet point 4.

[REDACTED]

atch response to Draft Licensing Policy 2018-22

This response is submitted by [REDACTED] on behalf of the members of the [REDACTED] group.

Licensing Policy No 1

Agreed. No comment

Licensing Policy no 2

The implication here is that, if the premises is located in an area of cumulative impact, then the Licensing Authority will not agree to vary the license to extend hours. This appears to override any of the other considerations listed under this policy. Is this what is intended?

Licensing Policy no 3

Point 11 appears to contradict the previous policy. We feel that a mixed message is being given out. Will the Licensing Authority be flexible about varying licensing hours given that the applicant meets the conditions under point 14.

Angel Cumulative Impact area

Point 48. We welcome this point which allows for mixed use venues to apply for licenses

Licensing Policy no 4

We support this policy and note point 72.

Licensing Policy no 5

Again point 80 implies that no license extensions will be granted. This, in fact, implies that the reverse is more likely.

Licensing Policy no 6

Whist we accept that these opening hours form the baseline, we would like assurance that extensions, given that the right conditions listed under point 86 are met, are still possible. The Mayor has improved public transport in London and an improved night bus service and some 24-hour tube lines are now in operation. In order to be competitive with other areas of London, Islington needs to have some late opening venues. A lack of late licences will discourage investment in the night-time economy.

Licensing Policy no 7

We fully support this objective

Licensing Policy no 8

We fully support this objective

Licensing Policy no 9

We support this policy but must reiterate that the bars and pubs in the area drive the evening economy. Mixed-use venues will enhance this existing offer.

Licensing Policy no 10

We fully support this policy as long as its implementation is not to the detriment of the existing offer.

Licensing Policy no 11

We fully support this policy.

Licensing Policy no 12

We support the objectives of this policy

Licensing Policy no 13

We support the need for a comprehensive risk assessment in order to obtain a TEN

Licensing Policy no 14

We support this objective but are concerned that point 110 must take into account the nature of the venue concerned.

Licensing Policy no 15

We support the objectives of this policy.

Licensing Policy no 16

Whilst we broadly support the objectives of this policy we hope that the points under 116 will be carefully considered when assessing any licence.

Licensing Policy no 17

We fully support this policy

Licensing Policy no 18

We fully support this policy

Licensing Policy no 19

We fully support this policy

Licensing Policy no 20

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Licensing Policy no 21

We support this policy on principle but we are concerned that some of the public nuisance listed under this policy is beyond the immediate control of the venues. Are the venues responsible for policing the streets beyond their immediate curtilage? How far does their responsibility extend? Our door and security staff cannot police an extended area as this will dilute their efficacy around the venue itself.

Licensing Policy no 22

We support this policy in principle but note that some residents have moved into the area and are now living in close proximity to pre-existing venues. Despite this, we are concerned that their views are always given precedence to the detriment of evening economy businesses.

Licensing Policy no 23

We would like to comply with the WHO recommendations but are, unfortunately, required by Islington Council to only put out our refuse and recycling at specific times, including times which are between the hours of 23.00 and 07.00, Furthermore, we are also required to put our recycling materials out on the public highway for collection at specific times, as above.

Licensing Policy no 24

We support this policy

Licensing Policy no 25

We support this policy

Licensing Policy no 26

We support this policy

Licensing Policy no 27

We support this policy

Licensing Policy no 28

We support this policy

Licensing Policy no 29

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Licensing Policy No 1

Agreed. No comment

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We support this policy

Licensing Policy no 29

We support this policy

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Re Licensing policy 2018-2022

I write re the above.

Cumulative impact

As I write this, I am being subjected to a loud bass line from [REDACTED] on Islington Green, [REDACTED] I have called the Noise Patrol tonight, but as per usual the noise ceased a few minutes before they arrived at my home and recommenced approximately five minutes after I spoke to the team. This is a situation that has been ongoing for more than 15 years.

There is no policy for protecting residents, it appears – and I have recently contacted the council about antisocial behaviour and noise from drunks in the area, which goes on until 5am or 6am after the bars have shut at 4am. I attach an image of [REDACTED] taken on Friday evening – how would you like this operating until 4am opposite your home and have to lie awake listening to the sound of hysterical girls and drunken youths until daybreak? It would, of course, never happen. I can only assume no employee of the council lives around Islington Green and the rest of us can just put up and shut up.

In an area which is residential/commercial, it appears a vast oversight to allow premises to operate until 4am – Islington has the second highest number of licensed premises in London and these need to be zoned away from residential properties. It is equally appalling that a licensed music venue is now operating at the [REDACTED], with all that the music industry brings with it in the shape of the drugs industry and the sex industry. The council seems naïve in its support of such enterprises – and appears to have an unrealistic view of the impact of such venues on the surrounding area. There has already been one terrible murder outside the venue – life in Islington seems to have a very low value compared with the council's determination to squeeze every last drop of revenue out of the drink and entertainment industry.

The council's aim of providing a safe and welcoming evening economy is further undermined by the deaths at [REDACTED] – I have said this before, but you can now literally die on the dancefloor in Islington and yet the council nearly broke its neck to get the club up and running again after what it must have thought was a decent period of "mourning".

Diversity

The council's aim of provide a diverse range of entertainment is just a hollow promise – the evening economy in the borough consists of multifarious opportunities to get drunk, take drugs, have your hearing damaged by loud music, eat junk food – or get run over by the many motorbikes which now use Upper Street as a race track as they roar up and down delivering junk food and, I suspect, drugs.

The literary and theatrical reputation the borough once had has been downgraded since the council decided to turn the central areas of the borough

into a student campus. There is little or no entertainment available to those who do not wish to get drunk, take drugs, or eat junk food. The council makes no effort to court the patronage of older people or seek to encourage restaurants or bars for “grown ups”. There is also nothing available to the elderly in the way of evening entertainment in central Islington – nor to families. Who on earth would wish to visit the N1 centre with small children, when it is usually filled with drunken teens at night?

I have lived here for most of my life and there was a time when, in keeping with the council’s much vaunted Equal Opportunities policy, nightlife in the borough was a very mixed affair, with families, the elderly and groups of all ages and backgrounds visible on Upper Street at night. This no longer happens – the clientele on Upper Street and the surrounding areas is mainly under the age of 25 – and from my own many observations, predominantly white. I find this disgraceful, given this borough’s history of promoting equality.

However, the selling of alcohol and the knock on effects in this area mean that areas such as [REDACTED] – which used to attract a diverse range of people to its restaurants – are also now becoming cheap and cheerful and another drinking alley for the under-25s. It is extraordinarily short sighted that the council has chosen to promote N1 as a great night out for this age group, while ignoring the rest of the community.

The borough is on the doorstep of the city and the law courts – and yet there is no restaurant or bar that would attract people who would be able to bring more revenue to the borough by being able to spend more on fine dining, for example, rather than just getting drunk. The borough now has an international reputation as a place to get drunk in – and very little else.

Off licences

The application by a nail bar in [REDACTED] for a licence appears to sum up how ridiculously over-subscribed this borough has become to the selling of alcohol. The practice of licensing premises to sell alcohol for consumption off the premises does little but create a vicious cycle whereby people get drunk at home, go out and get even more drunk and then return home and drink some more. It also encourages more drinking in the street – when the bars close in this area, the party continues and it is common to see people sitting on benches or walls drinking all through the day. This not only makes the atmosphere intimidating, it also adds to anti-social behaviour, littering and public health problems caused by alcohol – which the council seems to be ignoring. The link between alcohol use and infertility, various cancers and brain and liver disease are all well documented – and yet there seems to be an overall failure to accept responsibility for the problems being stored up by allowing alcohol to be peddled freely to all age groups. The drinking culture in Islington is not the sunny Continental vibe that New Labour promised when it relaxed licensing laws – people are often aggressively drunk outside pubs and bars, as well as at bus stops, in public spaces such as parks and in their own homes. I live very near the [REDACTED] pub, which used to be a quiet, family pub which was well run – it is now another

raucous watering hole with patrons spilling out all over [REDACTED] shrieking and yelling from the moment the pub opens to after it closes at night.

Glasses and bottles are left lying around as drinkers spill out into the passage – and even use the refuse bin as an impromptu table where they leave their trays of empty glasses. There is barely a space in this area where people are not drinking – and this also attracts issues such as buskers and beggars. In the case of buskers, it is not just a man and his guitar – it is a string of performers all over this area spanning out from Angel Tube, and all with full amplification. This area has a reputation for being a place where anything goes and nothing will be done about it – and this has all developed from the drinking culture that has actively been encouraged by the council, in a desperate move to promote this area as a “cool” place to be. It is only cool if you under 25, perhaps a student and have plenty of money to spend on booze every week. It is not cool if you live here, have a family here, are an elderly person here, or live a modest life on one of the many housing estates here – we all have to step over the empty glasses, bottles of urine, patches of vomit and occasionally the drinkers themselves, none of which engenders a feeling of community, as the drinking culture in the borough is primarily aimed at and used by a particular demographic and as such is highly exclusive.

