

23 July 2010

Dear Sir/Madam,

**LICENSING ACT 2003
STATEMENT OF LICENSING POLICY
7 January 2011 – 6 January 2014
DRAFT FOR CONSULTATION**

All licensing authorities are required to prepare and publish a statement of the principles that they propose to apply in exercising their functions under the Licensing Act 2003 (the 'Act') every three years.

Gateshead Council's current Licensing Policy has effect between 7 January 2008 and 6 January 2011 and we are in the process of drafting a new policy for 2011 to 2014.

The document sets out the policy that the Licensing Authority will apply when making decisions about applications for:

- the retail sale of alcohol
- the wholesale of alcohol to members of the public
- the supply of alcohol to members of registered clubs
- the provision of regulated entertainment
- the provision of hot food or hot drink between 11pm and 5am

Before determining this policy statement the licensing authority is consulting with a wide range of organisations and individuals including Northumbria Police, Tyne and Wear Fire and Rescue Service, existing licence holders, local businesses and local residents and representatives of licensees, local businesses and residents.

We will also seek the views of bodies or representatives of groups associated with the entertainment industry, bodies responsible for crime and disorder reduction, the legal profession, health professionals and those responsible for the welfare of children in the borough.

Proper weight will be given to the views of all those consulted during this review process.

The draft Licensing Policy for 2011 – 2014, together with a summary of proposed changes to the 2008 – 2011 Policy and a consultation response form can be found on the Council's website at www.gateshead.gov.uk

Alternatively you can obtain copies of these documents from the Licensing Section of the Council by telephoning 0191 4333947 by emailing licensing@gateshead.gov.uk

The consultation period runs from **23 July 2010 to 15 October 2010**.

Please return your comments by 15 October 2010 via the website, by emailing to licensing@gateshead.gov.uk or by post to:

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I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours faithfully

Elaine Rudman

Elaine Rudman
Environmental Health, Licensing and Enforcement Manager
Regulatory Services