



STATEMENT OF LICENSING POLICY

Licensing Act 2003

2008-2011

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1. Foreword by Councillor David Bollands

When the Licensing Act 2003 came into force in November 2005, it transferred the responsibility for the licensing of people and premises involved in the supply of alcohol, provision of regulated entertainment and late night refreshment to Local authorities, including Gateshead Council.

The Act has proven to be a great success, allowing for more democratic accountability in the system of licensing. The experience of this Council has been that the new licensing regime allows residents and interested parties to have a say in issues that affect them, and allows the Council to take appropriate, timely steps to address those concerns.

The regime is intended to enable licensable activities to take place, whilst promoting the four Licensing Objectives, which are at the heart of the Act, and this Policy. They are –

- The prevention of crime and disorder
- Public safety
- The prevention of public nuisance
- The protection of children from harm.

This Policy sets out how Gateshead Council intends to exercise its licensing and regulatory function under the Licensing Act from 2008 to 2011, when the Policy will again be reviewed.

Licensable activities form an important part of our culture and lifestyles. Gateshead has a rich and varied culture, and the licensed industry is key to the Borough's sustained growth as a healthy, equal, safe and prosperous place to live and work.

2. Strategic Context

2.1. The Council's overall vision for Gateshead, as described in Gateshead's Community Strategy and the Council's Corporate Plan is:

"Local people realising their full potential, enjoying the best quality of life in a healthy, equal, safe, prosperous and sustainable Gateshead"

2.2 The licensing of premises plays an important role in realising this vision. In particular, it supports the Corporate Priorities for Building Stronger Communities, Empowering Older People and Ensuring Healthier Communities and will also contribute towards Improving Accessibility, Connectivity and Economic Prosperity.

2.3 This Statement of Licensing Policy sets out the strategic guidelines for licensing premises in Gateshead. In particular, it will contribute to:

- The prevention of crime and disorder;
- Public safety;
- The prevention of public nuisance; and
- The protection of children from harm.

- 2.4 The Policy links closely with a number of key plans and strategies produced by the Council and its partners, including the Gateshead Community Safety Strategy.

3. Local context

- 3.1 Gateshead is a constantly changing borough that combines the most modern facilities with a fascinating heritage. Set in the conurbation of Tyneside, Gateshead stretches almost 13 miles along the south bank of the river Tyne and covers an area of 55 square miles, making it the largest in area of the five Tyne and Wear metropolitan authorities. Gateshead is ranked the 26th most deprived district in England out of 354 in terms of issues such as income, employment, health, housing, crime, the living environment and education according to the Index of Multiple Deprivation 2004. The Index was prepared using Lower Layer Super Output Areas. There are 126 Lower Layer Super Output Areas in Gateshead. Of these 34 are in the top 10% most deprived areas in the country. These fall within ten of Gateshead's wards.
- 3.2 Gateshead has seen a decline in the number of its residents over the last 20 years. The population has declined from 199,652 in 1991 to 191,151 in 2001. This represents a 4.3% decrease and ranks Gateshead as having the 4th largest population decline out of 376 local authorities in England and Wales. The population continued to decline as highlighted by the mid-2004 population estimate of 190,400 people (rounded to the nearest hundred). However, in the two years since 2004 there has been a small reverse of that trend with the population remaining at 190,400 in 2005, and increasing to 190,500 in 2006. 8% of residents are over 75 years old and there is also a small but increasing number of residents from black, and minority ethnic groups.
- 3.3 Gateshead has a rich array of cultural and leisure opportunities for residents and visitors to the borough. Licensable activities form an integral or ancillary part of many of those activities.
- 3.4 There are a number of cultural centres in the borough. The Quays area surrounding the Baltic Centre for Contemporary Art, the Sage Gateshead, Millennium Bridge and the Hilton Hotel is rapidly becoming a focal point for a wide range of licensable activities. Low Fell, Whickham and Winlaton have thriving restaurants and public houses. Family and 'gastropubs' are becoming increasingly popular throughout the borough. Off licence retail continues to be popular, as does the provision of late night refreshment and regulated entertainment such as discos, live bands, karaoke and films.

4. Legal Background

- 4.1 Gateshead Council (the Licensing Authority) is responsible for the licensing of licensable activities under the Licensing Act 2003 (The Act). This document sets out the policies 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 in the presence of an audience including the performance of a play; film exhibitions; indoor sporting events; boxing or wrestling events (indoor and outdoor); performing live music and playing recorded music (except incidental music); dance performances etc
- the provision of late night refreshment, i.e. hot food or hot drink between 11pm and 5am

4.2 This policy shall apply in respect of applications, reviews, renewals, transfers and variations to the following:

- premises licences
- club premises certificates
- personal licences
- temporary event notices

4.3 The Licensing Act 2003 requires that the Licensing Authority carries out its various licensing functions so as to promote the following four licensing objectives:

- the prevention of crime and disorder
- public safety
- the prevention of public nuisance
- the protection of children from harm

4.4 The Licensing Authority regards each objective to be of equal importance. This document sets out the policies the Licensing Authority will generally apply to promote the licensing objectives when making decisions on applications made under the Act. The Licensing Authority will where it believes necessary, consider attaching conditions to licences to promote the policy objectives as appropriate.

4.5 This Statement of Licensing Policy has been prepared in accordance with the provisions of the Act and the guidance issued under Section 182 of the Act.

4.6 The Act makes provision for the policy to be the subject of consultation with a specified group of consultees. The Licensing Authority will review this policy at least every three years and consult on any proposed revisions.

4.7 This policy and the Licensing Authority's functions seek to achieve control of premises, qualifying clubs and temporary events within the terms of the Act. Terms and conditions will focus on achieving the Licensing Objectives with reference to:

- matters within the control of individual licensees
- the specific premises and the places used
- the vicinity of those premises and places
- the direct impact of the activity taking place at the licensed premises on public who live, work and carry out normal activity in the area concerned

5. Integration with other legislation, policies, objectives and guidance

5.1 Applicants for licences under the Act should be aware of the other legislation and guidance that may be applicable to their business, some of which is described below. The Licensing Authority may require evidence of compliance with other legislation as part of the Operating Schedule.

- 5.2 The licensing objectives build on and link with a number of existing local and national strategies. Applicants and existing licence holders should have regard to such strategies as part of their operation.
- 5.3 Responsible authorities and interested parties should bear in mind that the Licensing Act regime is specifically intended to address issues relating to licensable activities. Where other regimes are intended to address particular concerns arising in relation to licensed premises, the Licensing Officers and Licensing Sub Committee cannot have regard to those concerns.
- 5.4 For instance, if a person lives near a public house and is affected by noise from a karaoke in the pub, that is a matter that the Licensing Sub Committee can address, as it relates to a licensable activity in the licensed premises. If that person was being affected by noise from the pub landlord's dogs, then it would not be appropriate for that complaint to be addressed by the Licensing Sub Committee, as it does not relate to a licensable activity. In that situation, if the matter cannot be resolved between the resident and landlord, then the resident should complain to the Council's Environmental Health Officer, who is empowered to address such matters under Environmental Protection legislation.

Health Act 2006 – smoking ban

- 5.5 In July 2007 a ban on smoking in public places [will be] introduced throughout England. Smoking has already been banned in public places in the rest of the United Kingdom.
- 5.6 Smoking has been an ancillary activity associated with public houses and clubs for many years, and this ban marks a significant cultural shift in this respect. The positive impact it will have on the health of residents and visitors to in the borough cannot be underestimated.
- 5.7 Not only is it an offence for a person to smoke in a public place, it is also an offence for the owner of those premises to permit smoking to take place. Licence holders, designated premises supervisors, staff and patrons can be subject to fixed penalties for breaches of the smoke-free legislation.
- 5.8 In order that patrons and staff may continue to smoke, some premises may be able to utilise suitable outdoor areas. Licensees and potential licensees who wish to provide a smoking area are encouraged to consult with the Council's Licensing and Environmental Health Officers before permitting smoking to take place or incurring expense that may be premature or unnecessary.

