



North of England

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Paul Hewitt

North West Chairman:
Lynne D'Arcy LLB (Hons)

Regional Secretary:
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4th October 2006

Dear Sharon,

Thank you for letting me know about the proposed amendment to the Blackpool Statement of Licensing Policy to include a cumulative impact policy for the town centre.

The proposed amendment is prompted by evidence from Lancashire Constabulary and therefore one would have thought it would show a rise in assaults and antisocial behaviour since the introduction of the new Licensing Act last November. At that time, Blackpool did not believe that such a policy was necessary. Such an increase would have been at odds with the national statistics which seem to show that levels of violence and antisocial behaviour associated with the night time economy have either remained static or, in the majority of communities, have fallen.

The evidence shown at Annex B would indicate that in Blackpool there has been little change since last November, indeed all the statistics when averaged out would indicate a fairly 'flat line'.

Nevertheless you are of course perfectly entitled to review the Statement and if the Licensing Authority decides it is necessary to introduce a cumulative impact policy then it must do so. We will of course monitor the effect such a policy has on the trading freedoms of our Members premises but remain confident that the Authority will continue to exercise fair judgement at all times.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lee Le Clercq".

Lee Le Clercq