Kings Cross Cumulative Impact Area

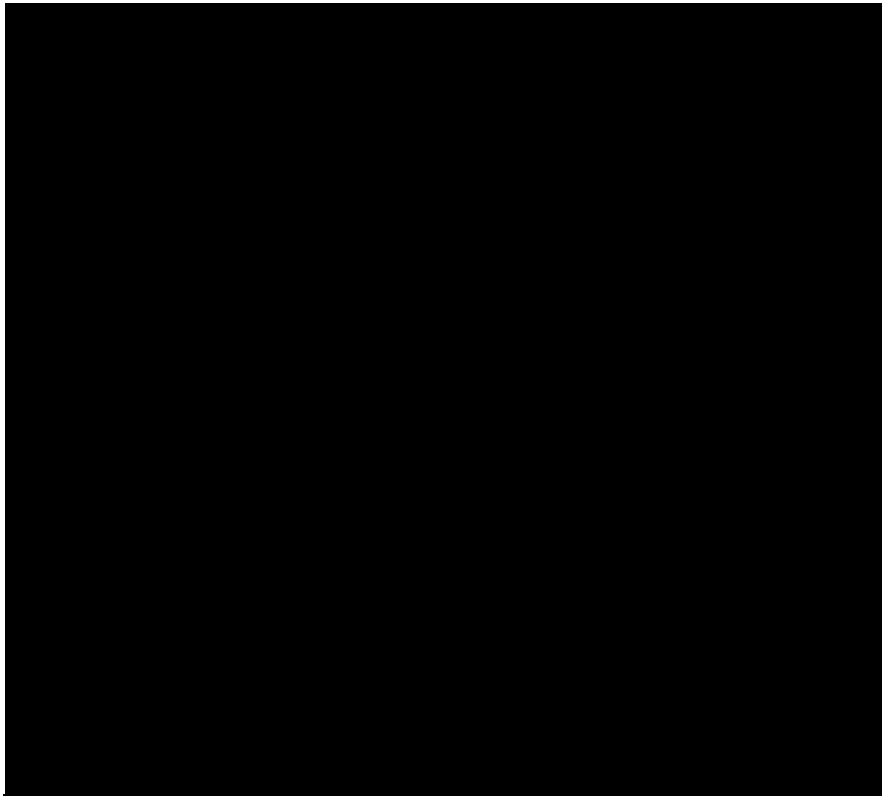
Why not extend the cumulative impact area around central Islington and Islington Green as well, so that we can have our community back and not be held to ransom by those who use this area simply as a place to get drunk in? Islington is a unique borough and central Islington should be used by all those who live here – and not just a particular group of young adults for a particular purpose. If central Islington were taken over almost exclusively by groups of drunken pensioners at night, there would soon be questions asked. Why should the rest of the community have to tolerate areas of the borough being colonised to the extent they become no-go areas for everyone else?

The atmosphere on Upper Street at night can be extremely threatening – and I know this from going out to investigate noise from the bars opposite where I live [REDACTED]. There is absolutely no policing at night in this area – and drinkers are allowed to do as they please, from sliding down lamp posts drunk, to dancing in the traffic, or just fighting each other.

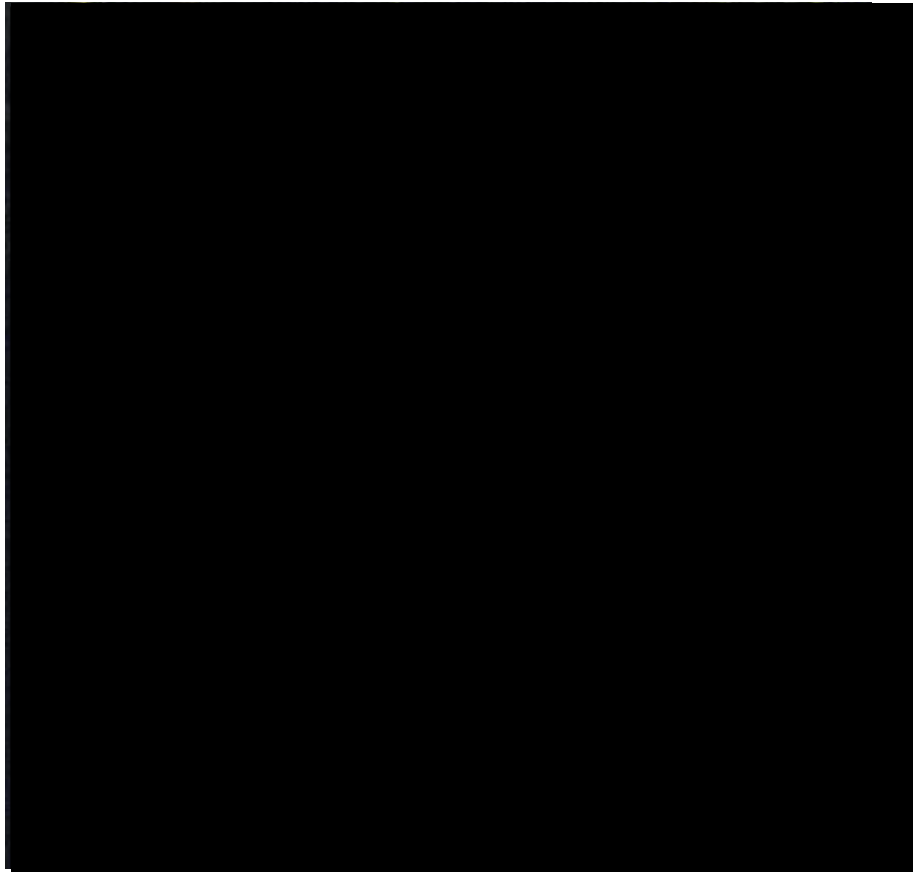
There is also evidence that drugs are openly used in this area – I have witnessed youths rolling joints and climbing over railings into Islington Green to smoke them at 5am. The pavements are also frequently littered with nitrous oxide capsules. This behaviour is being encouraged by the conspicuous lack of facilities and nightlife for anyone who is over the age of 25 who does not wish to get drunk and take drugs, which makes such behaviour seem not only publicly acceptable, but the norm. If there were more of a mix of people in this area at night – as there should be – then the current party atmosphere would not seem so acceptable.

However, my sense is that this area has deliberately been targeted to milk the pockets of students and young adults hooked on alcohol – and this in itself I feel is a shameful policy, not only because of the wider impact on the community, but also because of the health problems that are being stored up for successive generations of young adults – provided, of course, they do not die of a drugs overdose on the dance floor before they reach maturity.

Alcohol, however, in itself is a drug, which the council’s licensing policy does not appear to acknowledge – there will be those who argue that people should have the right to do as they wish with their lives and their bodies; but as one who has to witness the effects on Upper Street – and also frequently listens to the effects at 5am – I feel it is time for a licensing policy which considers the needs of the rest of the community and not just one comparatively small group of people. As I finish this at 1.15am, the music from [REDACTED] is still thumping across the green. I did phone the Noise Patrol again – but as per usual, there is no response.



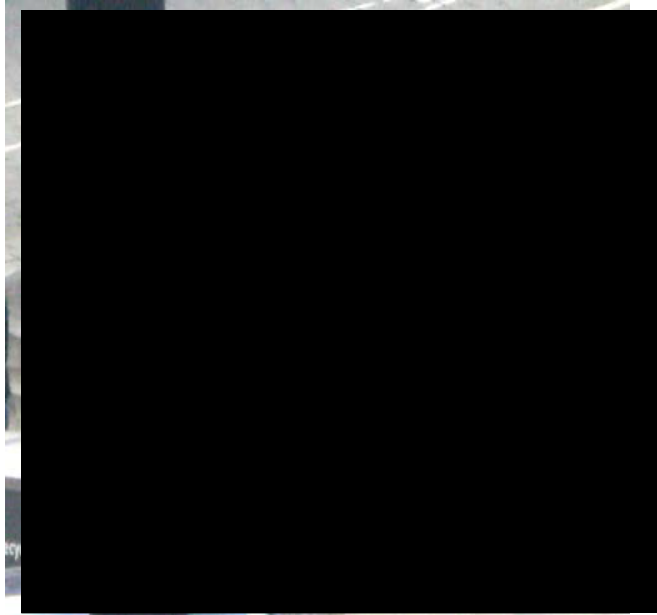
11.20pm 29 Sept 2017 – would you want this open till 4am opposite your home? And then have to lie awake listening to the “patrons” yelling and screaming until daybreak as they fail to make their way home, apparently thinking it is much more “cool” to hang around the green making a nuisance of themselves? No, me neither.



5am Islington Green – time for a loud drunken conversation and a “roll up”. Another great night out.



Vomit on the pavement in Islington – not uncommon.



Four hours of guitar music blasted through an amplifier on a Saturday afternoon – trapped in my home listening to it. Like being tortured.

LICENSING TEAM
ISLINGTON COUNCIL

FROM:

Have your say on our new licensing policy for 2018-2022

I ENDORSE
COMMENTS.

About the licensing policy

Islington Council is reviewing its licensing policy and we welcome feedback from all residents and businesses on the changes we are proposing.

The licensing policy sets out how we will make licensing decisions, how new licensed premises are likely to be permitted to operate, and how the needs of residents and businesses will be addressed.

You can download our draft policy at www.islington.gov.uk/consultations

Activities covered by the licensing policy include premises selling alcohol, providing hot food and drink after 11pm, and late night entertainment activities such as live and recorded music, films, plays and dancing.

Questions

1. We are proposing to maintain our 6 cumulative impact areas.

Where the impact of a significant number of licenced premises concentrated in one area has a significant impact on crime, disorder and public nuisance or public safety the council can make it a cumulative impact area. Cumulative impact areas allow the council to impose stricter controls and limitations on applications for new premises licences.

Our intended approach is described in draft Licensing Policy 3 and paragraphs 10-72.

Do you agree with our approach?

Yes

No

Please add any further comments:

I GENERALLY AGREE EXCEPT: SUPPORT FOR EARLY EVENING/EVENING ECONOMY REQUIRES PUBIC CONSULTATION. 2) BROADER CONSULTATION NECESSARY GENERAL. 3) NO MORE LICENSES IN CAMDEN PASSAGE.

2. We are proposing to maintain our key policies relating to framework closing hours and to specify framework opening hours for different types of licensed premises. These are described in draft Licensing Policies 5 and 6 and paragraphs 82-91.

Do you agree with our approach?

Yes

No

Please add any further comments:

3. The objectives of our current Licensing Policy are to:

• Carefully manage the number of late night premises supplying alcohol, imposing restrictions where appropriate

• Encourage and support businesses that are unlikely to add to the cumulative impact in terms of crime, disorder and public nuisance

• Seek to promote high standards of management in licensed premises to ensure businesses operate responsibly and the experiences of residents and visitors are not ruined by poorly run businesses both on the premises and in the surrounding environment

We are proposing to add the two following new objectives:

• Promote a safe, welcoming and varied evening economy where businesses work with the Licensing Authority and Responsible Authorities

• Safeguard the interests of vulnerable residents and children

Do you agree with these objectives?

Yes

No

Please add any further comments:

YES, EXCEPT THAT WHILE ONE INDIVIDUAL BUSINESS MAY NOT ADD TO THE CUMULATIVE IMPACT, SEVERAL TAKEN TOGETHER ARE LIKELY TO DO SO.

4. The Kings Cross Cumulative Impact Area covers the section of Caledonian Road to the south of the the railway bridge at the junction with Offord Road. We are proposing to extend this cumulative impact area to the junction with Frederica Street and Wheelright Street.

