

EXETER CITY COUNCIL

SCRUTINY COMMITTEE - COMMUNITY 10 NOVEMBER 2009

LICENSING POLICY STATEMENT - CUMULATIVE IMPACT ZONE

1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1.1 To inform Members of the recommendation of the Licensing Committee to introduce cumulative impact zones in the City Centre as part of the Council's Licensing Act 2003 Policy.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 In relation to licensing policy, cumulative impact refers to the potential impact on the promotion of the licensing objectives of a significant number of licensed premises concentrated in one area. In most cases the policy seeks to limit the negative association with low level disorder, alcohol-related violence and nuisance that such a concentration can bring.
- 2.2 The cumulative impact policy change would not affect existing premises licences, but would impinge on any variation of existing licences or any new applications. With the policy, the onus would be placed upon the applicant to show that the proposal would not detrimentally effect the licensing objectives, should an objection be made. The policy, if approved, should positively encourage applicants to ensure they have adequate safeguards in place to prevent any future problems.
- 2.3 In relation to city centre crime and disorder, it is anticipated that a cumulative impact zone would have a beneficial effect in the medium to long term.
- 2.4 At the 28 July 2009 meeting the Licensing Committee approved a request from the Devon and Cornwall Constabulary to include in the Licensing Policy provisions for a cumulative impact zone in the city centre. The precise area of the zone is identified in the map at Appendix I.

3. CONSULTATION

- 3.1 Having been satisfied there was sufficient evidence to support the request from the police, it was necessary to consult on an amendment to the Licensing Policy and for any responses to be considered before any revision to the Licensing Policy is approved.

4. TIMETABLE

11 August 2009	Consultation commences - proposed revision of Licensing Act Policy available to the prescribed persons for comment
12 October 2009	End of consultation period
17 November 2009	Licensing Act Policy (revised as necessary) considered by Licensing Committee
8 December 2009	Licensing Policy to Executive
15 December 2009	Licensing Policy to Full Council for approval

5. RECOMMENDED

- 1) That Scrutiny Committee Community notes the content of this report, in relation to its potential beneficial effect on crime and disorder in the city centre.

HEAD OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

S:PA/LP/ Committee/1109SCC8
6.10.09

COMMUNITY & ENVIRONMENT DIRECTORATE

Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985 (as amended)
Background papers used in compiling this report: