



Walsall Council

REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF RESILIENT COMMUNITIES TO THE

LICENSING AND SAFETY COMMITTEE

31 MARCH 2021

LICENSING ACT 2003

WALSALL COUNCIL STATEMENT OF LICENSING POLICY 2021

1.0 Summary of report

- 1.1 This report informs the Licensing and Safety Committee of a review that has taken place of Walsall Council's Statement of Licensing Policy and a consultation that is required as a consequence of the review.
- 1.2 The report also informs the Licensing and Safety Committee of a review that has taken place of Walsall Council's Cumulative Impact Policy (CIP), which forms part of the Statement of Licensing Policy and a consultation that is required as a consequence of the review.
- 1.3 In accordance with paragraph 14.24 of the 182 Guidance issued under the Act, a cumulative impact assessment may be published by the licensing authority to help it to limit the number or types of licence applications granted in areas where there is evidence to show that the number or density of licensed premises in the area is having a cumulative impact and leading to problems which are undermining the licensing objectives.
- 1.4 The report sets out evidence from responsible authorities as stipulated under section 5(3) of the Licensing Act 2003.
- 1.5 As part of the consultation in relation to the CIP the authority will be seeking views on extending the criteria of the CIP to include sale of alcohol for consumption off the premises and late night refreshment.
- 1.6 The consultation will also seek views on the extension to of the current area covered by the CIP to include all streets that fall within the WS1 postcode. During the consultation all parties mentioned under section 5 (3) will be consulted. Following the consultation a report containing the evidence and results will be put before members for consideration.

2.0 Recommendations

- 2.1 The committee is asked to consider the proposed Statement of Licensing Policy and approve the publication of the draft policy for the prescribed eight-week statutory public consultation. The results of the consultation will be presented to the Committee for consideration before finalisation and approval of the Statement of Licensing Policy.

3.0 Background information

- 3.1 Walsall Council (the Council) is a licensing authority in accordance with section 3(1) of the Licensing Act 2003 and pursuant to section 5(1) of that same act the Council is required to determine and publish a Statement of Licensing Policy at least every five years.
- 3.2 The Council's current Statement of Licensing Policy (**Appendix 1**) took effect on the 7th January 2016. Therefore the updated policy is due to be published in January 2021. Due to Covid-19, many licensing authorities have encountered significant challenges to administering the review of their Statement of Licensing Policy. The date of publication of the agreed new Policy has therefore been delayed beyond January 2021. On the 9th April 2020 the Local Government Association provided some advice that, in light of the current challenges, some delay in engaging with the local trade and residents on the consultation of the policy is to be expected, but that progress would be made when a degree of normality has returned.
- 3.3 The revised policy contains a number of amendments and additional sections, which reflect changes in both legislation and guidance since the implementation of the current Statement of Licensing Policy.
- 3.4 These changes are shown in **Appendix 2**, highlighted in yellow, with the more significant changes summarised below.

Proposed Changes to the Statement of Licensing Policy

- 3.5 Section 16 explains the Live Music Act 2012 (Page 26-27 of the policy) and other entertainment licensing deregulation and has been updated to reflect further deregulation measures that have been introduced by central government since the last Statement of Licensing Policy was published.
- 3.6 Section 24 of the new policy provides information about how the Council will deal with applications for personal licences (Page 34-35 of the policy) and how it will deal with situations where it is considering suspending or revoking personal licences. The power to suspend or revoke personal licences was given to licensing authorities following the enactment of the Policing and Crime Act 2017.

- 3.7 Section 26, an entirely new section, has been added to explain the implications of the Immigration Act 2016 on the exercise of the Council's functions under the Licensing Act 2003 (Page 39).