Paragraphs 35-44 of the draft Licensing Policy cover the Kings Cross Cumulative Impact Area.

Do you agree with our proposal?

Yes

No

Please add any further comments:

KINGS CROSS AREA NOT KNOWN TO ME BUT PROPOSAL SEEMS SOUND.

5. We are concerned about the cumulative impacts of crime, disorder, public nuisance and public safety associated with the number of off licences operating in the borough. We are proposing to introduce a borough wide cumulative impact policy relating to off sales of alcohol to enable the council to impose stricter controls and limitations on applications for new premises licensed for the sale of alcohol for consumption off the premises. Draft Licensing Policy 4 and paragraphs 73-81 explain the intended approach.

Do you agree with our approach?

Yes

No

Please add any further comments:

6. The council works with the police and licenced trade to minimise the impact of alcohol related crime, disorder and antisocial behaviour and to ensure public safety on Arsenal match days. The current Licensing Policy outlines the arrangements that it expects pub, bars and clubs to implement on match days and the proposal is to extend these match day controls to any new premises providing off sales of alcohol on match days. Draft Licensing Policy 15 and paragraphs 116-117 explain the intended approach.

Do you agree with our approach?

Yes

No

Please add any further comments:

7. We are proposing a new policies on:

• safeguarding women and young adults frequenting pubs, bars and clubs
(See draft Licensing Policy 20 and paragraphs 127-128)

• preventing public nuisance
(See draft Licensing Policy 21 and paragraphs 129-130)

Do you agree with this approach?

Yes

No

Please add any further comments:

8. Please use the box below to provide any other comments that you would like us to consider when determining our Licensing Policy for 2018-2022. Comments:

- 1) IN THE INTRODUCTION, THE LAST SENTENCE IN PARA 4 PAGE 5 APPEARS TO SUGGEST ANY APPLICATIONS PROVOKING NO REPRESENTATIONS WILL BE GRANTED AUTOMATICALLY. I SUGGEST REWORDING: '... WILL BE CONSIDERED AND IF SATISFACTORY GRANTED.'
 - 2) COMMON SENSE LIMITS NEED TO BE SET ON LICENSE GRANTS TO NON FOOD AND DRINK OUTLETS. THE IDEA OF SELLING CHAMPAGNE WITH FLOWERS IS NOT UNDERSTOOD.
- About you (SEE ALSO COMMENTS AT FOOT OF PAGE)

9. Could you please tell us if you are a:

- Local resident COMMITTEE MEMBER, CAMDEN PASSAGE ASSOCIATION.
- Body representing local residents
- Local business owner
- Body representing local business
- Premises license holder, DPS, manager or personal license holder
- Body representing local premises or personal license holders
- Responsible authority:

10. If you represent a responsible authority, or a body representing local residents, local businesses, or local premises or personal license-holders, please provide the name of the body you represent:

Thank you

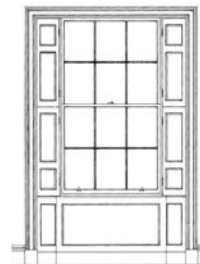
Thank you for your feedback. We will consider all the responses we receive to help us determine our Licensing Policy for 2018-2022. The new policy will go to the council for approval, to be adopted in early 2018.

THE INTENTION TO SAFEGUARD THE INTERESTS OF LOCAL RESIDENTS AFFECTED BY LICENSED PREMISES, AND TO FOSTER A BALANCE BETWEEN BUSINESSES AND RESIDENTS IS ADMIRABLE, BUT HAS NOT ALWAYS BEEN EVIDENT IN RECENT DECISIONS BY THE LICENSING COMMITTEE, WHICH HAVE ALMOST ALWAYS FAVOURED THE BUSINESSES.

SUPPORT FOR EARLY EVENING/EVENING 'SOCIALISING' COULD ADVERSELY AFFECT RESIDENTS AND REQUIRES CONSULTATION. PEOPLE 'SOCIALISING' IN THE EVENINGS MORE THAN AT PRESENT IN THE NARROW CONFINES OF CAMDEN PASSAGE WOULD BE VERY UNWELCOME.

THERE ARE NOW ELEVEN LICENSED PREMISES IN THE STRETCH OF ISLINGTON^{HIGH} STREET/CAMDEN PASSAGE BETWEEN THE YORK AND CAMDEN HEAD PUBS INCLUSIVE. (2 OF THE ELEVEN ARE NON-OPERATIVE). THERE SHOULD BE NO ADDITION OF LICENSED PREMISES IN THIS LOCATION, AS THE BALANCE BETWEEN BUSINESSES AND RESIDENTS IS ALREADY ADVERSELY AFFECTED.

IN GENERAL, MUCH GREATER AND SYSTEMATIC CONSULTATION WITH LOCAL RESIDENTS IS DESIRABLE.



29th October 2017

Licensing Team
Public Protection
London Borough of Islington
222 Upper Street
London N1 1XR

Dear Licensing Team,

Response to Draft Licensing Policy 2018-2022 Consultation October 2017

I am writing on behalf of The Canonbury Society and would make the following points:

1. The inclusion of a number of separate studies into patterns of alcohol (mis) use in Islington, street population, alcohol-related crime, the night time economy in Islington and other related aspects, under the title 'Licensing Policy Review 2017 Cumulative Impact Assessment', in effect, an information paper, has been helpful in better understanding the background and the issues.
2. In the Draft for consultation, the introduction to and the background of licensing policy is well stated and quite rightly focusses on the applicant and affected residents.
3. We think the decision to continue with the area based cumulative impact policies, introduced in 2013 is correct. Furthermore, the emphasis on encouragement and support for applications which may be exceptions to the cumulative impact policy is both laudable and sensible.
4. The Canonbury Conservation Area forms only a small part of the Angel and Upper Street cumulative impact area in the North-East but nonetheless, our members are impacted by the Licensing Policy. We are particularly interested in LP5, LP6, LP14, LP21, LP22, LP23, LP 25 and LP 30.
5. Along with the Upper Street Association, we are concerned at the lack of public lavatories in the Angel area, but also elsewhere in the borough. As part of the granting and renewing of the alcohol licence, the licensing authority should be able to insist that the licensee provides adequate lavatory facilities in the premises. This should be a standard non-negotiable condition.
6. Overall, we think the proposed licensing policies are sensible and take into account the anticipated increase in the borough's population in the next five years.

Yours faithfully

I would like to make the following comments on the policy as follows:

- 1) Licensing Policy 2 – I think that Camden Passage from the Royal Bank of Scotland to the Camden Head to include the top end of Charlton Place should be an area of special policy and treated as having reached a saturation point. There should be no more alcohol licenses granted to any premises here for the next 5 years . The properties here are small on 2/3 storeys and this narrow street is partly pedestrianised. The upper floors are mainly residential. The anti social behaviour and noise level is difficult to control once the customers leave the licensed premises; bottles and glasses are left in the street, persons sit on the steps of the shops after closing time for retail and in the open stall areas, persons become noisy and rowdier.
- 2) Already the retail users are suffering from high rents losing out to licensed premises, the ratio has become more than 1 in 4 .
- 3) Angel and Upper Street cumulative impact area-
For Camden Passage, I would disagree with paras. 46 and 47. On para 48 a) it is too late to stop at midnight as the clearing up afterwards can be noisy b) it is not acceptable to change the area to an area where people socialise in the early evening, it should be a place where people live, work and shop foremost, c) it is evident that street drinking is prevalent not minimal.
- 4) Licensing Policy 6 – the closing time should be 11.00 p.m. for all new licenses with take away at midnight , off sales to 8.00 p.m. same as in Clerkenwell.
- 5) Licensing Policy 21& 22 - the policy should be to refuse a license or to impose restrictions without receiving any representations. Very few residents are aware of an application for a License and few know how to make representations or have the time.

From:
To: [Licensing](#)
Subject: New Licensing Policy for 2018-22 - comment
Date: 25 September 2017 22:58:45

Dear Ms Gibbons,

Thanks you very much for your letter of 18th September 2107 asking for comments on the Council's new licensing policy proposals.

We have been Council Tax payers in the Goswell Road area of Clerkenwell for twenty years, and have been fascinated to see the development that has taken place during this period - so much so that I became a qualified Clerkenwell and Islington Guide Guide a few years ago! Our only real issue is the sense that licensing rules are recently becoming significantly relaxed in what are, primarily, residential areas. The most significant example of this is [REDACTED], in the premise that was formerly The Well. The issues as illustrated by Simmonds are as follows:

- [REDACTED] openly advertises itself as a 'late night cocktail bar' on its web site, in [REDACTED] which is heavily residential.
- It has an incredible 5 hours happy hour, from 4pm until 9pm nightly. This works out at more than half its actual opening hours; during this time the cost per unit of alcohol is the lowest that we have seen in London, (beer £2.50, bottle of wine £10, spirits £2.50) with the result that the clientele are drawn there from outside the local area with the sole objective of getting as drunk as possible as cheaply as possible.
- Since taking over from [REDACTED], they have annexed half the pavement via a screened off area. It is possible to just about walk between this and the road; however the two 'dips' in the kerb to enable crossings of both [REDACTED] mean that anyone in a wheelchair or mobility scooter faces a very real risk of tipping over - even if they can squeeze past the drinkers, who often spill out beyond the screens despite the efforts of the security staff (one doorman stands little chance of controlling 50 people rapidly getting very drunk on the pavement!)
- They open until midnight Monday to Thursday night, and then until 1pm on a Friday and a Saturday.
- Since [REDACTED] arrival the amount of noise, swearing, vomiting, passive smoking and general antisocial behaviour that anyone living in the area has had to put up with has become totally unacceptable.

A further recent example of a business applying to extend its licensing hours is [REDACTED]. Many residents, including ourselves, in the apartments above the restaurant objected but unfortunately, in our view, the request was upheld with the result there is increased noise as patrons leave late in the evening.

Our comments are:

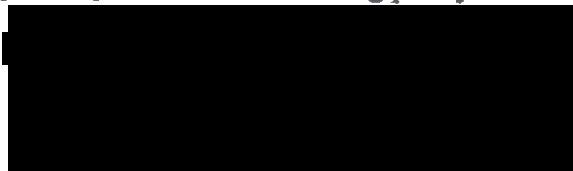
- The Council should designate streets of significant residential occupation as being unsuitable for any form of late licence beyond 11pm.
- Late licenses beyond this time should be restricted to streets and locations which are already primarily non residential.
- No licenses should be granted to operators whose business model relies on selling alcohol as cheaply as possible. A Minimum Unit Pricing policy should be considered; certainly a maximum period of 'Happy Hours' should be insisted on.

