

Report to:	LICENSING COMMITTEE
Relevant Officer:	Tim Cogan, Service Manager Public Protection
Date of Meeting	19 January 2021

REVIEW OF STATEMENT OF LICENSING POLICY AND CUMULATIVE IMPACT ASSESSMENT

1.0 Purpose of the report:

1.1 The Licensing Committee is asked to consider the proposed Statement of Licensing Policy and associated Cumulative Impact Assessment.

2.0 Recommendation(s):

2.1 To approve the proposed Statement of Licensing Policy and Cumulative Impact Assessment and recommend them to the Executive for onward recommendation to Council.

3.0 Reasons for recommendation(s):

3.1 In February 2020, the Licensing Committee approved a period of consultation on a revised Statement of Licensing Policy. The consultation, initially delayed due to the COVID 19 pandemic is now complete and the results are before the Committee for their consideration.

3.2a Is the recommendation contrary to a plan or strategy adopted or approved by the Council? No

3.2b Is the recommendation in accordance with the Council's approved budget? Yes

3.3 Other alternative options to be considered:

The Council is under a duty to review its Statement of Licensing Policy every five years. If this review does not take place, the Council would not have a valid policy to inform its decision-making on licensing applications.

An alternative would be not to publish a Cumulative Impact Assessment. This would reduce the ability of the Licensing Committee to refuse relevant applications in areas

deemed saturated with licensed premises.

4.0 Council Priority:

4.1 The relevant Council priority is: “The economy – maximising growth and opportunity across Blackpool”.

5.0 Background Information:

5.1 The Council, as licensing authority, is required by section 5 Licensing Act 2003 to determine its policy with respect to the exercise of its licensing functions for a five-year period and publish a statement of that policy.

5.2 The Licensing Committee at its meeting on 25 February 2020 approved a formal period of consultation as required by the legislation on the draft revised Statement of Licensing Policy and the draft Cumulative Impact Assessment.

5.3 The proposed period of consultation was initially delayed due to the COVID 19 lockdown. A period of consultation did however take place between 13 November 2020 and 8 January 2021. The draft policy document and assessment were available on the Council’s website and in addition the following were sent letters/emails asking for their comments:

- The Responsible Authorities
- 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; and
- Persons/bodies representative of businesses and residents in its area.

5.4 At the time of writing, one comment has been received. A verbal update will be provided to the Licensing Committee at the meeting dealing with further comments received and any changes to the proposed policy to be put forward resulting from those consultation comments.

5.5 The Licensing Committee is invited to approve the proposed Statement of Licensing Policy and associated Cumulative Impact Assessment and recommend them to the Executive and Council.

5.6 Does the information submitted include any exempt information? No

6.0 List of Appendices:

Appendix 3a - proposed Statement of Licensing Policy

Appendix 3b – proposed Cumulative Impact Assessment

Appendix 3c – Consultation comment received

7.0 Legal considerations:

7.1 The Council is under a statutory duty to review its Statement of Licensing Policy every five years.

8.0 Human Resources considerations:

8.1 There are no human resource considerations.

9.0 Equalities considerations:

9.1 No equalities considerations have been identified.

10.0 Financial considerations:

10.1 There are no financial considerations.

11.0 Risk management considerations:

11.1 There are no risk management considerations.

12.0 Ethical considerations:

12.1 There are no ethical considerations associated to this policy review.

13.0 Internal/ External Consultation undertaken:

13.1 Consultation as required by the Licensing Act 2003 has taken place and the Licensing Committee has had sight of the responses received.

14.0 Background papers:

14.1 Guidance issued by the Secretary of State under Section 182 Licensing Act 2003. Statement of Licensing Policy 2015