Cumulative Impact Assessment (CIA)

- 3.8 Currently the CIP comes into effect only for applications relating to the on sale of alcohol for the geographical area shown on the map in **Appendix 3**. One of the key proposed changes to the Statement of Licensing Policy (**Appendix 2**) is an extension of the area to which the Cumulative Impact Policy (CIP) applies.
- 3.9 On 6th April 2018, the Policing and Crime Act 2017 introduced a new provision within the Licensing Act 2003, Section 5A. This provision provides that a licensing authority may, in appropriate circumstances publish a Cumulative Impact Assessment (CIA).
- 3.10 Paragraph 14.26 of the 182 Guidance states:
“The CIA must include a statement saying that the licensing authority considers that the number of premises licences and/or club premises certificates in one or more parts of the area described is such that it is likely that granting further licences would be inconsistent with the authority’s duty to promote the licensing objectives. As part of the publication a licensing authority must set out the evidential basis for its opinion”.
- 3.11 Members are to consider whether the evidence put forward to them by way of the report and appendices justifies the need for a CIP. The report includes evidence from responsible authorities to show that a CIA has been conducted.
- 3.12 As with a CIP, a CIA may be published by a licensing authority to limit the number or types of licence applications granted in areas where there is evidence to show that the number or density of licensed premises in the area is having a cumulative impact and leading to problems which are undermining the licensing objectives.

CIA's relate to applications for new premises licences, new club premises certificates, and the variation of existing premises licences and club premises certificates in the affected CIP area/zone.

- 3.13 Guidance states that as CIPs were not part of the original 2003 Act, there are no transitional provisions that apply to CIPs pre-dating 6 April 2018. However, any existing CIPs should be reviewed at the earliest practical opportunity to ensure they comply with the current legislation.

It is recommended that the review should take place within three years of the commencement of the legislation that introduced CIAs or when the licensing policy statement is next due for review, whichever is sooner. This will ensure that any CIPs in place before the

commencement of the provisions on CIAs now adhere to the principles in the legislation.

- 3.14 The change from a CIP to a CIA has no practical effect in respect of how applications may be dealt with when they are received. The differences are:
- the requirement that the Council must review the CIA every 3 years; and
 - there must be a full consultation before a CIA can be implemented.
- 3.15 Walsall Council's current CIP was introduced by the Council on the 8 September 2008, based on evidence provided by West Midlands Police. This evidence demonstrated that part of Walsall was being adversely affected by levels of crime, disorder and antisocial behaviour, specifically linked to the large number of licensed premises concentrated in the area.
- 3.16 As part of the current review of the CIP, it has been recognised that the cumulative impact of a number of late night entertainment premises (including cafes) in some areas may result in an increase of people either walking through, or congregating in, streets during the night.
- This may in turn have a number of undesirable consequences, for example;
- an increase in crime against property and/or person;
 - an increase in noise causing disturbance to residents;
 - traffic congestion and/or parking problems; (impact of the parking and it resulting in to a nuisance); and
 - littering and fouling.
- 3.17 These undesirable consequences may result in the amenity of local residents being placed under pressure, as it will not always be possible to attribute a particular problem to customers of particular premises. This means that, whilst enforcement action may be taken to ensure conditions are complied with at individual premises, this may not resolve all the problems being encountered.
- 3.18 It is proposed that the new CIP also takes into account the impact of the sale of alcohol for consumption 'off the premises' and the provision of 'late night refreshment' in the WS1 area when determining applications etc.
- 3.19 The report takes in to consideration data from responsible authorities from April 2017 – March 2020. The CIP will be relied upon in cases where, for applications relating to premises located within the CIP area under the Licensing Act 2003, the applicant has failed to include sufficient measures for mitigating the potential impact of the grant of the licence undermining the licensing objectives, in line with the policy.

The use of the CIA will also depend upon the recovery of the economy and the level of activity in Walsall. Therefore, in determining the validity of representations the representation must be justified and include clear evidence and reasoning, which will stand up to scrutiny at a hearing, should one be required, and be relied upon in defending any subsequent decisions.