We hope this helps shape your thinking; other responsible long term operators like [REDACTED] [REDACTED] who continue to be bound to close at 11pm every night and manage to do so, should not have to put up with the flagrant breaching of previous licensing rules by the arrival of the likes of Simmonds.

Please do not hesitate to give us a call on [REDACTED] or else [REDACTED] if you would like to have a chat about any of the above.

Yours sincerely,

[REDACTED]



Have your say on our new licensing policy for 2018-2022

About the licensing policy

Islington Council is reviewing its licensing policy and we welcome feedback from all residents and businesses on the changes we are proposing.

The licensing policy sets out how we will make licensing decisions, how new licensed premises are likely to be permitted to operate, and how the needs of residents and businesses will be addressed.

You can download our draft policy at www.islington.gov.uk/consultations

Activities covered by the licensing policy include premises selling alcohol, providing hot food and drink after 11pm, and late night entertainment activities such as live and recorded music, films, plays and dancing.

Questions

1. We are proposing to maintain our 6 cumulative impact areas.

Where the impact of a significant number of licenced premises concentrated in one area has a significant impact on crime, disorder and public nuisance or public safety the council can make it a cumulative impact area. Cumulative impact areas allow the council to impose stricter controls and limitations on applications for new premises licences.

Our intended approach is described in draft Licensing Policy 3 and paragraphs 10-72. 2?

Do you agree with our approach?

Yes

No

Please add any further comments:

meaningless - if never applied.

How many occasions over last 3 years?

2. We are proposing to maintain our key policies relating to framework closing hours and to specify framework opening hours for different types of licensed premises. These are described in draft Licensing Policies 5 and 6 and paragraphs 82-91.

Do you agree with our approach?

not included

Yes

No

Please add any further comments:

[Empty text box]

3. The objectives of our current Licensing Policy are to:

- Carefully manage the number of late night premises supplying alcohol, imposing restrictions where appropriate
- Encourage and support businesses that are unlikely to add to the cumulative impact in terms of crime, disorder and public nuisance
- Seek to promote high standards of management in licensed premises to ensure businesses operate responsibly and the experiences of residents and visitors are not ruined by poorly run businesses both on the premises and in the surrounding environment

We are proposing to add the two following new objectives:

1. • Promote a safe, welcoming and varied evening economy where businesses work with the Licensing Authority and Responsible Authorities
2. • Safeguard the interests of vulnerable residents and children

Do you agree with these objectives?

Yes

No

Please add any further comments:

draft incl objections, agree with 2.

4. The Kings Cross Cumulative Impact Area covers the section of Caledonian Road to the south of the railway bridge at the junction with Offord Road. We are proposing to extend this cumulative impact area to the junction with Frederica Street and Wheelright Street.

Paragraphs 35-44 of the draft Licensing Policy cover the Kings Cross Cumulative Impact Area.

Do you agree with our proposal?

Yes

No

Please add any further comments:

[Empty text box]

8. Please use the box below to provide any other comments that you would like us to consider when determining our Licensing Policy for 2018-2022. Comments:

This whole consultation is based on the false premise that Islington residents (who have not been consulted generally) want an evening/night time economy. This needs to be revisited

About you

9. Could you please tell us if you are a:

- Local resident
- Body representing local residents
- Local business owner
- Body representing local business
- Premises license holder, DPS, manager or personal license holder
- Body representing local premises or personal license holders
- Responsible authority:

10. If you represent a responsible authority, or a body representing local residents, local businesses, or local premises or personal license-holders, please provide the name of the body you represent:

Camden Passage
Assoc. Member

Thank you

Thank you for your feedback. We will consider all the responses we receive to help us determine our Licensing Policy for 2018-2022. The new policy will go to the council for approval, to be adopted in early 2018.

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Licensing](#)
Subject: [REDACTED]
Date: 29 September 2017 14:32:41

Afternoon, i recieved the new licensing policy, which is good and hopefully all local businesses like myself and local residents can work together to ensure safer environment. I wanted to ask when pub watch meetings are held in farringdon, how can these be formed. Also do you offer local businesses any additonal training so i can send my employees to? I train my staff every 6 months/ yearly, but was wondering if islington council offer anything?

Regards

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Sent from [Outlook](#)

We make the following representations in regard to the Islington Council's Licensing Policy 2018-2022 consultation document.

1. It is common ground that Islington has one of the highest densities of licensed premises in England and that despite the introduction of cumulative impact policies it remains an alcohol-related crime hotspot. The reports produced by the police and other bodies focus on the issues of crime, ASB and health.
2. The proposed policy document recognizes the important fact that in Islington many licensed premises are located in or in close proximity to residential streets.
3. However, neither this document nor the reports produced specifically address the issue of disturbance to residents who live in the area. We believe that there should be proper emphasis on the potential impact on residents of any application and that the policy should make it clear that due weight will be attached to their situation and to their views.
4. Many residents have to endure levels of noise and anti-social behaviour which may not be serious enough to be recorded as an offence but nonetheless can cause loss of amenity for residents, particularly the elderly and those with younger families. Also the police reports and the Council's "Community Safety" reports show that crime and nuisance now extends over a large portion of the night and early morning (peaking between 00.00 and 02.59 at weekends). This is unacceptable where there are a significant number of residential dwellings in close proximity.
5. In a recent case the Licensing Sub-Committee allowed a new application, in the teeth of written objections from the police, the licensing team and numerous objections from local residents and appeared to pay little or no regard to the question of cumulative impact.

████████████████████ the written Reasons for Decision (dated 26th September 2017) included the statement:

"The Sub-Committee took into consideration Licensing Policy 2. The premises fall within the Angel and Upper Street cumulative impact area. Licensing policy 2 creates a rebuttable presumption that applications for new premises licences that are likely to add to the existing cumulative impact will normally be refused, unless an applicant can demonstrate why the operation of the premises involved will not add to the cumulative impact or otherwise impact adversely on the promotion of the licensing objectives."

6. However the applicant did not in our view provide any real justification for the new licence, nor any evidence that it would not add to the cumulative impact, despite being in a cumulative impact area. The Sub-Committee made no express finding in

relation to cumulative impact, basing their decision simply on the promotion of the licensing objectives, and thus appearing to ignore the cumulative impact principle in Licensing Policy 2.

7. Consequently, whilst acknowledging that the stated policy principles cannot be applied inflexibly and that each application must be considered on its merits, we do seriously question- whether the application of overall policy has been sufficiently robust and clear.

8. The Nightsafe project appears to us to be of beneficial effect and should be expanded and extended. We therefore propose:

(i). The late night levy should be extended to those premises open after 23.00 (could be pro-rata for those who open only after 23.00 on certain nights). Licences that include "late night refreshment" after 23.00 should also be included.

(ii). Funds should be used to increase the size of the Nightsafe team and also allow the team to start earlier in the evening. Additional funds, if available, should also be supplied to the police for extra officers on duty at night over the weekends.

In relation to specific policies we propose the following:

9. **Policy 2** - *"Islington has one of the highest densities of licensed premises in England and careful consideration will be given to the need to add to these numbers when applications are received. As there is often no delineation or separation between residential and commercial areas, careful management is required to prevent conflict between the different uses."*

10. We believe that it is axiomatic that "careful consideration" should always be given to ANY application. This statement is thus insufficient and needs to be more robust, making it clear that a higher standard of proof will be required where a licence application is received for premises in close proximity to residential dwellings. We would consider "close" to be 18-22 metres, which is the distance usually given for planning purposes to allow for privacy. Additional requirements could include:

- (i) That the applicant provides evidence as to why the new licence will not have cumulative impact.
- (ii). Shorter operating hours to reduce the impact of noise from dispersal of customers at night.
- (iii). A presumption in favour of refusal of late night refreshment applications.
- (iv). Clear, restricted hours (limited to normal licensed hours) for any Temporary

Event Notice applications made in Cumulative Impact areas.

11. **Policy 4** - We welcome the introduction of cumulative impact policy. However, accepting that the policy is “not absolute we are nevertheless concerned by the statement that in order to refuse an application the Committee has to be satisfied that one or more of the 4 stated licensing objectives would be undermined AND that the imposition of conditions or restrictions would be ineffective. We believe this to be an unreasonably low threshold for applicants and gives the Licensing Committee insufficient discretion to refuse off-licences in areas that are already saturated.

12. We also believe that there should be extra restrictions for premises that ask for off-licences in addition to on-licences as a way of serving alcohol to outside tables. Allowing off-licences for this purpose has in our experience caused problems of enforcement.

The policy should specifically state that off-licences will not be granted to allow for alcohol to be served at outside tables and outside areas. These areas should always be included in the licensed area in any licence application.

13. **Policy 5** - We also believe that the policy in its current form of a "flexible approach" is too vague and gives the Licensing Committee too much leeway in interpretation and implementation of the policy, particularly where a licence application is for premises close to residential properties.

The police report noted that crime and nuisance has now extended over most of the night rather than the historical 23.00 closing time. Bringing closing time forward could assist the police in tackling crime and anti-social behaviour.

We would therefore suggest the framework hours for weekends are reduced to 8am to 11pm, particularly for those applications that are close to residential properties.

14. **Policy 11** - Training Sessions point 102.

In the absence of data as to the response thus far to “encouraging” licensees to attend, we suggest that consideration should be given to attendance at the Licensing Authority bespoke training and briefing sessions being subject to a compulsory minimum, at least one per year. Many professions and industries require attendance at such CPD courses. Subject to any resource implications, we do not believe that this is unreasonable.

15. **Policy 14** - The policy should include clear, specified time for outdoor areas to be cleared. We suggest by 22.00 latest if close to residential properties.

16. **Policy 22** - We recommend that it is stated policy that tables and outside areas should be cleared by 22.00 when close to residential areas.

The policy does not specifically address noise from outside tables and drinking areas and from dispersal of customers. There should be a specific policy point relating to the clearing of outside tables in premises close to residential dwellings. This is of course sometimes added to the conditions of a licence but should be a specific, stated policy.

We would consider "close" to be 18-22 metres, which is the distance usually given for planning purposes to allow for privacy.