Food Safety

- 5.9 If the activity at a premises involves the preparation and/or sale of food then it is the responsibility of the applicant to ensure that all appropriate Food Safety legal requirements are met. It would be expected that a licensee would have registered the premises as a food business with Gateshead Council. It is not a requirement of any licence decision to address these matters, however, it is a good reflection of the responsible licensee that they conform to all relevant legislation.

Health and Safety/Fire Safety

- 5.10 Many of the specific licensing requirements relate to matters potentially affecting public safety. In addition to these licensing requirements there are wider duties on all business (whatever their legal status and regardless of whether a licence is needed) to protect the health and safety of employees (and the self employed) as well as the public. Some of these duties are deliberately wide, generalised and all encompassing eg main duties under Sec 2, 3 and 4 of the Health and Safety at Work etc Act 1974, others are very specific eg. requirements under the Control of Substances Hazardous to Health Regulations 2002, and do not apply in all circumstances. Some of these duties are absolute under law and have to be complied with, without exception. These Health and Safety duties tend to include all specific safety requirements under licensing requirements for the public on the premises and extend them to cover the safety of others eg staff, contractors, visitors etc. Thus there is a considerable overlap between the licensing regime and the wider health and safety regimes.
- 5.11 The main difference between a licensed and non licensed premises is that the applicant is, to a degree seeking prior approval of their safety systems. It is not usually practicable to consider purely those safety systems affecting the public on the premises in complete isolation. Reflecting this there is a duty on the Licensing Authority to consult with the Health and Safety Enforcing Authority for the premises (usually another part of the Council but may be the Health and Safety Executive).
- 5.12 This may bring to light previous public safety, or other wider safety issues relating to the applicant, the premises, or the type of activity. Even if a safety system is 'prior approved' in principle under a licensing regime it does not absolve the applicant from improving with advances in knowledge, (and they must of course implement these systems as fully as is required), or mean that they are necessarily complying in full with the wider health and safety laws, (this would be a matter for the courts to decide in any given set of circumstances). Due to this element of 'prior approval' some systems may need to be documented (eg certain risk assessments) so that the Licensing Authority can consider them and/or consult on them (eg with Tyne and Wear Fire and Rescue Service), when they might not need to be documented in non-licensed premises to generally comply with the wider health and safety regime.

Planning Permission

- 5.13 Applicants for Premises Licences and Club Premises Certificates and those intending to hold Temporary Events will normally require planning permission for such uses.
- 5.14 Although, from the perspective of the business proprietor, there is an element of crossover between licensing and planning regimes, they are separate regimes and are treated as such by the Council. It is important that applicants appreciate that having a licence to conduct a licensable activity does not obviate the need to obtain appropriate planning permission, and vice versa. Where it is necessary to obtain planning consent, it is generally more appropriate for applicants to obtain that consent before seeking a Premises Licence, Club Premises Certificate or Temporary Event Notice as appropriate, as if the planning consent is refused then the applicant could not undertake the licensable activity in any event. Where premises are not yet constructed, applicants are also able to utilise the mechanism to obtain a Provisional Statement under section 29 of the Licensing Act.

- 5.15 Planning consents may carry conditions with which they are expected to comply or action may be taken under the relevant planning legislation. In general, planning consents authorise a broad type of use of a premises, whereas licences are granted for a particular type of activity. A planning permission for an entertainment use, for example may cover a number of activities that can have a wide range of different impacts in the locality.
- 5.16 The precise nature of the impact of the specified activities proposed by a prospective licence will also be considered when an application is made for a Premises Licence.
- 5.17 Licensing applications should not be seen as a re-run of the planning application process and there is a clear separation of the planning and licensing regimes. The Licensing Committee will however ensure that the Planning and Development Committee is advised of the situation regarding licensed premises in the Borough including the general impact of alcohol related crime and disorder and any proposals to introduce a saturation policy to assist the Planning and Development Committee in its decision making process. The purpose of a saturation policy is to minimise the cumulative impact of licensed premises where it can be shown that the density of premises selling alcohol and the concentration of drinkers is such that it is resulting in anti-social behaviour, noise, or crime and disorder. This conflict may be the result of the late night demand on local resources, for example the queuing for fast food outlets, public transport, etc.
- 5.18 The Licensing Authority will not take *need* into account when considering an application as this is a commercial decision and a matter for planning control and the market.
- 5.19 Applicants need to be aware of the Gateshead Unitary Development Plan.
- 5.20 The Licensing Authority will seek to achieve integration with relevant strategies and their aims in determining applications and will do so through relevant consultation of this policy and individual applications.
- 5.21 Applicants need to be aware of Building Control requirements and are advised to contact Gateshead Council's Building Control Officers for advice.

Human Rights

- 5.22 The Human Rights Act 1998 incorporates the European Convention on Human Rights and makes it unlawful for a Local Authority to act in a way that is incompatible with a Convention Right. The Licensing Authority will have particular regard to the following relevant provisions of the European Convention on Human Rights:
- Article 6 that in determination of civil rights and obligations everyone is entitled to a fair and public hearing within a reasonable time by an independent and impartial tribunal established by law;
 - Article 8 that everyone has the right to respect for their home and private life
 - Article 1 of the First Protocol that every person is entitled to the peaceful enjoyment of their possessions

Equality and Diversity

5.23 The Disability Discrimination Act 1995 introduced measures to tackle discrimination encountered by disabled people in the areas of employment, access to goods, facilities and services and the management, buying or renting of land or property. For service providers, such as licensees:

- It is unlawful to treat disabled people less favourably than other people for a reason related to their disability;
- Reasonable adjustments should be made for disabled people, such as providing extra help or making changes to the way they provide their services;
- Reasonable adjustments should be made to the physical features of their premises which are open to the public, such as licensed premises.

5.24 In addition, the Licensing Authority assesses all licensing applications in relation to a range of equality, diversity and anti-discrimination legislation, codes of practice and corporate policies. These include:

- The Race Equality Scheme
- The Equality Standard for Local Government
- Equality Performance Management Framework
- The Council's Equalities Strategy
- Equal Opportunities Policy
- The Disability Equality Scheme
- The Gender Equality Scheme

Drug and Alcohol Harm Reduction

5.25 The Government published in 2004 its Alcohol Harm Reduction Strategy for England. In this it outlined how the Licensing Act can be used to address some of the Social Health and crime and disorder issues raised by the misuse of alcohol, when considering applications for Premises or personal licences.

5.26 This Strategy, and Gateshead Alcohol Harm Reduction Strategy (produced in partnership with Gateshead Primary Care Trust, Northumbria Police, Northumbria Probation Service and The Prison Service), will be taken into account specifically with regard to the sale of alcohol to under 18's and the impact of lack of effective steps to tackle anti-social behaviour. The Licensing Authority will ensure that all Operating Schedules agreed with licensees are suitable and sufficient to address these issues.

5.27 The Licensing Authority will also have regard to initiatives of North East Council on Addiction and Twenty Four:7 Alcohol and Drug Team.

Gateshead Community Safety and Drug Misuse Strategy/ Crime and Disorder Act 1998/ Anti-Social Behaviour Act 2003 / Violent Crime Reduction Act 2006

5.28 The Licensing Objectives play a part in Gateshead Community Safety and Drug Misuse Strategy. The current strategy will be taken into account by the Licensing Authority when considering Operating Schedules submitted by applicants.

5.29 Applicants and licence/certificate holders should be aware of the provisions of the Violent Crime Reduction Act 2006, which -

- creates Drinking Banning Orders, which can ban persons who commit offences under the influence of alcohol from attending licensed premises;
- enables the creation of Alcohol Disorder Zones, and gives Local Authorities and Police powers to designate areas where, due to the extent of alcohol-related crime and disorder, licensees in the area must contribute to the cost of the crime and disorder
- enables Police and Trading Standards officers to close premises that persistently sell alcohol to under 18's
- enables Police to ban persons from a particular area where they represent a risk to alcohol-related crime or disorder taking place

Safer Clubbing – ‘Guidance for licensing authorities, club managers and promoters’

- 5.30 For premises which may have problems with drugs, crime and disorder and/or are open late the Licensing Authority will refer to the guidance given and will expect applicants in their operating schedules to use the strategies outlined in the Home Office Drug Strategy booklet – ‘Safer Clubbing’.