Licensing Service Information

- 3.20 There are 876 licensed premises and club premises certificates issued under the Licensing Act 2003 for the Borough of Walsall. 118 of these premises are located within the current CIP area (**Appendix 3**). Twenty of these premises provide late night refreshment, 51 of the premises provide alcohol (on and off sales), and 47 of the premises provide both alcohol (On and Off sales) and late night refreshment.
- 3.21 Between 2017 and 2019, 31 variation applications were received by the licensing authority for existing premises within the Borough. Sixteen related to premises situated within the current CIP area. The applications were primarily to extend the licensing hours for the sale of alcohol and late night refreshment.

The table below shows the number of new premises licence applications received for the past 3 years (2017 – 2020) for the licensable activities listed.

YEAR	Late Night Refreshment (LNR)	Alcohol	Both LNR & Alcohol
2017	8	12	9
2018	4	10	9
2019	3	11	6

- 3.22 This data shows that between January 2017 and December 2019 the licensing authority received 72 new premises licence applications. The data provides justification for keeping the CIP in place. Nineteen out of the 72 (about 27%) new premises licence applications were received for the WS1 postcode area compared to fourteen for WS2 and thirty-nine for the rest of the borough.

Walsall Council Clean and Green Information

- 3.23 **Appendix 4** is a copy of the data from 'Clean & Green' showing the number of litter complaints the council has received in each financial year starting on the 1 April 2017.
- 3.24 The data shows that from 1 April 2017 to 31 March 2020 there was an increase in litter complaints for the current CIP area (**Appendix 3**). The

current CIP policy deals with the Sale of Alcohol for consumption on the premises. Due to the volume of applications that

The recommendation of this report is to expand the CIP area to include the sale of alcohol for consumption both on and off the premises and the provision of late night refreshment. This may address the concerns around litter and the nuisance it causes. A CIP will be reviewed every 3 years to ascertain whether there is still a need for the policy.

Trading Standards Information

- 3.25 **Appendix 5** contains evidence from Walsall Council Trading Standards Team, which shows the areas in Walsall where the sale of illicit tobacco is prevalent. The two main areas highlighted on the map are Caldmore and Pleck (WS1) and the evidence shows a correlation between the illicit sale of tobacco and premises licensed for the sale of alcohol.

Whilst the sale of tobacco is not a licensable activity, paragraph 11.27 of the section 182 Guidance issued under the Licensing Act 2003 states:

“There is certain criminal activity that may arise in connection with licensed premises which should be treated particularly seriously. These are the use of the licensed premises for the sale or storage of smuggled tobacco and alcohol”

This would justify including the WS1 post code area in to the CIP for the Prevention of Crime and Disorder.

- 3.26 The evidence provided from Trading Standards suggest that the licensing objective of the Prevention of Crime & Disorder is of significant importance in terms of controlling illegal and harmful criminal activity in the WS1 postcode area.

West Midlands Police Information

- 3.27 West Midlands Police have provided evidence on total recorded crime within the current CIP area and also outside of the CIP.

- 3.28 The evidence for Total Recorded Crime (TRC), Violence, Theft/Robbery offences in the current CIP:

Year	Total Recorded Crime (TRC)			Violence				Theft / Robbery Offences			
	Within Cumulative Impact Zone (CIZ)	Within CIZ during Night Time Economy (NTE)	% within CIZ during NTE	Within Cumulative Impact Zone (CIZ)	% of TRC	Within CIZ during Night Time Economy (NTE)	% Within CIZ during NTE	Within Cumulative Impact Zone (CIZ)	% of TRC	Within CIZ during Night Time Economy (NTE)	% Within CIZ during NTE
1st July 2017 - 30th June 2018	2455	663	27%	752	31%	300	40%	1255	51%	199	16%
1st July 2018 - 30th June 2019	2414	682	28%	937	39%	355	38%	1046	43%	164	16%
1st July 2019 - 30th June 2020	2034	605	30%	849	42%	342	39%	838	41%	165	20%

3.29 The data above from the Police shows that TRC reported within the current CIP area has decreased from 1st July 2017 – 30th June 2020, however, there should be consideration given to the impact of COVID 19 which has led to the reduction of Crime following the first lockdown announced on 23rd March 2020. Night Time Economy (NTE) hours are between 20:00 – 05:00.