17. **Policy 24** - We would repeat the recommendation from Policy 22.

On behalf of the [REDACTED] Residents' Association.

Dear Islington,

I am writing to you on the matter of the revision of the licensing policy on behalf of [REDACTED]. We design, own and manage properties in the area most recently the grade 2* listed [REDACTED]” and grade 2 listed [REDACTED] which is a stone throw away.

We have reviewed the proposed revised licensing criteria. We are generally positive towards the new wording and support the overall spirit of protecting the people and neighborhood whilst promoting high quality venues establishing themselves which add to the benefit of the people that work and live there.

However we have identified a few key issues that we still think need to be thought about and worded slightly different to balance the restrictive nature of the policy and the supportive aspects and some of the policy we believe will actually cause a counter-productive effect in comparison to the licensing goals.

We would like to make the following points:

1. There should be time allocated to present the scheme of the proposed licensed premises. We do not believe it is in anyone’s interest to assume that despite providing a robust and carefully prepared material to the committee that they would have read and understood everything. We feel this creates a situation where misconceptions and even misinformation could lead to decisions based on flawed input. The time given to-respond to-potential resident representations should only be used for just that and the current system sometimes makes it very difficult for the applicant to clarify complex situations and/or certain aspects/misconceptions of the scheme before even being able to defend against a claim.
2. On page 4 in the second bullet point list there is a reference to putting restrictions on licenses. Whilst we appreciate that all licenses will have restrictions it is important that these are put in place where absolutely necessary and that they don’t get set arbitrarily. We believe that a pragmatic approach where potential additional restrictions are proposed should be negotiated between the relevant parties before the committee such as with the Environmental Health Officer or the police etc. We appreciate that this already happens but have also seen cases where, in our opinion, very strict restrictions have been arbitrarily put on the policy at the committee hearing which if effect might cause the license to undermine one or several key aspects of the scheme. In essence, any restrictions should be brought forward before the hearing itself so they can be discussed, relevant and effective.
3. On page 10 first paragraph about grounds for refusal: Upon getting a refusal it should be absolutely clear what the reason is so the applicant knows what to correct. If the cause for refusal only states that it is because the establishment will cause noise or nuisance in the neighborhood (which will undermine one of the conditions) it is very difficult to actually know what to propose to rectify that situation. Refusal should be tied directly to the shortfalls of what was presented as the management or concept of the venue itself to be clear. We believe this would be helpful to both applicants and potential objectors to understand the situation and the stance of the committee.
4. Page 26 – Licensing policy 6 about opening hours. We believe this is a counterproductive setup proposed. We think that venues are more likely to apply for night club due to the fact

that these are given later opening hours, instead of creating restaurants that are open later. We believe that it is a lot more likely for a night club to cause nuisance at 1 AM than if that same spot would have been operated as a restaurant. We strongly believe that restaurants should be given the chance to prove that they can be open later and operated responsibly given the merits of its own management plan and concept and that there should not be this distinction in the licensing just because of the nature of the business. I would urge the licensing committee to base their decision on the management plan and concept presented rather than being just being labeled a specific category and judged differently thereafter. We think by being more flexible on opening hours for restaurants there would be less need for many venues to operate as nightclubs and thus reducing the impact in the residential areas. In the current situation at late evening/night people are forced to go to night clubs because these are the only venues that are allowed to be open. Since nightclubs are so focused around drinking we believe the policy creates more drunkenness the way it is written. Furthermore late night restaurants could be controlled in that they have to serve hot food as long as it is open, need to keep a high percentage of seated guests and there could even be restrictions put on serving spirits and only allow serving beer and wine after a certain time. Thus there are plenty of ways to ensure that the later night restaurants/bars would operate as such and not turn into clubs. To summarize we think that restaurants/bars should be given the same chance to later hours as any other type of venue – even night clubs and that the decision should solely be based on the circumstances and merits of the proposal.

3. Point 4 above is essential to something which we feel is a bit left out in the policy and is a concept very much promoted by the mayor – London as a 24 hour city. The aim is to create a bustling city also at night by having venues open more. Of course there are cultural venues and other places that can promote this without licensing but eating being such a big part of people's lives so we think that not allowing restaurants to operate outside of "traditional hours" would be a major counterproductive force behind the "24 hour city" idea. This should be especially interesting for the most urban centers within Islington such as Farringdon/Clerkenwell where Crossrail will create a major throughput of people and could be leading the way for this vision. There is also need for greater flexibility as people nowadays live more flexible lives where work times are not always 9-18 and many eat dinners at 10 or even 11 in the evenings. To cater for this group in society there needs to be greater flexibility in the licensing policies.

We thank you for the opportunity to present our views on the licensing policy and we sincerely hope our views will be taken into account when forming the new policy.

Any questions or clarifications needed – don't hesitate to contact me.

From: [REDACTED]@met.pnn.police.uk
To: [Licensing](#)
Cc: [REDACTED]@met.pnn.police.uk
Subject: Licensing Policy 2018- 2022 Public Consultation.
Date: 11 October 2017 09:56:51
Attachments: [Draft Licensing Policy - Consultation PDF.pdf](#)

Hi all,

Thanks for sending this draft over. It looks really good.

In particular, we support the rebuttable presumption in the 6 cumulative impact areas and the expectation that applicants will actively participate in pub watch and work towards the Nightsafe best practice principles so thanks for making this so clear in the policy.

The match day restricted hours for off-sales is also a key aspect of our planning for football so again, thank you for making it so clear within the document.

Only spotted one typo – Page 8, Point 9 ‘policy’.

Thanks again,

[REDACTED]

A/Chief Inspector [REDACTED]
Neighbourhood Policing and Partnerships.
Metropolitan Police Service
Central North BCU

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Public health response to Islington's licensing policy consultation

Public health are responding in support of proposed licensing policy for Islington.

- We welcome the continuation of the six cumulative impact policy areas. We recognise the significant impact of the availability of alcohol across the borough and see the continuation of these areas as an important part of the response to address these.
- We support the suggested framework hours associated with off licences in Clerkenwell cumulative impact area as a response to the impact of pre-loading in this area of the borough.
- We support the proposal around off licence provision which we know is a key source of alcohol for some of the most vulnerable drinkers in Islington. In addition, we support proposals around framework hours particularly around opening hours, as Public Health continue to have concerns around the ease with which one can purchase alcohol for off-premises consumption at all hours of the day and night.
- Para 70, we would suggest the statistical explanation is amended. Analysis from the local alcohol profiles for England (LAPE) indicates alcohol hospital admissions in those under the age of 18 years are significantly higher in Islington when compared to London, however, although the rate in Islington is higher than in England, it is not significantly higher. The rate of under 18 alcohol admissions in Islington is the second highest amongst London boroughs.
- We see the acknowledgement of the presence of high risk areas in the borough as a positive and aligned to local analysis which shows the issues associated with vulnerable drinkers in the borough including areas of Islington where street drinking occurs. However, we have some suggestions:
 - It may be overly complicated to have specific framework hours for areas considered to be high risk, as such does para 81 provide the licensing committee sufficient flexibility to amend hours of operation in areas of concern? We are not clear that reduction of hours to 10am is necessarily the way to address concerns and perhaps a more bespoke approach should be taken e.g. all off licences in an area where there is concern are restricted to sales of alcohol only between 9am and 5pm. It might be that requirements for restricted hours may only need to be enforced for a short period of time e.g. if street drinking is curbed the requirement for reduced hours may be reduced. In addition, it could be that availability of super strength alcohol is where the focus should be as opposed to hours of operation. As such consideration should be given as to whether a more bespoke response needs to be taken in specific areas following consultation with relevant partners.
 - We suggest rewording the definition of high risk areas:
Currently defined as: *High risk areas includes premises in the in vicinity of schools, wet or dry centres, mental health establishments or street population hotspots*

We suggested something along the lines of:

High risk areas are areas of the borough where partners involved in alcohol harm reduction work have identified there are particular concerns around the vulnerability of those visiting or residing in the area. For example, an area where one or more of the following apply:

- *there are considerable levels of street drinking or partners are reporting having to attend a number of alcohol related incidents;*
- *in close proximity to local hospitals, drug and alcohol services or mental health services;*
- *in close proximity to vulnerable young people's services (such as children and young people's drug and alcohol services, CAMHS, young persons supported accommodation, pupil referral units);*

- *there is particularly vulnerable adult supported accommodation (accommodation for individuals who continue to drink or where there are more than 10 residents residing).*
- The evidence mentioned in para 84 should be referenced
- Public Health strongly supports the intention around high strength alcohol restriction in areas where there are localised concerns. Speaking to colleagues in substance misuse services and those involved in housing for vulnerable residents it is clear that high strength alcohol remains easily available in Islington and a cause of significant harm and anti-social behaviour among heavy drinkers. It is often seen as a drink of choice among some of our most vulnerable drinkers such as our street homeless and vulnerably housed populations. The detrimental impacts on these groups health is significant and, in addition is often associated with anti-social behaviour in the borough.

The cheap availability of high strength cider is causing significant and hard-hitting harm on some of the most vulnerable individuals in our communities. Cider of 7.5% ABV attracts the lowest level of duty of any alcohol product at any strength. Cheap high strength white ciders are the cheapest product on the market on a per unit basis. For instance, a three litre bottle, which contains as much alcohol as 22 shots of vodka (more than the CMO recommended maximum level for weekly alcohol units consumed), is available for less than £4. At such a low cost it has become a drink of choice amongst many of the most vulnerable dependent drinkers. The cheap cost also makes it an attractive option for underage drinkers preloading before a night out.

- Paragraph 119, we support the requirements placed on premises where drug use is a risk. We would request a further requirement around the importance of premises evidencing implementation of best practice in their policies around drug related harm. For instance:
 - Safer Night Life: this provides useful guidance to clubs. Clubs should review their local policy, including procedures and training, in relation to this(http://newip.safernightlife.org/pdfs/digital_library/uk_safer_nightlife_guideline.pdf)
 - All employees, including those linked to the club through any contracting or subcontracting arrangements (e.g. door staff) should be provided with drug awareness training (as part of induction and annually refreshed) which includes: the recognition of those in distress or intoxicated (alcohol and drugs); identification of early symptoms and signs of those potentially needing assistance and how to intervene proactively; information about common drug induced problems; updates on new trends and patterns in drug use and any associated medical consequences.