Culture, Tourism and Employment

- 5.31 Arrangements will be made to keep the Licensing Committee apprised of the local tourist economy and the employment situation, and the need for any new investment in the area reflected in Gateshead’s Sustainable Community Strategy “Vision 2030” and the Council’s Corporate Plan. The Licensing Authority acknowledges the positive contribution made to local culture, economy and tourism by the entertainment industry, in particular live music and performance art, and film exhibition. The Licensing Authority also acknowledges the valuable services provided to residents and visitors by the provision of late night refreshment.
- 5.32 As referred to above, significant redevelopment work is being undertaken in the Gateshead Quays area, which will bring more jobs and visitors to the area. This also includes significant housing development in the Quays area.
- 5.33 Also, major redevelopment work is underway in respect of Gateshead Town Centre. The Trinity Square car park and indoor market, which is at the geographical heart of the town centre, is being demolished to make way for new exciting developments, which will help to make Gateshead the cultural heart of the borough.
- 5.34 The Licensing Authority acknowledges that in this time of change, the redevelopment will have a direct impact on those licensed premises that are part of the Town Centre, and an indirect impact on licensed premises in the neighbouring areas.

Alcohol exclusion zones

- 5.35 Although the consumption of alcohol is not a licensable activity, it has some effect on licensable activities in the area, including in particular the supply of alcohol by retail to be consumed off the premises where it is sold.
- 5.36 Pursuant to Orders made under the Criminal Justice and Police Act 2001, alcohol exclusion zones have been established in –

- Gateshead town centre,
- Gateshead Quays area from Redheugh Bridge to the rear of the Baltic Centre for Contemporary Art and including the bridges in between, and
- at all of the Metro stations in the borough. The Metro is a light rail network throughout the borough and other neighbouring areas in Tyne & Wear.

Gambling Act 2005

5.37 From September 2007 certain licensed premises are able to conduct specified gambling activities pursuant to the Gambling Act 2005. Licensees and potential licensees who wish to conduct gambling activities should have regard to the Act, and to Gateshead Council's Statement of Gambling Principles (and, where appropriate, Gateshead Council's Policy on Gambling Permits).

Social Responsibility Standards for Production and Sale of Alcoholic Drinks in the UK

5.38 These Standards were produced in November 2005 in partnership between the Government and a wide range of representative bodies involved in the production and sale of alcohol in the United Kingdom. The Standards are intended to assist businesses, individuals and organisations in promoting the social responsibilities associated with the sale of alcohol. The Standards promote nine social responsibility principles as follows -

- to promote responsible drinking and the 'Sensible Drinking Message';
- to avoid any actions that encourage or condone illegal, irresponsible or immoderate drinking such as drunkenness, drink driving or drinking in inappropriate circumstances;
- to take all reasonable precautions to ensure people under the legal purchase age cannot buy or obtain alcoholic drinks;
- to avoid any forms of marketing or promotion which have particular appeal to young people under the age of 18 in both content and context;
- to avoid any association with violent, aggressive, dangerous, illegal or anti-social behaviour;
- to make the alcoholic nature of their products clear and avoid confusion with non-alcoholic drinks;
- to avoid any suggestion that drinking alcohol can enhance social, sexual, physical, mental, financial or sporting performance, or conversely that a decision not to drink will have the reverse effect;
- to ensure their staff and those of companies acting on their behalf are fully aware of the Standards and are trained in their application in their own areas of responsibility; and
- to ensure that all company policies work to support the Standards.

5.39 The Licensing Authority will expect applicants and licensees to have regard to the above principles, and to the Standards as a whole.

6. General Principles of the Policy

6.1 In determining a licence application the overriding principle adopted by the Licensing Authority will be that each application will be determined on its merits. In considering

every application, under the terms of this Policy, regard will be given to Government Guidance under Section 182 of the Act, from time to time The Act itself and to supporting regulations.

- 6.2 The Licensing Authority considers the effective and responsible management of the premises, instruction, training and supervision of staff and the adoption of best practice to be amongst the most important control measures for the achievement of all the licensing objectives. For this reason, the Licensing Authority will expect these elements to be specifically considered and addressed within an applicant's operating schedule.

Cumulative Impact of Licensing on the Amenity of Particular Areas

- 6.3 This Policy will not seek to limit the number of licensed premises that will be permitted on the basis of arguments that there are currently enough licensed premises to satisfy demand. The issue of demand or 'need' is an entirely commercial issue and is not a matter to be addressed through the licensing policy. The 'cumulative effect' of granting additional licences on the promotion of the four licensing objectives on the other hand, is a matter that the Licensing Authority can and will properly take into account under this policy.

- 6.4 The Licensing Authority recognises that the cumulative effect of licensed premises may result in an increase in numbers of people either walking through or congregating in streets or cause adverse effects on amenity and this in turn may have a number of undesirable consequences, for example:

- An increase in crime against both property and persons
- An increase in noise causing disturbance to residents
- Traffic congestion and/or parking difficulties
- Littering and fouling
- Anti-social behaviour relating to the sale and consumption of alcohol

- 6.5 Where there is evidence that a particular area of the Borough is suffering adverse effects arising from a concentration of licensed premises, or that residential areas are under stress, this will be taken into account in determining any further applications or variations to existing licences for premises within the area identified. The onus will be on the objectors to provide evidence to back up any assertion that the addition of the premises in question would produce the cumulative impact claimed.

- 6.6 The Licensing Authority may consider a specific saturation policy if this proves necessary whereby new premises licences or club premises certificates are normally refused because the area is saturated with licensed premises and the granting of any more would undermine one or more of the licensing objectives

- 6.7 The Licensing Authority in considering whether to adopt a special saturation policy will take the following steps:

- Identify serious and chronic concern from a responsible authority or representatives of residents or local businesses concerning nuisance and/or disorder;
- Assess the causes

- Where it can be demonstrated that disorder and nuisance is as a result of customers of licensed premises, identify the area from which problems are arising and the boundaries of that area; and
- Adopt a special policy about future licence applications from that area

6.8 At the present time the Licensing Authority has not designated any saturation areas within the Borough. Experience in the Borough since the implementation of the Act has not led to the need to designate any saturation areas as yet, however this is kept under review. If in future the Licensing Authority designates any such areas they will be advertised, current licence holders will be informed and new applicants advised on their initial enquiry.

6.9 The Licensing Authority recognises that a minority of patrons may behave badly and that the licensing policy cannot address issues relating to the behaviour of individuals or groups unless in the immediate area of the licensed premises. It is, nevertheless, well aware that there are other means of addressing the problems identified above and that other mechanisms available include:

- Planning controls
- Powers to designate parts of the local authority area as places where alcohol may not be consumed publicly and for confiscation of alcohol, from adults and children, in these areas (further information in respect of the alcohol exclusion zones established in the Borough is set out in Section 5 above)
- Positive measures to provide safe and clean environments in partnership with local businesses, transport operators and other departments of the Council
- Enforcement powers in respect of anti-social behaviour underage drinking and disorder
- Training and education of staff working in licensed premises
- Police powers to close down premises or temporary events for up to 24 hours on the grounds of disorder, the likelihood of disorder or excessive noise
- Prosecution of personal licence holders who sell alcohol to people who are drunk
- Powers of police, responsible authorities or a local resident or business to seek a review of a premises licence

6.10 Where there is evidence that a particular area of the Borough is already suffering adverse effects arising from the concentration of late night premises, or that residential areas are under stress, this will be taken into account in determining any further applications for premises within the area identified. As such, the Licensing Authority will take into account the:

- Character of the surrounding area
- Nature, style and character of the proposed operation and
- Potential impact of the licence on the surrounding area, both individually and cumulatively with existing licences.

6.11 The Licensing Authority may refuse applications for licences in respect of new premises if representations are received from a responsible authority or interested party (as defined in the Act) to the effect that the issue of an individual licence would result in an area becoming saturated with licensed premises and may result in significant crime and disorder problems for that area.