3.30 Total Recorded Crime (TRC), Violence, Theft/Robbery offences outside of the current CIP:

Year	Total Recorded Crime (TRC)			Violence			Theft / Robbery Offences		
	Outside CIZ	Outside CIZ During NTE	% outside CIZ during NTE	Outside CIZ	Outside CIZ During NTE	% outside CIZ during NTE	Outside CIZ	Outside CIZ During NTE	% outside CIZ during NTE
1st July 2017 - 30th June 2018	24,742	8872	36%	5233	1840	35%	6830	2286	33%
1st July 2018 - 30th June 2019	26,547	9852	37%	7029	2649	38%	6498	2123	33%
1st July 2019 - 30th June 2020	23,738	9149	38.50%	8303	3355	40%	5083	1784	35%

From the data, the percentage of TRC taking place within the CIP is 9.2% (6903) compared to the total for outside the CIP (75,027) from the 1st July 2017 – 30th June 2020.

3.31 The table below shows the number of offences committed at different types of licensed premises. A total of 420 offences were committed at licensed premises within the CIP area between July 2017 – June 2020:

OFFENCES AT LICENSED PREMISES	TRC
July 2017 to June 2018	126
PUBLIC HOUSE - LICENSED PREMISES	72
NIGHTCLUB	35
NIGHTCLUB OUTSIDE ADDRESS	4
OUTSIDE ADDRESS NIGHTCLUB	3
CLUB - SOCIAL	2
SPORTS CLUB	2
NIGHTCLUB OUTSIDE ADDRESS ROAD	2
CAR PARK PUBLIC HOUSE - LICENSED PREMISES	1
NIGHTCLUB OUTSIDE ADDRESS BUS	1
PUBLIC HOUSE - LICENSED PREMISES REAR OF PREMISES GARDEN	1
OUTSIDE ADDRESS PUBLIC HOUSE - LICENSED PREMISES	1
OUTSIDE ADDRESS ROAD NIGHTCLUB	1
OFF LICENCE - LICENSED PREMISES	1
July 2018 to June 2019	176
PUBLIC HOUSE - LICENSED PREMISES	90
NIGHTCLUB	58
NIGHTCLUB OUTSIDE ADDRESS	7
PUBLIC HOUSE - LICENSED PREMISES OUTSIDE ADDRESS	5
OUTSIDE ADDRESS PUBLIC HOUSE - LICENSED PREMISES	3
SPORTS CLUB	2
OUTSIDE ADDRESS NIGHTCLUB	2
OUTSIDE ADDRESS PUBLIC FOOTPATH PUBLIC HOUSE - LICENSED PREMISES	2
NIGHTCLUB REAR OF PREMISES	1
PUBLIC HOUSE - LICENSED PREMISES OUTSIDE ADDRESS PUBLIC FOOTPATH	1
NIGHTCLUB ENTERTAINMENT INDOOR	1
OUTSIDE ADDRESS PUBLIC HOUSE - LICENSED PREMISES ROAD	1
CLUB - SOCIAL OTHER	1
OFF LICENCE - LICENSED PREMISES	1
PUBLIC HOUSE - LICENSED PREMISES ENTERTAINMENT OUTDOOR	1
July 2019 to June 2020	118
PUBLIC HOUSE - LICENSED PREMISES	52
NIGHTCLUB	46
NIGHTCLUB OUTSIDE ADDRESS	7
CLUB - SOCIAL	6
SPORTS CLUB	4
PUBLIC HOUSE - LICENSED PREMISES OUTSIDE ADDRESS	2
OFF LICENCE - LICENSED PREMISES	1
Grand Total	420

