

The Licensing Policy review, lead by the Licensing Committee and Executive Member for Community Safety, and subsequent public consultation has lead to the following changes:

Amended Policy Statements

Licensing Policy 6 Licensing Hours

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
Premises selling alcohol for consumption off the premises in close proximity to or in high risk areas	Monday to Sunday	10am to 11pm

Licensing Policy 8 Management Standards

When assessing the applicant 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 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.

Licensing Policy 21 Safe and Secure Licensed Venues

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 adoption of schemes supporting safeguarding of women, LGBTQ+ and vulnerable customers and the protection of young adults in licensed venues.

Paragraph 122 Updated:

- Promoting 'Ask Angela'
- Promoting 'Ask Clive'
- Signing up to the Women's Night Safety Charter
- Signing up to 'Good Night Out'
- Signing up to be a "Safe Haven"
- Displaying posters which discourage harassment and hate crime and encourage reporting to staff/managers
- Taking every report seriously with appropriate action
- Taking steps to support people who report sexual harassment, assault and drink spiking
- Training and supporting staff to implement venue policies
- ensure vulnerable customers leave the venue safely
- Use ID scanners at venues

- Conduct risk assessments for each externally promoted event. Consideration to be given to linking in with Safer Sounds through the 'Safer Business Network'. <https://www.saferounds.org.uk>
- Adopt a Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for every medical emergency that requires an ambulance to be called to the venue.

Licensing Policy 22 – Public Nuisance

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:

- amplified sound: noise from music/films etc. played on the premises and or in external areas.
- deliveries from the premises: particularly early morning and late night and with a focus on delivery vehicle noise including idling engines and noise from delivery riders/drivers.
- deliveries to the premises: particularly early morning and late night, weekends and bank holidays deliveries, including idling vehicles
- flyposting: unauthorised posting of posters / advertisements etc.
- highways and pavement obstructions: obstruction by customers blocking footpaths when eating, drinking and smoking near to the premises or by furniture/signs etc.
- light pollution: unshielded lighting, lighting directed at neighbouring properties, excessive lighting
- litter and waste: litter and waste generated by the carrying out of licensable activities, for example, food wrappers and cigarette butts.
- noise from patrons: for instance:
 - patrons queuing to enter the premises.
 - patrons eating, drinking or smoking in external areas.
 - patrons dispersing from the premises late at night.
 - car horns/car radios/slamming of car doors late at night.
 - general drunken behaviour and shouting etc.

- odour, smells and smoke: smell nuisance from ventilation ducting and kitchen extractors. Also, smoke from wood and charcoal equipment etc.
- plant and machinery noise: including air conditioning units, refrigeration units and kitchen extractors etc.
- street fouling and urinating in public: urination and the fouling of pavements and doorways through vomiting etc.
- waste and other collections: particularly early morning and late night, weekends and bank holidays, clearing up and collection of waste and particularly of glass.
- recycling facilities: storage of waste such as glass and bottles etc.

Licensing Policy 25 Noise Relating To Deliveries From The Premises

Licence holders and applicants are encouraged to consider whether quiet deliveries can be made to customers' premises when delivering licensable goods or conducting late night deliveries. Noise from delivery vehicles is a large source of complaints and could potentially result in a public nuisance.

Licence holders and applicants need to introduce measures to minimise the impact, particularly of vehicle noise. The Licensing Authority recognises that deliveries from the licensed premises can sometimes be outside the control of the premises licence holder but encourages the appointment of contractors who can carry out collections and deliveries using non-internal combustion engine vehicles.

Whilst each premises is different and unique, there are several sources of noise and nuisance noise complaints that are common to many premises with a delivery service. Any operating schedule for a premises with a delivery service should address potential nuisances such as:

- Noise from delivery vehicles
- Noise from drivers/riders awaiting pickup
- Noise from the delivery

All proposals for a delivery from the premises service are required show that 'quiet' vehicles (such as electric vehicles and bicycles, cargo bikes etc.) will be used unless there are exceptional reasons why this is not possible. Applicants will be asked to justify why they would be unable to use quiet vehicles and produce a plan for their introduction.

Licensing Policy 26 Smoking, Drinking And Eating Outside

The Licensing Authority recognises that where gardens, tables and chairs outside are provided for smoking, drinking or eating, users can potentially cause a nuisance. However, the Council supports, where appropriate, the use of outside tables and chairs to ensure the resilience of licenced businesses in the Borough

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
 - light pollution
 - 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.

NEW POLICIES

Licensing Policy 9 Equality And Inclusion In Licensed Premises

Applicants are encouraged to provide evidence as to how they will promote equality and diversity. Where relevant and appropriate, the licensing authority will take such evidence into account and give it due weight in the licensing processes

Islington has a diverse resident and visitor population and that is reflected in the wide range of successful licensed business in the area, offering multi-cultural food and entertainment and accessible venues. In our role as the licensing authority, we aim to encourage applicants to promote diversity, accessibility and including to provision of accessible facilities such as community toilets, whilst fulfilling their legal obligations under the Equality legislation.

In certain cases, the requirement to promote equality and diversity will directly engage the licensing objectives. In others, an applicant's evidenced commitment to promoting equality and diversity may signify a high standard of corporate social responsibility. This may help to demonstrate that they can also be trusted to promote the licensing objectives. As such, applicants are encouraged to provide evidence as to how they will promote equality and diversity. Where relevant and appropriate, the licensing authority will take such evidence into account and give due weight in the licensing process.

Licensing Policy 28 Environmental Best Practice In Licensed Premises

Applicants are encouraged to provide evidence as to how they will promote environmental protection.

Islington has declared a climate emergency and is working to make Islington net zero in terms of carbon by 2030.

Licensees are encouraged to join the council in working towards net zero carbon by considering:

- Reducing energy usage and switching to green energy suppliers
- Reducing food wastage and train staff in good practices
- When choosing takeout and delivery containers, opt for compostable materials where possible
- Focusing on reducing all types of waste and recycling where possible
- Reducing use of vehicles and switching to bikes or electric vehicles where they continue to be needed
- Supporting staff and customers who cycle to the licensed premises
- Inform customers about the actions being taken
- Buying from other businesses who are taking action to reduce their carbon footprint, including buying more locally.

In certain cases, the applicant's commitment to environmental protection will directly engage the licensing objectives. In others, an applicant's evidenced commitment may signify a high standard of corporate social responsibility. This may help to demonstrate that they can also be trusted to promote the licensing objectives. As such, applicants are encouraged to provide evidence as to how they will promote environmental protection. Where relevant and appropriate, the licensing authority will take such evidence into account and give due weight.

New Paragraph 122 (drink spiking)

Where appropriate premises applicants should consider the risk of drink spiking and have policies and procedures in place to prevent spiking and provide welfare support for customers who report that they have been the victim of spiking. Measures will include:

- Acting upon all reports, and alleged reports, of spiking, recording details and reporting to the police.
- Providing appropriate health, safety and welfare for customers
- Training staff and security teams on procedures

- Having procedures in place for searching, checking toilets and chillout and other quiet spaces
- Good CCTV coverage throughout the premises

New Paragraph 100 (Licensees' Charter)

The Licensee's Charter is designed to create venues that are safe and secure for customers whilst respecting the rights of residents living nearby. The Licensing Authority is keen to for all licence premises to support the charter and commit to:

- a. Providing safe, secure inclusive venues and premises
- b. Respecting local neighbours and encouraging customers to do likewise
- c. Providing high standards of management both inside and outside the premises
- d. Investing in staff training to support the Charter' objectives