6.12 In cases where objectors seek to establish that an application should be refused on the grounds that it would result in or further contribute to a cumulative impact that would undermine one or more of the licensing objectives the onus is on the objector to:

- Identify the boundaries of the area from which it is alleged problems are arising
- Provide full details and evidence as to the seriousness and causes of the nuisance and/or crime and disorder in the area
- Identify the licensing objective(s) which it is alleged will be undermined with specific regard to:
 - the occupancy figure for the proposed premises
 - the nature of the licensed activity to be carried on at the premises and its patrons

7. Licensing Objectives

7.1 Applicants will need to provide evidence to the Licensing Authority that, in respect of each of the four licensing objectives, suitable and sufficient measures, as detailed in their Operating Schedule, will be implemented and maintained, and will be relevant to the individual style and characteristics of their premises and events.

Prevention of Crime and Disorder

7.2 Gateshead Council is committed to reducing crime and disorder within the Borough and helping people feel safe.

7.3 Section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 introduced a wide range of measures for preventing crime and disorder and imposed a duty on the Council, Northumbria Police and others to consider crime and disorder reduction in the exercise of all their duties. The Licensing Act 2003 complements this duty for licensing authorities.

7.4 When addressing the issue of crime and disorder, an applicant must demonstrate that those factors that impact on crime and disorder have been considered. These specifically include:

- Underage drinking
- Drunkenness on premises
- Public drunkenness
- Drugs
- Violent behaviour
- Anti-social behaviour

7.5 Applicants will be expected to demonstrate in the Operating Schedule, that suitable and sufficient measures have been identified and will be implemented and maintained with the intention of preventing crime and disorder.

7.6 In considering applications, the Licensing Authority will expect to see evidence that the following specific matters that impact on crime and disorder have been addressed in the Operating Schedule of the premises:

- The capability of the person who is in charge to run the premises during trading hours or when Regulated Entertainment is provided to effectively and

responsibly manage and supervise the premises, including associated open areas

- The steps to be taken in the absence of the Designated Premises Supervisor to effectively manage the business.
- The steps taken or to be taken to ensure that appropriate instruction, training and supervision is given to those employed or engaged in the premises to prevent incidents of crime and disorder
- The measures taken or to be taken to raise staff awareness and discourage and prevent the use or supply of illegal drugs on the premises
- The features currently in place or planned for physical security at the premises, such as lighting outside the premises
- The policies that have been determined in respect of adoption of appropriate existing and future best practice guidance (eg Safer Clubbing, the National Alcohol Harm Reduction Strategy Toolkit, etc)
- Any arrangements which the licence holder proposes to work in partnership with the Council, police and other traders in establishing a method of co-ordinating closing times to prevent crowds emerging from premises at the same time and to prevent migration between premises with different closing times
- Any appropriate additional measures taken or to be taken for the prevention of violence or public disorder

7.7 The extent to which the above matters need to be addressed will be dependent on the individual style and characteristics of the premises, proposed events and activities. In general however, the Licensing Authority will expect more comprehensive measures to be in place at late night entertainment venues or in premises with a history of crime and disorder issues.

7.8 In such premises appropriate additional measures taken or to be taken for the prevention of violence or public disorder may include:

- Provision of effective CCTV both within and around premises
- Employment of SIA licensed door staff
- Provision of toughened or plastic glasses
- Procedures for risk assessing drinks promotions and events such as 'happy hours' for the potential to cause crime and disorder and plans for minimising such risks

7.9 The Licensing Authority will have particular regard to representations from the Police in deciding whether the above issues have been adequately addressed. It will not normally grant an application for a licence or a variation of a licence where representations indicate that any matter has not been addressed sufficiently to avoid a potential negative impact on crime and disorder, unless the applicant can demonstrate compelling reasons why the application should be approved in the light of these representations.

7.10 Where either prescribed and/or premises related conditions have not been adhered to in the past, the Licensing Authority will expect applicants to have considered and taken action to rectify those issues. Applications are likely to be refused where there are significant outstanding issues.

- 7.11 The Licensing Authority will not normally expect applicants for late night food outlets to include the sale of alcohol in their Operating Schedules because of the general nature and location of takeaway premises.
- 7.12 The Licensing Authority will expect licensees of venues likely to be affected by drugs to take all reasonable steps to prevent the entry of drugs into licensed premises, to take appropriate steps to prevent drugs changing hands within the premises and to take practical measures to prevent tragedies as a result of drug misuse.
- 7.13 The Licensing Authority will not support drinks promotions, from any licensed premises, that encourage the irresponsible consumption of alcohol, such as binge drinking. If such promotions are held they should be in accordance with industry best practice guides. (eg BBPA Guides)

Public Safety

- 7.14 Gateshead Council is committed to ensuring that the safety of any person visiting or working in licensed premises is not compromised. Applicants will therefore be expected to demonstrate in their operating schedule that suitable and sufficient measures have been identified and will be implemented and maintained to ensure public safety, relevant to the individual style and characteristics of their premises and events.
- 7.15 When addressing the issue of public safety an applicant must demonstrate that those factors that impact on the standards of public safety have been considered. These may include:
- The occupancy capacity of the premises
 - The age, design and layout of the premises, including means of escape in the event of fire
 - The nature of the licensable activities to be provided, in particular the sale or supply of alcohol, and/or the provision of music and dancing and including whether those activities are of a temporary or permanent nature
 - The hours of operation (differentiating the hours of opening from the hours when licensable activities are provided, if different)
 - Customer profile (eg age, disability)
 - The use of special effects such as lasers, pyrotechnics, smoke machines, etc
- 7.16 The following examples of control measures are given to assist applicants who may need to take account of them in their operating schedule, having regard to their particular type of premises and/or activities:
- Suitable and sufficient risk assessments
 - Effective and responsible management of the premises
 - Provision of a sufficient number of people employed or engaged to secure the safety of the premises and patrons
 - Appropriate instruction, training and supervision of those employed or engaged to secure the safety of premises and patrons
 - Adoption of best practice guidance (eg Guide to Fire Precautions in Existing Places of Entertainment and like premises, The Event Safety Guide, Safety in Pubs published by the BBPA)
 - Provision of effective CCTV in and around premises
 - Provision of toughened or plastic drinking vessels

- Implementation of crowd management measures
- Proof of regular testing (and certification where appropriate) of procedures, appliances, systems etc pertinent to safety)

Prevention of Public Nuisance

- 7.17 Licensed premises have a significant potential to adversely impact on communities through public nuisances that arise from their operation. The Licensing Authority wishes to maintain and protect the amenity of residents and other businesses from the potential consequence of the operation of licensed premises whilst recognising the valuable cultural, social and business importance that such premises provide.
- 7.18 The Licensing Authority intends to interpret 'public nuisance' in its widest sense, and takes it to include such issues as noise, light, odour, litter and anti-social behaviour, where these matters impact on those living, working or otherwise engaged in normal activity in an area.
- 7.19 Applicants need to be clear that the Licensing Authority will normally apply stricter conditions, including controls on licensing hours, where licensed premises are in residential areas and where relevant representations have been received. Conversely, premises for which it can be demonstrated have effective measures planned to prevent public nuisance, may be suitable for 24-hour opening.
- 7.20 In the case of shops, stores and supermarkets selling alcohol, the Licensing Authority will normally permit the hours during which alcohol is sold to match the normal trading hours during which other sales take place, unless there are exceptional reasons relating to disturbance or disorder.
- 7.21 Applicants will be expected to demonstrate in their Operating Schedule that suitable and sufficient measures have been identified and will be implemented and maintained to prevent public nuisance, relevant to the individual style and characteristics of their premises and events.
- 7.22 When addressing the issue of prevention of public nuisance, the applicant must demonstrate that those factors that impact on the likelihood of public nuisance have been considered. These may include:
- The location of premises and proximity to residential and other noise sensitive premises
 - The hours of opening, particularly between 23:00 and 07:00 hours
 - The nature of activities to be provided, including whether those activities are of a temporary or permanent nature and whether they are to be held inside or outside premises
 - The design and layout of premises and in particular the presence of noise limiting features
 - The occupancy capacity of the premises
 - The availability of public transport
 - 'wind down period' between the end of the licensable activities and closure of the premises, i.e. allowing patrons to remain in the premises for a period after licensable activities have ceased, so that people do not disperse en masse
 - last admission time

7.23 The following examples of control measures are given to assist applicants who may need to take account of them in their operating schedule, having regard to their particular type of premises and/or activities:

- effective and responsible management of the premises
- appropriate instruction, training and supervision of those employed or engaged to prevent incidents of public nuisance eg to ensure customers leave quietly
- control of operating hours for all or parts (eg garden areas) of premises, including such matters as deliveries
- adoption of best practice guidance (eg Good Practice Guide on the Control of Noise from Pubs and Clubs, produced by the Institute of acoustics, Licensed Property: Noise, published by BBPA)
- installation of soundproofing, air conditioning, acoustic lobbies and sound limitation devices
- management of people, including staff, and traffic (and resulting queues arriving and leaving premises)
- liaison with public transport providers
- siting of external lighting including security lighting
- management arrangements for collection and disposal of litter
- effective ventilation systems to prevent nuisance from odour

Protection of Children from Harm

7.24 The Licensing Authority will carry out its responsibilities so as to promote the licensing objective for the protection of children from harm.