3.32 West Midlands Police also provided data on the number of calls received in relation to Anti Social behaviour & Public Safety Welfare within the current CIP area:

Year	Anti-Social Behaviour			Public Safety Welfare		
	Within Cumulative Impact Zone (CIZ)	Within CIZ during Night Time Economy (NTE)	% within CIZ during NTE	Within Cumulative Impact Zone (CIZ)	Within CIZ during Night Time Economy (NTE)	% Within CIZ during NTE
1st July 2017 - 30th June 2018	568	181	32%	2493	827	33%
1st July 2018 - 30th June 2019	310	90	29%	2334	806	36%
1st July 2019 - 30th June 2020	284	107	38%	2024	685	31%

The table above shows the figures for ASB and PSW within the CIZ area plus Night Time Economy for the 3 year period (2017 – 2020). It can be seen that there has been a reduction in both categories. The highest incident locations within the CIZ for ASB and PSW have not changed over the 3 year period; they are Bus Station St Pauls Street;

McDonalds Park Street; Asda George Street; Bridge Street and Tesco Extra, mainly all within the WS1 post code area. During NTE hours PSW highest incident locations were Bridge Street, Bus Station, and Religion Utopia Nightclub.

For ASB the highest incident locations were McDonalds Park Street and Asda George Street.

- 3.33 The main hotspot outside of the CIP area reported is Caldmore which falls within the WS1 post code area and has 1,680 offences reported in this area during the 3 year period compared to 967 offences reported (2nd highest reports of crime) in the Brownhills area. The following areas/streets accounted for the majority of the offences, Wednesbury Road (175), Sandwell Street (141), Caldmore Green (119), and the rest (1245) on Caldmore Road. These are offences outside of the current CIP and are streets all within WS1 post code area. Caldmore area is located within close proximity of the current CIP and within walking distance of Walsall's Night Time Economy area.
- 3.34 The top 2 streets for offences reported in the South for all TRC, outside of the CIZ were Wallows Road (473 offences) and Wednesbury Road (425). Cumulatively, 316 offences were reported on Caldmore Road, Caldmore Green, and Little Caldmore of which 123 offences were Violence related. The top 2 streets for offences reported during NTE hours were Wednesbury Road with 170 offences, followed by Birmingham Road with 162. Top 2 streets for violent offences were Wednesbury Road (54) and Sandwell Street (41). Cumulatively, 116 offences were reported on Caldmore Road, Caldmore Green and Little Caldmore, during NTE of which 49 were violent offences. Overall, top 2 repeat locations were Morrisons Petrol Station on Wallows Lane (271 crimes reported), the majority relate to Making off without Payment; followed by Co-Op on Broadway, Delves, at which top offence was Theft from Shop/Stall (TFSS).
- 3.35 These statistics show a decline in reported crime over the three-year period following the last review, which is positive. The number of offences is still at a high level and it is believed that the retention of the CIP along with the proposed changes will reduce that figure further, take strain off Police resources and make the areas identified safer for residents and legitimate business.

Removing the CIP may have the opposite effect and lead to a deterioration in standards. It should be noted 2020 will be an unusual year for statistics due to the various 'lockdowns' and restricted trading that have occurred as a consequence of Covid 19.

- 3.36 Assault occasioning Actual Bodily Harm (**ABH**) is the highest crime type for all 3 years accounting for 13% (85) of violent crime in 2017/18, 15% (103) in 2018/19 and 13.4% (81) in 2019/20. Including off sales of alcohol and Late Night Refreshment may help prevent the increase in violence within the CIP area.

- 3.37 Should members decide to approve the proposal to extend the CIP to include WS1 (and the specifically mentioned streets), the Council's Licensing Team would require the applicants to demonstrate why/how the grant of a new licence or an extension to existing authorisation, will be unlikely to have a significant cumulative impact which undermines the licensing objectives in the area.
- 3.38 However the CIP would support the Council in requiring applicants to demonstrate, rigorously, why granting the licence would not be expected to contribute negatively to any existing issues or have a significant negative impact which may undermine the licensing objectives in the area. Any proposed measures or reasoning would of course be subject to the scrutiny of the responsible authorities.