19th October 2017.

We make the following representations in regard to the Islington Council's Licensing Policy 2018-2022 consultation document.

1. It is common ground that Islington has one of the highest densities of licensed premises in England and that despite the introduction of cumulative impact policies it remains an alcohol-related crime hotspot. The reports produced by the police and other bodies focus on the issues of crime, ASB and health.
2. The proposed policy document recognizes the important fact that in Islington many licensed premises are located in or in close proximity to residential streets.
3. However, neither this document nor the reports produced specifically address the issue of disturbance to residents who live in the area. We believe that there should be proper emphasis on the potential impact on residents of any application and that the policy should make it clear that due weight will be attached to their situation and to their views.
4. Many residents have to endure levels of noise and anti-social behaviour which may not be serious enough to be recorded as an offence but nonetheless can cause loss of amenity for residents, particularly older people and those with younger families. Also the police reports and the Council's "Community Safety" reports show that crime and nuisance now extends over a large portion of the night and early morning (peaking between 00.00 and 02.59 at weekends). This is unacceptable where there are a significant number of residential dwellings in close proximity.
5. In a recent case the Licensing Sub-Committee allowed a new application, in the teeth of written objections from the police, the licensing team and numerous objections from local residents and appeared to pay little or no regard to the question of cumulative impact.

████████████████████, the written Reasons for Decision (dated 26th September 2017) included the statement:

"The Sub-Committee took into consideration Licensing Policy 2. The premises fall within the Angel and Upper Street cumulative impact area. Licensing policy 2 creates a rebuttable presumption that applications for new premises licences that are likely to add to the existing cumulative impact will normally be refused, unless an applicant can demonstrate why the operation of the premises involved will not add to the cumulative impact or otherwise impact adversely on the promotion of the licensing objectives."

6. However the applicant did not in our view provide any real justification for the

new licence, nor any evidence that it would not add to the cumulative impact, despite being in a cumulative impact area. The Sub-Committee made no express finding in relation to cumulative impact, basing their decision simply on the promotion of the licensing objectives, and thus appearing to ignore the cumulative impact principle in Licensing Policy 2.

7. Consequently, whilst acknowledging that the stated policy principles cannot be applied inflexibly and that each application must be considered on its merits, we do seriously question- whether the application of overall policy has been sufficiently robust and clear.

8. The Nightsafe project appears to us to be of beneficial effect and should be expanded and extended. We therefore propose:

(i). The late night levy should be extended to those premises open after 23.00 (could be pro-rata for those who open only after 23.00 on certain nights). Licences that include "late night refreshment" after 23.00 should also be included.

(ii). Funds should be used to increase the size of the Nightsafe team and also allow the team to start earlier in the evening. Additional funds, if available, should also be supplied to the police for extra officers on duty at night over the weekends.

In relation to specific policies we propose the following:

9. **Policy 2** - *"Islington has one of the highest densities of licensed premises in England and careful consideration will be given to the need to add to these numbers when applications are received. As there is often no delineation or separation between residential and commercial areas, careful management is required to prevent conflict between the different uses."*

10. Firstly there is no clear statement of exactly what cumulative impact is and how new licenses can have impact on already saturated areas. Nor what the Council would consider to be unacceptable cumulative impact. In addition, we believe that it is axiomatic that "careful consideration" should always be given to ANY application. This statement is thus insufficient and needs to be more robust, making it clear that a higher standard of proof will be required where a licence application is received for premises in close proximity to residential dwellings. We would consider "close" to be 18-22 metres, which is the distance usually given for planning purposes to allow for privacy. Additional requirements could include:

(i) That the applicant provides evidence as to why the new licence will not have cumulative impact.

- (ii). Shorter operating hours to reduce the impact of noise from dispersal of customers at night.
- (iii). A presumption in favour of refusal of late night refreshment applications.
- (iv). Clear, restricted hours (limited to normal licensed hours) for any Temporary Event Notice applications made in Cumulative Impact areas.

11. **Policy 4** - We welcome the introduction of cumulative impact policy. However, accepting that the policy is "not absolute" we are nevertheless concerned by the statement that in order to refuse an application the Committee has to be satisfied that one or more of the 4 stated licensing objectives would be undermined AND that the imposition of conditions or restrictions would be ineffective. We believe this to be an unreasonably low threshold for applicants and gives the Licensing Committee insufficient discretion to refuse off-licences in areas that are already saturated.

12. We also believe that there should be extra restrictions for premises that ask for off-licences in addition to on-licences as a way of serving alcohol to outside tables. Allowing off-licences for this purpose has in our experience caused problems of enforcement.

The policy should specifically state that off-licences will not be granted to allow for alcohol to be served at outside tables and outside areas. These areas should always be included in the licensed area in any licence application.

13. **Policy 5** - We also believe that the policy in its current form of a "flexible approach" is too vague and gives the Licensing Committee too much leeway in interpretation and implementation of the policy, particularly where a licence application is for premises close to residential properties.

The police report noted that crime and nuisance has now extended over most of the night rather than the historical 23.00 closing time. Bringing closing time forward could assist the police in tackling crime and anti-social behaviour.

We would therefore suggest the framework hours for weekends are reduced to 8am to 11pm, particularly for those applications that are close to residential properties.

14. **Policy 11** - Training Sessions point 102.

In the absence of data as to the response thus far to "encouraging" licensees to attend, we suggest that consideration should be given to attendance at the Licensing Authority bespoke training and briefing sessions being subject to a compulsory minimum, at least one per year. Many professions and industries require attendance at such CPD courses. Subject to any resource implications, we do not believe that this is unreasonable.

15. **Policy 14** - The policy should include clear, specified time for outdoor areas to be cleared. We suggest by 22.00 latest if close to residential properties.

16. **Policy 22** - We recommend that it is stated policy that tables and outside areas should be cleared by 22.00 when close to residential areas.

The policy does not specifically address noise from outside tables and drinking areas and from dispersal of customers. There should be a specific policy point relating to the clearing of outside tables in premises close to residential dwellings. This is of course sometimes added to the conditions of a licence but should be a specific, stated policy. We would consider "close" to be 18-22 metres, which is the distance usually given for planning purposes to allow for privacy.

17. **Policy 24** - We would repeat the recommendation from Policy 22.

On behalf of the [REDACTED] Residents' Association.

Resident email – no further submission received

Thank you for this. I will pull together comments and send to you before deadline. On first read, the focus on containing alcohol sales and new licenses is definitely positive for us. The stats in the draft are really shocking!

However, there is far less on how existing licenses may be managed in the future. The 10pm voluntary curfew on outside drinking has made a real difference in our immediate area. Could this be considered for formal adoption across the borough?

█ it doesn't seem to be an issue. No one has raised any problems. Only late night outside drinking would be a concern.

Hope this helps.

Dear Cllr

I am writing to provide comments on the draft Licensing Policy 2018-22, as part of the public consultation currently under way.

I am particularly pleased to read:

- In Paragraph 52, that "the Licensing Authority is committed to supporting the development of a new grass roots live music hub in the [Finsbury Park] area";
- In Paragraph 58, that "premises providing live music and other cultural activities" may provide "possible exceptions to the Holloway and Finsbury Park Cumulative Impact Policy";
- That Licensing Policy 9 focuses on diversity in the evening and night time economy (although, part of one of the sentences seems to be missing);
- That Licensing Policy 10 focuses encouraging more cultural spaces;
- That Licensing Policy 20 expects applicants to explain their approach to creating a safe and secure environment for everyone, and;
- That the Licensing Policy does not rely upon CCTV and ID scanning to achieve its objectives.

Given current market pressures leading to closures of live music and cultural venues, I would like to see the aim to promote diversity of drinking establishments and non-alcohol led licensed premises reflected more generally in the Introduction section (ideally, as a new non-statutory licensing objective, or alternatively, as an addition to the list of aims for the Licensing Policy).

The recent spate of closures of live music and cultural venues suggests that Licensing Policies 9 and 10 must be strengthened in order to have any effect in the face of market forces. Many live music and other cultural venues are increasingly unable to compete with eating and drinking establishments in making rental bids at the time of lease expiry. The Licensing Policy has the ability to impact on market rents for non-residential premises within the Borough, by adjusting licensing risk for certain ventures, and therefore influencing hope value reflected in rental bids. Any policy that would look less favourably upon a change of use from a live music and other cultural venue to an eating and alcohol-led drinking establishment may help to maintain rents at a sustainable level for existing live music and cultural venues. This should also have a positive impact on the licensing objectives and consumer choice, as stemming the flow of closures of live music and cultural venues will maintain levels of competition between them, necessitating good management, high quality of service, and innovation of offer to consumers.

With regards to Licensing Policy 20, I note that the Good Night Out initiative is not mentioned, despite several licensed premises within the Borough (The Lexington, The Garage and Fabric nightclub) being registered venues. Although I cannot warrant its effectiveness, its aims seem to align with those of Licensing Policy 20. Similarly, some public venues are signing up to NCT's Parent Friendly Places Charter, and joining community toilet schemes, which can also improve outcomes under the Public Sector Equality Duty and therefore may warrant consideration.

With regards to Licensing Policy 21, I would like to see the Council recognise its own role in tackling public nuisance - such as by offering advice to applicants, and directing the investment Late Night Levy funding (for example, in public toilet facilities to prevent urinating in public).

With regard to Licensing Policy 22, I would like to see reference to the "agent of change" principle, whereby the onus is on developers to take steps such as soundproofing new residential properties in areas where music venues or nightclubs are already established. This is in line with measures proposed by the Mayor of London.

Finally, I am sure that you have already been made aware and are addressing various typographical errors in the document, including the dates on the front cover.

I would be happy to discuss further any of the points raised above, and look forward to reading the final document in due course.

Kind regards,

Resident, Tollington Ward

THE [REDACTED] ASSOCIATION

C/o
[REDACTED]

Licensing Team
Public Protection
222 Upper Street
London
N1 1XR

By email to
licensing@islington.gov.uk

16 October 2017

Dear Licensing Team

Response to Draft Licensing Policy Consultation October 2017

I write on behalf of the Committee of this Association.

Thank you for the details of the present Consultation. Obviously we are particularly interested in suggested policy for the Upper Street and Angel area, but also in some of the general principles across the Borough.