7.25 The Licensing Authority will specifically require the Operating Schedule to address issues relating to children.

7.26 Licences will be sought from a wide variety of premises including theatres, cinemas, restaurants, concert halls, cafes, late night take-aways, pubs, bars and nightclubs. It is not possible for a licensing policy to anticipate every situation where children are at risk. The Licensing Authority will not therefore impose general conditions that apply to all premises, but will consider how the licensing objectives can be best promoted in each particular case.

7.27 The Licensing Authority will not seek to limit the access of children to licensed premises unless it is necessary to protect children from harm. The Licensing Authority will judge the merits of each separate application before deciding whether to impose conditions limiting access to children. The following are some examples of premises that will raise concern:

- Where there have been convictions for serving alcohol to minors or with a reputation for underage drinking
- With a known association with drug taking or dealing
- Where there is a strong element of gambling on the premises
- Where entertainment of an adult or sexual nature is commonly provided

7.28 The Licensing Authority will not impose a right of access of children. This will remain a matter for the discretion of the licensee and it is anticipated that the issue of access to children will be addressed in the Operating Schedule.

- 7.29 The range of options available to limit the access of children to licensed premises that may be imposed by the Licensing Authority include:
- Limitations on the hours where children may be present
 - Age limitations
 - Exclusions where certain activities are taking place
 - Requirements for an accompanying adult
 - In exceptional cases, exclusion of people under 18 from the premises or parts thereof when any licensable activities are taking place
- 7.30 Licensees will be expected to prevent children from viewing films that are unsuitable because of the age classification of the film that has been imposed by the British Board of Film Classification or other film classification board approved by the Licensing Authority.
- 7.31 The Licensing Authority will expect that where a significant number of unaccompanied children will be present during a public entertainment event, the licensee will ensure that an adequate number of adult staff are present to control the access, egress and safety in and around the premises. The number of staff required should be assessed by the licensee, taking into account the number of children to be present, the type of entertainment, the characteristics of the premises and any other relevant factor.
- 7.32 Anyone intending to provide staff for the supervision of activities for under 18s will be required to carry out Enhanced Criminal Record Bureau checks on all persons involved servicing such activities. These checks should be entered into a register which should be kept on the premises at all times and made available to the Police or authorised Council officer on request. Staff shall only be appointed who have been subject to a check and are found to be suitable, if in doubt the applicant should liaise directly with the Police.
- 7.33 Premises that sell alcohol are encouraged to participate in Proof of Age Schemes, such as 'Challenge 21', 'No ID, no Sale' and 'Citizencard'.
- 7.34 Where there are restrictions whether imposed by statute or by the Licensing Authority, on the sale or supply of goods or the provision of services or the showing of films or other entertainment to children below a certain age then the licensee will be required to demonstrate that they have in place a system for verifying the age of the children intended to be supplied with such goods, services or entertainment. Training must be given to all persons who might be in a position to refuse such children. Such training must include recognition of age, seeking proof of age, verifying the authenticity of proof of age cards, and handling refusals.

8. Licensing Hours

- 8.1 The Licensing Authority accepts the Government's view that longer licensing hours should be enabled in the interests of avoiding a concentration of disturbance while ensuring that nuisance is minimised to residents in the vicinity. However, the Licensing Authority believes that it is self evident that the risk of disturbance to local residents is greater when licensable activities continue late at night and into the early hours of the morning. It also realises that the majority of licensed premises will not wish to remain open for 24 hours. Where an applicant wishes to apply to extend their current opening

hours, the Licensing Authority will expect their operating schedule to detail the measures to be taken to ensure the licensing objectives are addressed.

- 8.2 The Licensing Authority also accepts that longer licensing hours with regard to the sale of alcohol may, in some circumstances, help with mitigating the adverse effect of concentrations of customers leaving premises simultaneously. This may then serve to reduce friction at late night fast food outlets, taxi ranks and other sources of transport, which could be the focus of disorder and disturbance.
- 8.3 In general a flexible approach will be adopted and arbitrary restrictions will be avoided. Fixed predetermined closing times for particular areas or zones will not form part of the Licensing Authority's licensing policy as this could lead to a significant movement of people from one area to another. Restriction on trading hours will be considered only where necessary to meet the licensing objectives. Limitations on operating hours may be imposed, for example, following Police representations in the case of isolated shops known to be the focus of disorder, disturbance or for people engaging in anti-social behaviour, including pressurising staff to make unlawful sales.
- 8.4 However, each case will be decided on its own merits based on whether the licensing objectives can be met. Stricter conditions however are likely to apply where the premises are situated in mainly residential areas to minimise disturbance to local residents.
- 8.5 Applicants wishing to operate beyond 23:00 hours will need to demonstrate to the satisfaction of the Licensing Authority, in their operating schedule, that there will be no significant disturbance to members of the public living, working or otherwise engaged in normal activity around the premises concerned. Opening hours beyond 23:00 hours will generally be considered to be more acceptable for premises in commercial or tourist areas with high levels of public transport availability, rather than premises in predominately residential areas.
- 8.6 In making decisions in respect of hours, consideration will be given to representations made by residents and businesses in the vicinity of the premises, their representatives, the police as well as the applicant and other agencies as appropriate.
- 8.7 When considering applications, in respect of hours of operation, the Licensing Authority will take the following into consideration:
- Whether the premises is located in a predominantly commercial area
 - The nature of the proposed activities to be provided in the premises
 - Whether there are any arrangements to ensure adequate availability of taxis and private hire vehicles and appropriate places for picking up and setting down passengers
 - Whether there is an appropriate amount of car parking, readily accessible to the premises, and in places where the parking and use of vehicles will not cause demonstrable adverse impact to local residents
 - Whether the operating schedule agreed with Council Officers indicates that the applicant is taking appropriate steps to comply with the licensing objective of preventing public nuisance
 - Whether the licensed activity, particularly if located in areas of the highest levels of recorded crime, may result in a reduction or increase in crime or anti-social behaviour

- Whether the licensed activities are likely to cause adverse impact especially on local residents, and that, if there is a potential to cause adverse impact, appropriate measures will be put in place to prevent it.
- Whether there will be any increase in the cumulative adverse impact from these or similar activities, on an adjacent residential area

8.8 Any representations from a responsible authority or interested party that identify the premises as a focus for disorder and disturbance will also be taken into consideration.

8.9 In principle, the Licensing Authority believes that shops, stores and supermarkets selling alcohol should generally be permitted to match the hours during which they sell alcohol with their normal trading hours during which other sales take place, unless there are exceptional reasons relating to disorder or disturbance. Where representations are by the police concerning crime and disorder issues the Licensing Authority will consider a restriction on opening hours as one mechanism of combating such problems.

9. Premises Licence

9.1 A premises licence authorises the use of any premises as defined in the Act for licensable activities.

Application

9.2 Any person aged over 18, a business or a partnership may apply for a premises licence. The application must be accompanied by:

- The required fee
- An operating schedule
- A scale plan of the premises to which the application relates in the prescribed form and,
- If the premises involves the supply of alcohol, a form of consent from the individual who is to be specified as the designated premises supervisor, and the application must be advertised in the prescribed manner.

10. Club Premises Certificates

10.1 A Club Premises Certificate is required in order for Qualifying Clubs (as defined in the Act) to supply alcohol and provide other licensable activities on Club premises.