Public Health

- 3.39 **Appendix 6** is evidence from Public Health which outlines the number of Alcohol Related A&E Admissions in Walsall from 2014 – 2019. The report shows that there has been an increase in the number of alcohol related admissions to A&E between 2014 – 2019. St Matthews ward (Mainly WS1 post code area) currently has the second highest A&E admissions which are alcohol related.

4.0 Resource considerations

- 4.1 **Financial:** The costs involved in carrying out the consultation will be met from existing budgets held by the licensing service.
- 4.2 **Legal:** Members of the public, the trade or responsible authorities can judicially review the policy.
- 4.3 The Council has a statutory duty to publish a Statement of Licensing Policy. It is important that the Statement of Licensing Policy provides an open and transparent policy regarding the Council's functions under the Licensing Act 2003. The Statement of Licensing Policy forms an essential part of the decision making process for licensing applications.
- 4.4 The Act also requires that the Statement of Licensing Policy should be kept under review and must be re-published at least every five years.
- 4.5 When revising its Statement of Licensing Policy, the Council is required to consult with:
- the chief officer of police for the authority's area;
 - the fire and rescue authority for that area;
 - each local authority in England whose public health functions within the meaning of the National Health Service Act 2006 are exercisable in respect of an area any part of which is in the licensing authority's area;

- such persons as the licensing authority considers to be representative of holders of premises licences issued by that authority;
- such persons as the licensing authority considers to be representative of holders of club premises certificates issued by that authority;
- such persons as the licensing authority considers to be representative of holders of personal licences issued by that authority; and
- such other persons as the licensing authority considers to be representative of businesses and residents in its area.

4.6 The consultation will also be made available for comment via the Council's website and publicised via social media and also through the local press. It is proposed that consultation will take place over a period of 10 weeks.

4.7 There must be an evidential basis for the decision to publish a CIA. Local Community Safety Partnerships and responsible authorities, such as the police, may hold relevant information, which would inform licensing authorities when establishing the evidence base for publishing a CIA. Evidence of cumulative impact on the promotion of the licensing objectives needs to relate to the relevant problems identified in the specific area to be covered by the CIA. Information which licensing authorities may be able to draw on includes:

- local crime and disorder statistics, including statistics on specific types of crime and crime hotspots;
- statistics on local anti-social behaviour offences;
- health-related statistics such as alcohol-related emergency attendances and hospital admissions;
- environmental health complaints, particularly in relation to litter and noise;
- complaints recorded by the local authority, which may include complaints raised by local residents or residents' associations;
- residents' questionnaires;
- evidence from local and parish councillors; and
- evidence obtained through local consultation.

4.8 When publishing a CIA, a licensing authority is required to provide evidence of problems that are being caused or exacerbated by the cumulative impact of licensed premises in the area described. The evidence must justify the statement in the CIA that it is likely that granting further premises licences and/or club premises certificates in that area (limited to a kind described in the assessment), would be inconsistent with the authority's duty to promote the licensing objectives.

4.9 To remove any confusion about the difference between the "need" for premises and the "cumulative impact" of a premises on the licensing objectives, "need" concerns the commercial demand for another

business or premises and is a matter for the planning authority and the market. Government guidance makes clear that 'need' is not, and never can be, a matter for a licensing authority in discharging its licensing functions or for its statement of licensing policy.

- 4.10 In publishing a CIP, a licensing authority is setting down a strong statement of intent about its approach to considering applications for the grant or variation of premises licences or club premises certificates in the area described.

Having published a CIP a licensing authority must have regard to the assessment when determining or revising its statement of licensing policy. It is therefore expected that, in respect of each relevant application in the area concerned, the licensing authority will be considering whether it is appropriate to make a representation to its committee as a responsible authority in its own right.

