

## Cumulative Impact Policy and Areas

The cumulative impact of licensed premises on the promotion of the licensing objectives is a proper matter for the Licensing Authority to consider in its statement of Licensing Policy.

Cumulative impact means the potential impact on the promotion of the licensing objectives of a significant number of licensed premises concentrated in one area.

Representations that an area is at, or is approaching, the point at which it will be subject to cumulative impact may be received from a 'responsible authority', an 'interested party' or from Councillors or officers. Such representations may be made either:

- As a result of ongoing liaison, monitoring and review
- Following representations arising from an application for the grant or variation of a licence, or
- As part of the Licensing Policy review at least every three years.

Where representations are made that an area is already subject to cumulative impact, or that the grant or **material** variation of a further licence will result in cumulative impact, the Licensing Authority will take the following steps in each case:

- Satisfy themselves that there is concern about crime and disorder or public nuisance in the vicinity
- Consider whether it can be demonstrated that crime and disorder or public nuisance are arising and are caused by the customers of licensed premises
- Identify the area from which the problems are arising and the boundaries of the area, or that the risk factors are such that the area is reaching a point when cumulative impact is imminent
- Consult with those organisations or individuals set out in Section 5(3) of the Act, namely:
  - Police
  - Fire
  - Persons representing holders of premises licences
  - Persons representing holders of club premises certificates
  - Persons representing Personal Licence holders
  - Persons representing businesses.

and state its findings and where a decision is made to include a 'Special Policy on Cumulative Impact', publish the decision as a supplement to this Statement of Licensing Policy.

In any area declared to be subject to a Special Policy of Cumulative Impact it would be the Licensing Authority's intention to refuse to grant new premises/club licences or **material** variations, unless the application is such that the grant of the licence would have no further detrimental impact on the area and the promotion of the licensing objectives.

**This policy applies to all new premises licences and club premises certificates, including but not limited to night clubs, wine bars, pubs, restaurants, take-away premises, supermarkets, shops, theatres and cinemas and leisure services which include licensable activities e.g. sports centres.**

**Off licences are specifically included in the cumulative impact policy as they can contribute to problems of crime and disorder and nuisance including street drinking, proxy purchasing, underage drinking, dispersal issues, preloading and excessive drinking.**

**The presumption of refusal does not relieve Responsible Authorities or Interested Parties of the need to make relevant representations. If no representations are received the Licensing Authority must grant the application in terms consistent with the operating schedule submitted**

When determining whether an area is or should be subject to a special policy of cumulative impact the Licensing Authority will have regard to the following matters: (The decision as to cumulative impact is not based solely on these matters and it is open to the Licensing Authority to consider any other matters that it feels are relevant)

- The nature of the area
- The number and types of licensed premises in the area
- The capacity of those premises
- The hours of operation of those premises
- The approved operating schedules of the premises
- The history of the premises
- The arrangements for the management of the premises
- The customer profile of the premises
- Recorded crime or disorder in the vicinity
- The views and experiences of those who live or work in the area
- The presence of other high-risk characteristics identified by the decision aide memoir. such as themed operations, price reductions.

The Licensing Authority will periodically review any areas subject to special policies of cumulative impact to see whether they have had the effect intended, and whether they are still needed.

The Licensing Authority will not use such policies solely as the grounds for removing a licence when representations are received about problems with existing licensed premises, or to refuse **material variations** to a licence, except where the **material variations** are directly relevant to the policy, for example where the application is for a significant increase in the capacity limits.

The Licensing Authority will publish separate details of any additional areas declared to be subject to a special policy of cumulative impact. The area covered by the special policy and the reasons for considering it to be subject to cumulative impact will be set out.

The Licensing Authority recognises that the diversity of premises selling alcohol, serving food and providing entertainment covers a wide range of contrasting styles and characteristics and will have full regard to those differences and the differing impact these will have on the local community when considering applications in saturated locations.

It therefore, also recognises that within this policy, it may be able to approve licences that are unlikely to add significantly to the saturation, **(such as Restaurants)** and will consider the circumstances of each individual application. In areas not subject to a special policy of cumulative impact but where representations of cumulative impact are made, the Licensing Authority will consider each application individually.

The following special policies on cumulative impact have been declared:

NO 1 Bromley Town Centre

NO 2 Beckenham Town Centre (see Appendix E)

The Licensing Authority is committed to the principle of special policies of cumulative impact and that the establishment of these two policies have made a significant contribution to the promotion of the 4 Licensing Objectives in Bromley Town Centre and Beckenham Town Centre.

The Licensing Authority reaffirms its commitment to make all decisions on applications for new licenses or variations in those areas strictly in accordance with those policies. The Licensing Authority wish to make it clear to all applicants that the presumption of refusal of all new licences and **material** variations stands, or where the applicant satisfies the Licensing Authority on the balance of probability that the application can be granted without having a detrimental affect on the promotion of the 4 Licensing Objectives.eg **restaurants**