Application

10.2 Any member of a club over 18 years old may apply for a Club Premises Certificate and applications must be accompanied by:

- The required fee
- An operating schedule
- A scale plan of the premises to which the application relates in the prescribed form
- A copy of the Club rules and the application must be advertised in the prescribed manner.

11. The plan

- 11.1 When an application for a premises licence or club premises certificate is successful, the plan submitted to the Licensing Authority with an application forms part of the licence or certificate. This means that the plan (and layout) of the premises cannot be altered without also altering the licence or certificate.
- 11.2 If a licence/certificate holder intends to alter the premises in such a way as would have any affect on the plan submitted to the Licensing Authority that forms part of the current licence/certificate for the premises, the licence/certificate holder is advised to contact the licensing Authority before making any alterations.
- 11.3 The Licensing Authority will take a pragmatic approach as to whether licence/certificate holders will be required to submit an application for variation of their existing licence/certificate, or whether an application will be needed for a new licence/certificate. The Licensing Authority shall have regard to the promotion of the Licensing Objectives, and any potential impact on them arising from the proposed alterations.

12. Outside areas

- 12.1 Where an application includes provision of an outside area it is expected that the designated area will be situated in such place and designed in such manner as will cause the least amount of disturbance to neighbours as possible. Applicants will be expected to consider taking reasonable steps to promote the Licensing Objectives. Applicants may need to consider –
- The provision of appropriate bins and other receptacles for litter generated by patrons
 - Measures to reduce the amount of noise generated by patrons, particularly late at night. This may include door supervision, closure of outside areas after a particular time, restricting re-admission to the premises after a particular time, etc
 - Provision and placement of appropriate street furniture to prevent persons 'spilling out' onto public highway in the vicinity of the premises
 - Provision of CCTV covering entrances and exits, external areas, and surrounding public highways

13. Operating Schedules

- 13.1 The operating schedule is the part of an application for a Premises Licence or Club Premises Certificate where applicants must set out what they intend to do and how they intend to do it.
- 13.2 The operating schedule should enable the Licensing Authority, responsible bodies and interested parties to understand -
- What licensable activities are intended to be carried out

- When licensable activities will be carried out – i.e. between what hours, on what days and at what times of year
- When the premises will be open to the public for non-licensed activities
- Whether alcohol is intended to be sold for consumption off the premises
- (Where the sale or supply of alcohol is intended at premises with a Premises Licence) who the Designated Premises Supervisor will be and what his / her address is
- What steps will be taken to promote the Licensing Objectives.

13.3 It is very important that applicants clearly set out the steps they intend to take to promote the Licensing Objectives. This is the applicant's opportunity to show the authorities and their neighbours that they intend to run a responsible business. Applicants should demonstrate the measures they will take to prevent crime and disorder, to promote public safety, prevent public nuisance, and protect children from harm. By promoting the Licensing Objectives, licensees will ultimately benefit their business as they will operate responsibly and in co-operation with authorities, and will not disturb their neighbours.

13.4 When preparing their operating schedule, applicants may find it beneficial to liaise with the responsible bodies that will be receiving the application once submitted. This will give applicants the opportunity to address any concerns before the application is submitted, and so minimise the risk of representations being made.

13.5 If an applicant intends to sell alcohol, they should consider joining initiatives such as PubWatch, and those of the Licensing Authority, Northumbria Police and other agencies. These schemes are intended to enable licensees to work together and with authorities to address the problems they can face from crime, disorder, violence and the use of or dealing of drugs in their premises.

14. Personal licences

14.1 Personal Licence holders are authorised to sell or supply alcohol in premises that have a Premises Licence authorising the sale or supply of alcohol.

14.2 Every sale or supply of alcohol must be authorised by a personal licence holder. That does not mean that every sale or supply of alcohol must be made by a personal licence holder, but a personal licence holder must authorise the sale or supply to take place, and will be responsible for the actions that take place that they authorise. The Licensing Authority considers it good practice for persons selling alcohol to be authorised in writing by a personal licence holder.

14.3 The Licensing Authority will grant a personal licence providing the following criteria is met:

- The applicant is over 18
- The required fee is paid
- The applicant possesses a relevant licensing qualification – a list of organisations accredited to provide training leading to this qualification may be found on the Department for Culture, Media and Sport website
- The applicant has not forfeited a personal licence in the previous 5 years beginning with the day the application was made

- The applicant has not been convicted of any relevant offence, as defined in the Act
- The Police have not given an objection notice about the grant of a Personal Licence following notification of any unspent relevant offence
- The application has been submitted correctly

- 14.4 In order to substantiate whether or not an applicant has a conviction for an unspent relevant offence, applicants will be required to produce a current Criminal Record Bureau certificate, which should be copied to the Police along with the application. The Licensing Authority will consult with the Police regarding any relevant offences.
- 14.5 If a representation is made by the Police to an application the matter will be referred to the Licensing Sub Committee. At the hearing the Licensing Authority will consider carefully whether the grant of the licence will be in the interests of the crime prevention objective. The refusal of the application will be the normal course unless there are, in the opinion of the Licensing Authority, exceptional and compelling circumstances that justify granting the application.
- 14.6 The Personal Licence lasts for ten years from the date on which it is issued, unless it is suspended, surrendered or forfeited during that period.
- 14.7 Personal Licences are not specific to premises, and so Personal Licence Holders may use their licence to authorise the sale or supply of alcohol in a number of different licensed premises.
- 14.8 Where a personal licence holder is charged with a relevant offence he or she must notify the Court that they have a Personal Licence and produce the licence to the Court. Where a Personal Licence holder who is convicted fails to notify the Court that they hold a Personal Licence, that person will have committed a criminal offence and may be prosecuted by the Licensing Authority or the Police.

15. Designated Premises Supervisor

- 15.1 Where one of the licensable activities authorised to take place at licensed premises is the sale of alcohol, the Licensing Act requires one of the Personal Licence holders associated with a premises to be a Designated Premises Supervisor. The main purpose of this is to ensure that there is always one specified individual who can be readily identified as being responsible for the premises.
- 15.2 The sale of alcohol may only take place where there is a current Designated Premises Supervisor for the premises. That person must be a personal licence holder. The Designated Premises Supervisor will be named on the Premises Licence, and on the licence summary, which must be prominently displayed in the premises.
- 15.3 The Designated Premises Supervisor will be the first point of contact for the Licensing Authority, Police, and Fire and Rescue Service. It is expected that the Designated Premises Supervisor will be a key person related to the premises, so that matters arising can be dealt with as quickly as possible. Where the Designated Premises Supervisor is not available at the premises for whatever reason, the Licensing Authority will expect an individual to be nominated as a point of contact who will have details of where the Designated Premises Supervisor can be contacted. Even when a Designated

Premises Supervisor is not present at the premises, that person still has responsibility for ensuring the promotion of the Licensing Objectives in their absence. If a Designated Premises Supervisor will not be in attendance at the premises for any extended period, they should consider applying to vary the Premises Licence to appoint an alternative person as Designated Premises Supervisor, who will be able to exercise that function effectively.

- 15.4 If a Designated Premises Supervisor is convicted for a relevant offence, the Court may suspend that person's Personal Licence, or declare it to be forfeited. In these circumstances, the premises will no longer be authorised to sell alcohol until another Designated Premises Supervisor is duly nominated. This will also be the case if the nominated Designated Premises Supervisor no longer works at the premises.
- 15.5 It is the responsibility of the Premises Licence holder to notify the Licensing Authority immediately of any change of Designated Premises Supervisor.
- 15.6 The Police are able to object to the appointment of a new Designated Premises Supervisor, either for a new application or when varying a Premises Licence to specify a new Designated Premises Supervisor, where, in exceptional circumstances they believe that the appointment would undermine the crime prevention objective. When this happens the Licensing Authority will arrange for a Licensing Committee hearing at which the issue can be considered and both parties can put their arguments. The Sub Committee will confine their consideration to the issue of crime and disorder and give comprehensive reasons for their decision. Both parties have the right to appeal the Sub Committee's decision to the Magistrates' Court.