However, the CIP will not fundamentally change how licensing decisions are made. The licensing authority may grant an application where it considers it is appropriate and where, based on the information provided by the applicant in the operating schedule, the applicant has sufficient measures in place to minimise the likelihood of the activities at their premises adding to the cumulative impact.

Applications in areas covered by a CIP should therefore give consideration to potential cumulative impact issues when setting out the steps that will be taken to promote the licensing objectives. Where relevant representations are received and a licensing authority decides to grant an application it will need to provide the applicant, the chief officer of police and all parties who made relevant representations with reasons for granting the application and this should include any reasons for departing from their own policy.

- 4.11 A CIP may never be absolute. Statements of licensing policy should always allow for the circumstances of each application to be carefully considered and applications considered to be unlikely to add to the cumulative impact on the licensing objectives, to be granted. After receiving relevant representations in relation to a new application for, or a variation of, a premises licence or certificate, the licensing authority must consider whether it would be justified in departing from its CIP in the light of the individual circumstances of the case.

The impact can be expected to be different for premises with different styles and characteristics. For example, while a large nightclub or high capacity public house might add to problems of cumulative impact, a small restaurant or a theatre may not. If the licensing authority decides that an application should be refused, it must demonstrate why it considers that the grant of the application would be likely to undermine the promotion of one or more of the licensing objectives and that the addition of conditions would likely be ineffective in preventing the problems involved.

4.12 Failure to publish a new Statement of Licensing Policy would be a failure of the Council to comply with its duties as a licensing authority under the provisions of the Licensing Act 2003.

5.0 Staffing:

5.1 Nothing arising from this report.

6.0 Citizen Impact

6.1 The consultation of this proposed Statement of Licensing Policy and CIA will afford residents of the Borough the opportunity to affect the way in which Walsall Council administers the licensing regime in the Borough.

6.2 It also allows consultees the opportunity to comment on how Responsible Authorities such as the Police can prevent crime, disorder, public nuisance and harm to young persons taking place and ensure those who are licensed have all the necessary practices and procedures in place to protect their staff, customers and those who live and work in the vicinity.

7.0 Community Safety

7.1 The introduction of the policy is for the benefit of the community and people of Walsall. It is a key policy for the Council and partners in protecting the communities of Walsall from harm that can be caused by licensed premises or as a consequence of having licensed premises in any given area.

8.0 Environmental Impact

8.1 Discussions with other services and partners could lead to Policy decisions being made that have a positive effect on litter control and, waste disposal.

8.2 In areas where Cumulative Impact Policies or Assessments have been introduced there is a possibility that businesses looking to invest may be deterred from doing so, due to perceived additional burdens being placed upon them.

8.3 This is balanced against impact of new and current business undertaking licensable activities in a particular area and the social and economic benefits of those businesses against the potential adverse environmental implications, such as public nuisance, crime and disorder and antisocial behaviour.

9.0 Performance and Risk Management Issues

9.1 As stated the impact of Covid 19 has meant the drafting and consultation of this Statement of Licensing Policy and CIP have been delayed and

will therefore go beyond the five year period that such matters are usually expected to be delivered by.

10.0 Equality Implications

10.1 The Licensing and Safety Committee will ensure it has regard to the desirability of exercising its functions with regard to the need to eliminate discrimination and to increase equality of opportunity. Groups that have knowledge and experience of equality related issues will be included in all consultation that takes place.

11.0 Consultation

11.1 None.

12.0 Appendices

- **Appendix 1** Current Statement of Licensing Policy
- **Appendix 2** Reviewed Policy
- **Appendix 3** Map of CIP Area covered by current Policy
- **Appendix 4** Clean & Green Litter Complaints
- **Appendix 5** Trading Standards Data
- **Appendix 6** Data from Public Health

13.0 Contact Officer:

13.1 Sayful Alom – Licensing Team Leader Sayful.alom@walsall.gov.uk