Once again we especially welcome the Licensing Authority's established recognition in the draft document that i) Islington is one of London's most distinctive areas; ii) of its dense and rising population population (p.5; in fact we believe it is recognised as the most densely populated borough in the UK); iii) that the Borough has one of the highest densities of licensed premises in England

We accept that the Authority needs to demonstrate balance (para.9) between the conflicting needs of residents and business. We strongly agree that the general operating hours set out in Licensing Policies 5 & 6 should be respected, and indeed that certainly in the six Cumulative Impact Policy Areas (Licensing Policy 3) which includes Upper Street and the Angel the aim should be to limit in-house licensed hours in pubs as described in Licensing Policy 6.

The Authority could bear in mind that TfL indicates that around 32million people use the hub of Highbury Corner each year in different ways. Second, there is the prospect of the near completion of the huge Islington Square development (0.5m sq feet), opening from next year; it will greatly increase footfall in Upper Street at all times.

Bearing the above in mind we have two particular concerns which we would like addressed in the Authority's forthcoming schedule of key general objectives, especially related to the Upper Street and the Angel:

1. Physical provision of lavatory facilities.

We note that the present draft of Licensing Policy 21 on Public Nuisance contains a list of nuisances ranging from light pollution to urinating in public, and refers to restrictions where 'relevant representations are received.'

However in our view, in Upper Street and the Angel, areas with minimal public lavatories, together with customer misuse of the street and public parks, such as Compton Terrace Gardens, the Authority should aim directly to specify measured and adequate lavatory facilities in all licensed buildings, adequate, that is, in related to numbers of customers and square footage.

There may in fact be an argument for a Council levy on licensed premises towards providing public toilets.

We would like to see physical provision of lavatory facilities expressly set out as a requirement for licensing in each building, perhaps as a bullet point in Licensing Policy 2 Licensing: Cumulative Impact and Saturation.

2. Drinking outside in the street and pavement obstructions.

There is a variable problem of drinkers standing outside certain pubs at both ends of Upper Street, eg at Highbury Corner or around the Memorial Park at the Angel, often regardless of obstructing the pavement.

A similar problem is the spread of tables and 'A' boards along much of the Upper Street and Angel Areas.

We suggest that both points should be clearly addressed in licensing policy.

Yours sincerely

[Redacted signature]

[Redacted signature]

Sent by Email: Licensing@islington.gov.uk

Tel: 020 3688 2900
www.islingtonccg.nhs.uk

31 October 2017

Dear Licensing Department,

Public Health response to Islington's licensing policy consultation

Public health are responding in support of proposed licensing policy for Islington.

- We welcome the continuation of the six cumulative impact policy areas. We recognise the significant impact of the availability of alcohol across the borough and see the continuation of these areas as an important part of the response to address these.
- We support the suggested framework hours associated with off licences in Clerkenwell cumulative impact area as a response to the impact of pre-loading in this area of the borough.
- We support the proposal around off licence provision which we know is a key source of alcohol for some of the most vulnerable drinkers in Islington. In addition, we support proposals around framework hours particularly around opening hours, as Public Health continue to have concerns around the ease with which one can purchase alcohol for off-premises consumption at all hours of the day and night.
- Para 70, we would suggest the statistical explanation is amended. Analysis from the local alcohol profiles for England (LAPE) indicates alcohol hospital admissions in those under the age of 18 years are significantly higher in Islington when compared to London, however, although the rate in Islington is higher than in England, it is not significantly higher. The rate of under 18 alcohol admissions in Islington is the second highest amongst London boroughs.
- We see the acknowledgement of the presence of high risk areas in the borough as a positive and aligned to local analysis which shows the issues associated with vulnerable drinkers in the borough including areas of Islington where street drinking occurs. However, we have some suggestions:
 - It may be overly complicated to have specific framework hours for areas considered to be high risk, as such does para 81 provide the licensing committee sufficient flexibility to amend hours of operation in areas of concern? We are not clear that reduction of hours to 10am is necessarily the way to address concerns and perhaps a more bespoke approach should be taken e.g. all off licences in an area where there is concern are restricted to sales of alcohol only between 9am and 5pm. It might be that requirements for restricted hours may only need to be enforced for a short period of time e.g. if street drinking is curbed the requirement for reduced hours may be reduced. In addition, it could be that availability of super strength alcohol is where the focus should be as opposed to hours of operation. As such consideration should be given as to whether a more bespoke response needs to be taken in specific areas following consultation with relevant partners.
 - We suggest rewording the definition of high risk areas:
Currently defined as: *High risk areas includes premises in the in vicinity of schools, wet or dry centres, mental health establishments or street population hotspots*

We suggested something along the lines of:

High risk areas are areas of the borough where partners involved in alcohol harm reduction work have identified there are particular concerns around the vulnerability of those visiting or residing in the area. For example, an area where one or more of the following apply:

- there are considerable levels of street drinking or partners are reporting having to attend a number of alcohol related incidents;
 - in close proximity to local hospitals, drug and alcohol services or mental health services;
 - in close proximity to vulnerable young people's services (such as children and young people's drug and alcohol services, CAMHS, young persons supported accommodation, pupil referral units);
 - there is particularly vulnerable adult supported accommodation (accommodation for individuals who continue to drink or where there are more than 10 residents residing).
- The evidence mentioned in para 84 should be referenced
 - Public Health strongly supports the intention around high strength alcohol restriction in areas where there are localised concerns. Speaking to colleagues in substance misuse services and those involved in housing for vulnerable residents it is clear that high strength alcohol remains easily available in Islington and a cause of significant harm and anti-social behaviour among heavy drinkers. It is often seen as a drink of choice among some of our most vulnerable drinkers such as our street homeless and vulnerably housed populations. The detrimental impacts on these groups health is significant and, in addition is often associated with anti-social behaviour in the borough.

The cheap availability of high strength cider is causing significant and hard-hitting harm on some of the most vulnerable individuals in our communities. Cider of 7.5% ABV attracts the lowest level of duty of any alcohol product at any strength. Cheap high strength white ciders are the cheapest product on the market on a per unit basis. For instance, a three litre bottle, which contains as much alcohol as 22 shots of vodka (more than the CMO recommended maximum level for weekly alcohol units consumed), is available for less than £4. At such a low cost it has become a drink of choice amongst many of the most vulnerable dependent drinkers. The cheap cost also makes it an attractive option for underage drinkers preloading before a night out.

- Paragraph 119, we support the requirements placed on premises where drug use is a risk. We would request a further requirement around the importance of premises evidencing implementation of best practice in their policies around drug related harm. For instance:
 - Safer Night Life: this provides useful guidance to clubs. Clubs should review their local policy, including procedures and training, in relation to this(http://newip.safernightlife.org/pdfs/digital_library/uk_safer_nightlife_guideline.pdf)
 - All employees, including those linked to the club through any contracting or subcontracting arrangements (e.g. door staff) should be provided with drug awareness training (as part of induction and annually refreshed) which includes: the recognition of those in distress or intoxicated (alcohol and drugs); identification of early symptoms and signs of those potentially needing assistance and how to intervene proactively; information about common drug induced problems; updates on new trends and patterns in drug use and any associated medical consequences.

[REDACTED]

Haringey Clinical Commissioning Group and Islington Clinical Commissioning Group

Public Document Pack

London Borough of Islington

Licensing Committee - 17 October 2017

Minutes of the meeting of the Licensing Committee held at Committee Room 1, Town Hall, Upper Street, N1 2UD on 17 October 2017 at 6.30 pm.

Present: **Councillors:** Nick Wayne (Vice-Chair), Satnam Gill, Rakhia Ismail,
Gary Poole and Diarmaid Ward
Also **Councillor** Kaya Comer-Schwartz.
Present

Councillor Nick Wayne in the Chair

34 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE (Item 1)**

Apologies were received from Councillors Champion, Convery, Diner, Shaikh, Spall and Williamson.

35 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST (Item 2)**

Councillor Gary Poole declared a personal interest as a member of the Safer Neighbourhood Board.

36 **MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING (Item 3)**

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the meeting held on 22 May 2017 be confirmed as an accurate record of proceedings and the Chair be authorised to sign them.

37 **LICENSING POLICY 2018-2022 (Item 1)**

The Service Manager (Environmental Health) reported on the draft Licensing Policy for 2018-2022.

The following was noted in discussion:-

- The key policy changes from the licensing policy 2013/17 were highlighted as detailed in the report at paragraph 3.8.
- The consultation would be closing on the 29 October 2017 and the final draft would include changes before being submitted for approval by Council on the 7 December 2017.
- There would be a new cumulative impact policy for off sales licences and this policy would create a rebuttable presumption.
- It was considered that the wording 'subject to certain limitation' under Licensing Policy 3 on page 9 of the draft policy be moved to paragraph 11.
- That paragraph 48 revert to the wording of the previous policy as this had been working well and was considered to be an unnecessary change.
- That the word 'all' be deleted from the paragraphs detailing the exceptions to the cumulative impact policy.
- That the wording 'regarding negative cumulative impact on one or more of the licensing objectives' be reflected throughout the policy.

Licensing Committee - 17 October 2017

RESOLVED that the draft policy be noted and submitted to Council for approval subject to any changes made following the end of the consultation period on the 29 October 2017 and the amendments as detailed above.