16. Temporary Event Notices

- 16.1 Certain temporary events are not required to be licensed but can be notified to the Licensing Authority using the Temporary Event Notice procedure. However, depending on the nature and location of such events, these can have serious crime and disorder implications. Organisers of these events are encouraged to submit their notification as soon as reasonably practicable to enable the police to work with them to identify and reduce the risk of crime and disorder. In any event, applicants are required to give at least ten working days' notice to the Licensing Authority and the police.

- 16.2 The Temporary Event Notice procedure can be used by persons wishing to provide temporary -

- sale of alcohol
- regulated entertainment
- late night refreshment

where either the premises in question are not licensed for that activity, or the applicant wishes to undertake the activity outside the licensed hours.

- 16.3 Temporary Event Notices can only be utilised in certain circumstances, as follows:

- no more than 499 people may be present at the temporary event at any particular time
- the temporary event may not be for a duration of more than 96 hours

- there must be a minimum of 24 hours between temporary events at the same premises by the same premises user
- no more than twelve temporary events can be held at the same premises each calendar year
- the aggregate time of temporary events held at premises during each calendar year must not exceed 15 days

16.4 Persons not holding personal licences may not hold more than five temporary events per calendar year. Personal licence holders may hold up to 50 temporary events per year.

17. Sex Related Activities

17.1 The Licensing Authority will give detailed consideration to the implications on the Licensing Objectives of any applications for entertainment involving nudity (whether full or partial) or any other sex-related entertainment.

17.2 Applicants wishing to provide sex-related entertainment are expected to make this clear on their application. Should they fail to do so without reasonable excuse, or make any false statement in their application, the Licensing Authority will consider this to be misleading as to the nature of the activities for which the licence / certificate is sought. That person may also commit an offence under section 158 of the Act.

17.3 Where premises wishing to provide sex-related entertainment are located near schools, places of worship, hospitals, youth clubs or other premises where significant numbers of children are likely to attend, it is likely that representations will be received.

17.4 The Licensing Authority will expect applicants to consider the following issues carefully in their Operating Schedules :

- Ensuring that children are not admitted to and cannot witness these activities
- Distance between performer and customer
- Provision and maintenance of CCTV and storage of CCTV footage for extended periods
- Pre-employment checks and ongoing CRB checks
- Codes of conduct for performers and staff including supervisors and security
- Rules of conduct for customers
- Disciplinary measures for performers, staff customers in the event of breaches of the above

18. Film classification

18.1 Where the Licensing Authority is requested to classify a film for exhibition within the Licensing Authority's area, it will do so if the film has not been classified by the British Board of Film Classification, or such classification is not pending.

18.2 When an applicant submits a film for classification, they should provide a copy of the film to the Licensing Officer, and should indicate the rating that they consider appropriate. The Licensing Officer shall consult with Northumbria Police and the Local

Safeguarding Children Board. The applicant should provide the copy of the film at least 28 days in advance of the proposed screening. If the applicant is unable to provide a copy of the film in DVD / VHS format then they should liaise with the Licensing Officer to arrange for a screening of the film for the relevant bodies as above.

- 18.3 The Licensing Authority shall have regard to any representations received from the Local Safeguarding Children Board and Northumbria Police. The Licensing Authority shall have regard to the classification standards applied by the British Board of Film Classification. The Licensing Authority shall also have regard to (but shall not be bound by) any classification given to the film by another Licensing Authority.
- 18.4 Where a relevant representation is received, the classification of the film shall be determined by a hearing of the Licensing Sub Committee.

19. Licensing application procedures

- 19.1 The Licensing Authority will issue and make readily available guidance notes on the procedures it requires for making applications for licences and will from time to time review such guidance.

20. Conditions

- 20.1 Some licensed premises had conditions imposed on their Justices' Licences or Club Premises Certificates prior to the Licensing Act 2003 coming into force. Unless those conditions were varied during the transitional period, they were carried over onto the licences and certificates issued by this Licensing Authority when the regulatory function was transferred to it in November 2005.
- 20.2 The Act prescribes certain mandatory conditions that must be imposed on licences and certificates. These are set out at sections 19 – 21 and 74 of the Act respectively. Applicants should take these conditions into account when considering the nature of their businesses and when preparing their Operating Schedules. Where an application is received and no representations are made, conditions consistent with the operating schedule will be set out in the licence.
- 20.3 The Licensing Authority cannot impose non-mandatory conditions unless and until its discretion to do so is triggered by its receipt of relevant representations. A hearing must then take place before the Licensing Authority's Sub Committee, where it will be determined what steps are necessary for the promotion of the Licensing Objectives.
- 20.4 'Standard conditions' will not be attached to licences, thereby avoiding the imposition of disproportionate and burdensome requirements. If conditions are required in particular circumstances, they will be tailored to reflect the individual style and characteristics of the premises and activities concerned. Only those conditions which are necessary to meet the licensing objectives will be imposed. Conditions will not be imposed which are beyond the responsibility or control of the licence holder and will focus on those matters on the premises and places being used for licensable activities and the vicinity of those premises and places.

- 20.5 Conditions will not be imposed where the Licensing Authority considers other regulatory regimes provide sufficient protection to the public eg food safety, health and safety at work and fire safety legislation.
- 20.6 It is the Licensing Authority's view that, when considering conditions, there should be openness, transparency and reasonableness. Consequently, officers will seek to discuss proposed conditions in advance with the applicant and/or representative with the aim of achieving a mutually agreeable level of protection to the public along with fulfilment of the licensing objectives. All parties should however be aware that if a hearing is necessary, it is the Sub Committee that will determine whether any conditions are to be imposed, and if so what those conditions will be.
- 20.7 Where the Sub Committee determines that conditions are to be added to a licence it will have regard to the Pool of Model Conditions (See Appendix 1). Every licence is considered on its merits, and the Sub Committee will tailor these conditions to the individual circumstances. Equally, it may be appropriate for conditions to be imposed that are not envisaged in the Model Pool, and the Sub Committee is able to do so if appropriate.
- 20.8 If an applicant / licence holder volunteers certain measures in its Operating Schedule, the Sub Committee can impose conditions on the licence or certificate in accordance with the measures offered.

21. Appeals

- 21.1 Where an applicant is aggrieved by a condition, decision or relevant representation from a responsible authority or relevant person, there is a right of appeal. This appeal must be lodged within a period of 21 days from the day on which the applicant was notified by the Licensing Authority of the decision and must be made to the Magistrates' Court.
- 21.2 In respect of personal licences, refusal to issue or revocation – appeals must be made to the Magistrates' Court in the area where the licence was issued.
- 21.3 Appeals in relation to all other licences must be made to the Magistrates' Court where the premises or event is situated.

22. Complaints about licensed premises

- 22.1 The Licensing Authority will investigate complaints about licensed premises where appropriate. Complainants will, in the first instance, be encouraged to raise the complaint directly with the licensee or business concerned. In the case of a valid complaint, the Licensing Authority will initially endeavour to seek a resolution through informal means.
- 22.2 All complaints must, in the first instance, be addressed to the Licensing and Enforcement Manager, Regulatory Services, Civic Centre, Regent Street, Gateshead NE8 1HH.

- 22.3 The Licensing Authority will only investigate complaints under this Policy if they relate to one or more of the four licensing objectives.
- 22.4 Where they consider appropriate, the Licensing Authority may pass any complaint on for investigation by any other statutory agency under whose enforcement responsibility the complaint falls.

23. Reviews

Interested parties and responsible authorities may seek a review of a premises licence or club premises certificate if they believe that the current operation under the licence or certificate is harmful to one or more of the Licensing Objectives.

Where an application to review a licence or certificate is received by the Licensing Authority, it should be accompanied by any relevant supporting information, documentation, etc. If the application is relevant, and (if made by an interested party) is not frivolous, vexatious or repetitive, a hearing before the Licensing Authority's Sub Committee will be held. Where appropriate the parties may be able to hold discussions with a view to reaching an agreement on steps that can be taken to improve the position.

When a hearing before the Sub Committee takes place, the Sub Committee will consider all information presented to it, and decide what course of action is appropriate for the promotion of the Licensing Objectives. There are a range of responses that are open to the Sub Committee on a review application. The Sub Committee may –

- Take no further action
- Impose conditions on the licence or certificate
- Add conditions to the licence or certificate
- Exclude a licensable activity from the licence or certificate
- Remove the designated premises supervisor
- Suspend the licence or certificate for a period not exceeding three months
- Revoke the licence or certificate.

