

Equality Impact Assessment

Statement of Licensing Policy 2020

Please complete this template using the [Equality Impact Assessment Guidance document](#)

Version 4: February 2020

Title of proposal (include forward plan reference if available)	Statement of Licensing Policy
Directorate and Service Area	Adult Social Care, Health & Well Being, Regulated Services
Name and title of Lead Officer completing this EIA	Tracy Hubball – Operations Manager
Contact Details	tracy_hubball@sandwell.gov.uk 0121 569 5426
Names and titles of other officers involved in completing this EIA	N/A
Partners involved with the EIA where jointly completed	N/A
Date EIA completed	14 February 2020
Date EIA signed off or agreed by Director or Executive Director	
Name of Director or Executive Director signing off EIA	Neil Cox, Director – Prevention & Protection
Date EIA considered by Cabinet Member	

See [Equality Impact Assessment Guidance](#) for key prompts that must be addressed for all questions

1. The purpose of the proposal or decision required

(Please provide as much information as possible)

This document provides an assessment of the equalities impact of the updated Licensing Act 2003 Statement of Licensing Policy following the completion of public consultation on the proposed document.

Section 5 of the Licensing Act 2003 requires the Council as the Licensing Authority to prepare and publish its own statement of Licensing Policy as to how it intends to carry out its licensing functions under the Act.

The Council's current Statement of Licensing Policy was approved by full council in March 2014.

The Act requires the Council, in respect of each five year period, to determine its policy with respect to the exercise of its licensing functions, and publish and updated statement of that policy.

Permission was sought and granted to conduct a consultation on a revised statement of policy in line with the requirements of the Licensing Act 2003.

The Licensing Authority has now concluded the consultation process, and as required in the Licensing Act 2003 it has consulted with the following:-

- the Chief Officer of Police;
- the Fire and Rescue Authority for the area;
- Responsible Authorities
- representatives of persons holding premises licences, personal licenses or club premises certificates;
- representatives of businesses and residents.

The updated Statement of Licensing Principles is proposed for implementation, subject to Cabinet approval.

2. Evidence used/considered

The updated Licensing Policy was drafted in consultation with a range of consultees including health partners in recognition of the impact the sale and supply of alcohol has on the borough's population.

Whilst licensing decision making is limited to the scope of the four licensing objectives as outlined in the Licensing Principles document the updated document contains information which provides the applicant or licence holder with a clear understanding of the impact of alcohol on borough to raise their awareness of the responsibility they hold.

On this basis the proposed Statement of Licensing Policy was put forward for consultation containing more health related information outlining the potential harm the misuse of alcohol is having on the residents of the borough to promote understanding and the importance of operating to best practice.

In addition to this the updated policy also includes more information on:

- Modern Day Slavery
- Child Sexual Exploitation
- Public Health related information

To accompany the Licensing Principles document a guidance document has been produced for applicants and license holders to support them to understand the practical steps they can take to manage their responsibilities as a License Holder effectively and support the long term health and well being of the boroughs residents.

Following consultation on the Statement of Licensing Principles all feedback has been reviewed in conjunction with Legal Services. Any appropriate amendments and additions have been reflected in the Statement of Licensing Principles, which is now put forward for implementation. Elements of good practice have been incorporated into the guidance document.

3. Consultation

Consultation has been undertaken with

- Public Health
- Sandwell and West Birmingham Hospital Trust
- The Chief Officer of Police
- The Fire Authority
- Such persons as the council considers to be representative of holders of premise licenses
- Such persons as the council considers to be representative of holders of club premise certificates
- Such persons as the council considers to be representative of holders of personal licenses
- Such persons as the council considers to be representative of businesses and residents in the area.

4. Assess likely impact

Please give an outline of the overall impact if possible.

The updated Statement of Licensing principles will impact on the regulation of licensed activity in the borough to ensure the Licensing Authority fulfils its licensing responsibilities in a safe and compliant way. It will also promote responsible licensing activity by licence holders.

Please complete the table below at 4a to identify the likely impact on specific protected characteristics

4a. Use the table to show:

- Where you think that the strategy, project or policy could have a negative impact on any of the equality strands (protected characteristics), that is it could disadvantage them or if there is no impact, please note the evidence and/or reasons for this.
- Where you think that the strategy, project or policy could have a positive impact on any of the groups or contribute to promoting equality, equal opportunities or improving relationships within equality characteristics.

Protected Characteristic	Positive Impact ✓	Negative Impact ✓	No Impact ✓	Reason and evidence (Provide details of specific groups affected even for no impact and where negative impact has been identified what mitigating actions can we take?)
Age			✓	The proposed policy is generic, holds no negative impact and the subject it addresses/prohibits is not particular to a specific group. On this basis there is no impact that are specific to any or all protected characteristics
Disability			✓	The proposed policy is generic, holds no negative impact and the subject it addresses/prohibits is not particular to a specific group. On this basis there is no impact that are specific to any or all protected characteristics

Gender reassignment			✓	The proposed policy is generic, holds no negative impact and the subject it addresses/prohibits is not particular to a specific group. On this basis there is no impact that are specific to any or all protected characteristics
Marriage and civil partnership			✓	The proposed policy is generic, holds no negative impact and the subject it addresses/prohibits is not particular to a specific group. On this basis there is no impact that are specific to any or all protected characteristics
Pregnancy and maternity			✓	The proposed policy is generic, holds no negative impact and the subject it addresses/prohibits is not particular to a specific group. On this basis there is no impact that are specific to any or all protected characteristics
Race			✓	The proposed policy is generic, holds no negative impact and the subject it addresses/prohibits is not particular to a specific group. On this basis there is no impact that are specific to any or all protected characteristics
Religion or belief			✓	The proposed policy is generic, holds no negative impact and the subject it addresses/prohibits is not particular to a specific group. On this basis there is no impact that are specific to any or all protected characteristics

Sex			✓	The proposed policy is generic, holds no negative impact and the subject it addresses/prohibits is not particular to a specific group. On this basis there is no impact that are specific to any or all protected characteristics
Sexual orientation			✓	The proposed policy is generic, holds no negative impact and the subject it addresses/prohibits is not particular to a specific group. On this basis there is no impact that are specific to any or all protected characteristics
Other				

Does this EIA require a full impact assessment? Yes ☐ No ☒

If there are no adverse impacts or any issues of concern or you can adequately explain or justify them, then you do not need to go any further. You have completed the screening stage. You must, however, complete sections 7 and 9 and publish the EIA as it stands.

If you have answered yes to the above, please complete the questions below referring to the guidance document.

5. What actions can be taken to mitigate any adverse impacts?

6. As a result of the EIA what decision or actions are being proposed in relation to the original proposals?

7. Monitoring arrangements

8. Action planning

You may wish to use the action plan template below

Action Plan Template

[illegible]

9. Publish the EIA

Where can I get additional information, advice and guidance?

In the first instance, please consult the accompanying guide “Equality Impact Assessment Guidance”

Practical advice, guidance and support

Help and advice on undertaking an EIA or receiving training related to equalities legislation and EIAs is available to **all managers** across the council from officers within Service Improvement. The officers within Service Improvement will also provide overview quality assurance checks on completed EIA documents.

Please contact:

Kashmir Singh - 0121 569 3828