The meeting ended at 7.45 pm

CHAIR

Licensing Policy 2018-2022

Changes to Licensing Policy following feedback from consultation

Section/paragraph amended	Amendments – changes highlighted in italics
Introduction	Carefully manage the number of late night <i>licenced</i> premises supplying alcohol, imposing restrictions where appropriate
Introduction	<i>As required under the Licensing Act 2003</i> , where no representations are received, applications will be granted on the terms and conditions applied for.
Operation Nightsafe	It is funded by the Late Night Levy which is paid by all licenced premises selling alcohol beyond midnight <i>as prescribed in the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011</i> .
Licensing Policy 2	the views of other persons <i>the potential impact on residents living in close proximity to the premises</i>
Paragraph 8	As there is often no delineation or separation between residential and commercial areas careful management <i>a higher standard of operational practices</i> will be required to prevent conflict between the different uses.
Licensing Policy 3	Amended to read: This special policy creates a rebuttable presumption that applications for the grant or variation of premises licences or club premises certificates which are likely to add to the existing cumulative impact will normally be refused following the receipt of representations, unless the applicant can demonstrate in the operation schedule that there will be no negative cumulative impact on one or more of the licensing objectives
Paragraph 11	This special policy is not absolute <i>and in some situation premises licences or or club certificates may be subject to limitations</i> .
Paragraph 13	<i>Applicants will be expected to comprehensively demonstrate why a new or varied licence will not add to the cumulative impact.</i>
Paragraph 21	<i>The Licensing Authority wants to support applications from businesses that contribute to the wider cultural offer in the area and those that enhance the diversity of the evening economy.</i>
Paragraphs 24, 30, 40, 57, 65	Amended to read: Applications with comprehensive operating schedules that meet all the following criteria may be able to demonstrate that there will be no negative cumulative impact on one or more of the licensing objectives:
Paragraph 45	a) the impact of late night <i>all venues</i> on local residents
Paragraph 48	Amended to: Applications with comprehensive operating schedules that meet all the following criteria may be able to demonstrate that there will be no negative cumulative impact on one or more of

	<p>the licensing objectives:</p> <p>small premises with a capacity of fifty persons with hours of operation consistent with the framework hours</p> <p>premises which are mixed use or not alcohol-led with hours of operation consistent with the framework hours</p>
Licensing Policy 6	<p>Revised definition of high risk area</p> <p>High risk areas are defined as areas of the borough where partners involved in alcohol harm reduction work have identified there are particular concerns around the vulnerability of those visiting or residing in the area. For example, an area where one or more of the following apply:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • there are considerable levels of street drinking or partners are reporting having to attend a number of alcohol related incidents • in close proximity to local hospitals, drug and alcohol services or mental health services • in close proximity to vulnerable young people's services (such as children and young people's drug and alcohol services, CAMHS, young persons supported accommodation, pupil referral units) • there is particularly vulnerable adult supported accommodation (accommodation for individuals who continue to drink or where there are more than 10 residents).
Paragraph 101	Licence holders are encouraged <i>expected</i> to attend these events so that best practice can be widely disseminated.
Licensing Policy 14	Specific measures, <i>depending on the nature of the venue</i> , may include:
Paragraph 118	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • implement an appropriate robust banning policy for persons found in possession of drugs
Paragraph 122	<i>Signing up to 'Good Night Out' added to list</i>
Paragraph 126	New paragraph inserted : <i>The council expect developers building new residential premises in close proximity to licenced premises to implement the 'agent of change' principle by incorporating a high standards of mitigation measures into the design and construction of residential properties to protect future residents from nuisance from licenced venues</i>
Licensing Policy 24	<p>Added</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>the arrangements for clearing, tables and chairs</i> • <i>preventing nuisance from smoke fumes to residents living in close proximity to smoking areas</i>

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ISLINGTON

COUNCIL MEETING – 7 DECEMBER 2017

REPORT OF THE CHIEF WHIP

OUTSIDE BODY APPOINTMENT:

1. APPOINTMENT TO THE NORTH LONDON WASTE AUTHORITY

- a) That Councillor Richard Greening is standing down as a member of the North London Waste Authority and that Councillor Andy Hull is appointed as Councillor Greening's replacement.

Recommendation:

- a) To agree that Councillor Andy Hull is appointed as a member of the North London Waste Authority with immediate effect.

COUNCILLOR SATNAM GILL
Chief Whip

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COUNCIL MEETING – 7 DECEMBER 2017

NOTICES OF MOTION

MOTION 1: FURTHER PAUSE AND FIX THE ROLLOUT OF UNIVERSAL CREDIT

Moved by: Councillor Hull

Seconded by: Councillor Williamson

This council notes that:

- the next phase (relating to all new claimants) of the full roll out of Universal Credit, which replaces six existing benefits with one, is currently set to go live in Islington in June 2018;
- Islington Council, along with other local authorities across the country, has reported serious concerns about the implementation of Universal Credit in its current form, especially regarding delays in residents receiving much-needed payments, the risk of digital exclusion, and problems with both advance payments and alternative payment arrangements;
- if Universal Credit were fully rolled out across the borough tomorrow, an estimated 22,000+ households would receive Universal Credit in Islington;
- research by Islington Council has found that the average household in Islington in receipt of Universal Credit would be £12.07 per week worse off than under the current system, with almost half (49 per cent) of all households in receipt of Universal Credit losing out;
- in Islington, 81 per cent of council tenants on Universal Credit are in arrears, compared with 29 per cent of council tenants on old-style benefits; and
- in Islington, average rent arrears for council tenants not in receipt of Universal Credit is £122, but for council tenants in receipt of Universal Credit, average arrears are almost ten times higher, at £1,058.

This council further notes:

- Islington Council's ongoing work to support local people in receipt of Universal Credit or other out-of-work benefits by:
 - providing support to help local people back into work, including through iWork, which provides coaches to people who have been out of work for six months or more to help them find decent and secure jobs;
 - opening the first new Citizens Advice Bureau in London for 20 years to offer free, independent advice to residents;
 - supporting residents to ensure they receive the correct level of social security support they are entitled to through the Income Maximisation (IMAX) team;

- signposting residents to a number of organisations that can provide legal advice, including the Islington Law Centre and Islington People’s Rights;
- working with Help On Your Doorstep proactively to put local people in touch with services that can support them; and
- helping local people facing hardship through the Resident Support Scheme, for instance by providing a grant to help buy essential household items.

This council resolves to:

- make further representations to the Government to urge them to pause the rollout of Universal Credit still further in order to fix the significant problems which remain with it, despite changes announced in the Chancellor’s recent autumn budget, and which will impact local people badly if they are not addressed; and
- protect council services which support local people in receipt of Universal Credit, or other out-of-work benefits, including particularly services that help them to find work.

MOTION 2: STANDING UP FOR LOCAL PEOPLE FROM OTHER EU COUNTRIES

Moved by: Councillor Comer-Schwartz

Seconded by: Councillor Poyser

This council notes that:

- Islington is a diverse borough that is home to people from all over the world, including around 30,000 people from other countries in the European Union, who make an outstanding economic, cultural and social contribution to our community.
- Since the Council passed the motion ‘Protecting EU nationals in Islington’ at Full Council in June 2017, the Government has still not guaranteed the rights of people from other countries in the European Union living in the UK, or confirmed that they will be able to remain in the UK after Brexit.
- More than eighteen months since the UK voted to leave the European Union, people from other countries in the European Union are no more certain about their future in the UK.
- That EU workers represent 13 per cent of London’s workforce and represent 10 of doctors and seven per cent of nurses in London’s NHS. The potential departure of people from countries in the European Union will have serious economic and health repercussions for Islington.

This council further notes:

- That the Leader of Islington Council wrote to the Prime Minister in November, along with other Council leaders, calling on the Government to immediately guarantee the full rights of people from countries in the European Union.
- The Council’s ongoing work with partners and the voluntary and community sectors to co-ordinate practical support for people from countries in the European Union, including a second advice session jointly organised with Islington IN Europe, Wilson Solicitors and Wesley Gryk Solicitors.

This council resolves to:

- Continue to make representations to urge Government to stop using our friends, family and neighbours as a bargaining chip in the Brexit negotiations by:
 - Immediately guaranteeing the full rights of all people from other countries in the European Union living in the UK, including those who have resided in the country for less than five years

- Guaranteeing that the rights of people from other countries in the European Union will not be affected in the event of no Brexit deal being agreed
- Establish a dedicated advice page on the Council website, which residents from other countries in the European Union can visit for the latest information and advice.

MOTION 3: MAKING ISLINGTON COUNCIL DEMENTIA FRIENDLY

Moved by Councillor Burgess
 Seconded by Councillor Gantly

This council notes that:

- Islington Council estimates 1,235 people in Islington have dementia. As Islington's population is predicted to increase and get older, dementia and demand for more dementia-friendly services is likely to increase.
- People with dementia can still enjoy a good quality of life with minor adjustments, but only if they get a diagnosis and have the advice and support they need.
- The rate of people with dementia to be diagnosed in Islington is the highest in London at 77.83%, which is above the Government's diagnosis target.
- A healthy diet, regular physical exercise, and avoiding smoking and drinking may reduce the risk of developing Alzheimer's Disease.

This council further notes that:

- The publication of the Alzheimer's Society's "Creating a Dementia-Friendly London" report, which calls on all London boroughs to work towards attaining dementia-friendly status by 2020.
- The work of existing services that support people with dementia in the community, including the Memory Assessment Service, Dementia Advisor Service, Mental Health Liaison Service, Cecelia's café and Islington Carers Hub.
- Islington Council created the post of Mental Health champion, to promote mental health, including dementia, in the borough, at Full Council 15th October 2015.

This council resolves to:

- Further improve dementia diagnosis rates in the borough by encouraging earlier presentation and diagnosis in the borough.
- Work towards awareness raising within the wider community, encouraging all elected members to become a 'Dementia Friend' through the Alzheimer's Society's free Dementia Friends Programme, and to take this learning into their home communities.
- Apply the Council's principles of co-production when working with people affected by dementia when bringing in new policies.
- Work towards making council practices more dementia friendly, including commitments to make council run buildings dementia friendly.
- Continue to run local risk reduction campaigns, including clear messaging in ongoing Public Health campaigns regarding exercise, alcohol, smoking or diet. The best prevention advice is that 'what's good for your heart is good for your head'.
- Make information about local dementia services as accessible as possible, reviewing content on the local authority website and raising awareness among all Council staff.

MOTION 4: PROVIDING SAFE STREETS FOR PEOPLE WALKING AND CYCLING IS A MATTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE

Moved by Councillor Russell:

This Council notes that:

- 29 children were killed or seriously injured on Islington's roads in the five years from 2012-2016.
- The percentage of children who have excess weight (obese or overweight) in Reception (aged 4-5 years) is 22.5% and in Year 6 (aged 10-11 years) is 36.5%.
- In Islington just 26% of households have access to a car or van. 35% of Islington children are living in poverty

This Council further notes that:

- The Mayor of London's draft transport strategy aims to reduce traffic and takes a Healthy Streets and Vision Zero approach to managing the transport network.
- This means linking public health outcomes to transport spending and aiming for zero people killed on our roads.

This council believes that providing safe streets for people walking and cycling is a matter of social justice.

This council resolves to:

Work with the community to reduce traffic, reduce road danger and enable residents from 8 - 80 to make local journeys safely and conveniently on foot and by bike.