The review process is intended to enable the Licensing Authority to take appropriate timely measures to promote the Licensing Objectives in respect of individual premises. A review can take place even if it would be disproportionate to revoke a licence or certificate, as some lesser measure can be taken, as above.

Also, because the review process is intended to address the future conduct of the licence holder, a review can take place regardless of any other measures that may be open to the interested party or responsible body. For instance, if a licence holder is found to have sold alcohol to a minor, it is not necessary for a prosecution (or indeed a successful prosecution) to take place in respect of that sale before a review is brought, as the review would consider the steps necessary to prevent future underage sales.

24. Transfers

- 24.1 Where a licence or certificate holder wishes to transfer their licence / certificate to another person, they may apply to the Licensing Authority to do so, and will need to pay the appropriate fee.

- 24.2 In these circumstances, the transfer will be approved by the Licensing Authority unless the Chief Officer of Police objects to the transfer. The objection must set out the basis upon which the police believe that if the transfer was permitted, harm would be caused to the Licensing Objectives.
- 24.3 If an objection is received, a hearing before the Sub Committee will be arranged, and the person seeking the licence/certificate to be transferred into their name will be able to make representations regarding the police objection. The Sub Committee will then either approve or refuse the transfer application.
- 24.4 If the application is refused then the licence or certificate will revert to the person who held it prior to the transfer application. That person will then assume all such responsibilities unless and until the licence / certificate is transferred to someone else. If that person does not wish to regain those responsibilities they must contact the Licensing Authority immediately to surrender the licence / certificate, and as such they are advised to contact the Licensing Authority following the submission of the transfer application to ascertain whether any objection has been received, and when it will be determined.

25. Enforcement

- 25.1 The Council delivers a wide range of enforcement services, aimed at safeguarding the environment and the community and at providing a 'level playing field' on which businesses can fairly trade. The administration and enforcement of the licensing regime is one of these services. The Council has adopted the Government's *Enforcement Concordat* which is designed to ensure effective and efficient public protection services and is based around the principles of consistency, transparency and proportionality.
- 25.2 The enforcement policy proposes that a graduated response is taken where offences against licensing legislation are found or where licence conditions have been contravened. An isolated administrative offence may be dealt with for example by way of a written warning whilst more serious offences which have either been committed over a period of time or which jeopardise public safety may result in a referral for prosecution.
- 25.3 The Council will seek to work actively with the Police, Fire, Trading Standards and any other relevant authority to enforce the licensing legislation. This may include carrying out test purchases, inspections of licensed premises, investigating complaints about licensed premises and investigating allegations of unlicensed premises. Such a partnership approach is intended to prevent duplication of effort, maximise the potential for controlling crime and disorder at premises and to ensure compliance when relevant conditions are appropriate. Gateshead Council has approved the Northumbria Police Joint Enforcement Protocol, which will encourage a consistent approach to enforcement throughout the Licensing Authorities within the Northumbria Police area.
- 25.4 Inspections will take place at the discretion of the Council and its partner agencies and will be concentrated on areas of need. A light touch inspection regime will be

employed for well managed and maintained premises with a targeted and graduated inspection and enforcement regime for problem and high-risk premises.

- 25.5 Where possible and appropriate, the Licensing Authority and its partner agencies will give early warning to licence holders of any concerns about problems occurring at premises associated with the licensing objectives.
- 25.6 The Licensing Authority will carry out its responsibilities for enforcement so as to promote the licensing objectives

26. Delegation and Decision Making

- 26.1 The Council has established a Licensing Committee to administer its functions under the Licensing Act 2003. Powers and functions have also been delegated to Licensing Sub-Committees and officers in order to provide a speedy, efficient and cost effective service to all parties involved in the licensing process.
- 26.2 Many of the decisions and functions are largely administrative in nature such as the grant of non-contentious applications, including for example those licences and certificates where no representations have been made. These will be delegated to Council officers. All such matters dealt with by officers will be reported for information to the next Licensing Committee meeting.
- 26.3 Applications where there are relevant representations will be dealt with by the Licensing Committee/Sub-Committee – unless such representations are considered irrelevant, frivolous or vexatious or unless the Licensing Authority, the applicant and everyone who has made representations agrees that a hearing is not necessary (usually after successful mediation).
- 26.4 The table given in 26.12 below sets out the delegation of decisions and functions of the Licensing Committee, subcommittees and officers. The various delegations include delegation to impose appropriate conditions.
- 26.5 This scheme of delegations is without prejudice to the right of relevant parties to refer an application to a Licensing Sub-Committee or the full Licensing Committee if considered appropriate in the circumstances of any particular case.
- 26.6 Unless there are compelling reasons to the contrary, the Licensing Authority will require the Licensing Committee or any of its sub-committees to meet in public – although Members can retire into private session to consider their decision. A public announcement of the decision will be made at the end of the hearing together with clear, cogent reasons for the decision having due regard to the Human Rights Act 1998, the four licensing objectives and all other legislation.
- 26.7 The Licensing Committee will be made up of 15 members and Sub-Committees of three who will hear any relevant representations from authorised persons, responsible authorities and interested parties in the form of a hearing.
- 26.8 Where a function is delegated to an officer, that officer will be responsible for liaising between the applicant, interested parties and the responsible authorities to ensure that any licence granted is subject to the appropriate conditions. Where objections are

made then the officer will once again liaise with the applicant, interested parties and the responsible authorities to see if a 'settlement' is possible to overcome the objections without the need for the matter to go before the Committee or the Sub-Committee.

26.9 The Committee or Sub-Committee will determine each case before it on its individual merits. However, in determining the application the Licensing committee or Sub-Committee, will consider:

- The case and evidence presented by all parties
- The promotion of the four licensing objectives
- Guidance issued by central Government
- The Licensing Authority's own statement of Licensing Policy

26.10 'Relevant representations' are representations as defined by Section 18 of the Act:

- About the likely effect of the premises licence on the promotion of the licensing objectives
- Made by an interested party or a responsible authority, have not been withdrawn and, in the case of representations made by an interested party they are not in the Licensing Authority's opinion relevant, frivolous or vexatious.

26.11 An interested party' means any of the following as defined by Section 13 of the Act:

- A person living in the vicinity of the premises
- A body representing persons who live in the vicinity
- A person involved in a business in that vicinity; or
- A body representing persons involved in such business.

26.12 Delegation of functions:

Matter to be dealt with	Full Licensing Committee	Licensing Sub-Committee	Officers
Application for personal licence		If representation is made	If no representation made
Application for Personal Licence with unspent convictions		All cases	
Application for Premises Licence/ Club Premises Certificate		If a relevant representation made	If no relevant representation is made
Application for a Provisional Statement		If a relevant representation made	If no relevant representation is made
Application to vary Premises Licence/Club Premises Certificate		If a relevant representation made	If no relevant representation is made
Application to vary Designated Premises Supervisor		If a Police objection	All other cases
Request to be removed			All cases

as Designated Premises Supervisor			
Application for transfer of premises licence		If a Police objection	All other cases
Application for interim authorities		If a police Objection	All other cases
Application to review premises Licence/Club Premises Certificate		All cases	
Decision on whether a complaint is irrelevant frivolous vexatious etc			All cases
Decision to object when local authority is a consultee and not the relevant authority considering the application		All cases	
Determination of a Police objection to a Temporary Event Notice		All cases	
Consideration of reports to the committee	Six monthly		
Classification of films for exhibition where BBFC has not classified		If a relevant representation made	If no relevant representation is made

27. Consultation and Review

- 27.1 This Policy will come into effect on 7 January 2008 and will remain in force for not more than 3 years. During that time it will be subject to periodic reviews and further consultation.
- 27.2 The Council is required to review its Licensing Policy statement every three years and will, in doing so, take into account the views of:
- Northumbria Police
 - Tyne and Wear Fire and Rescue Service
 - Holders of premises and personal licences and club premises certificates
 - Local businesses, residents and representatives
- 27.3 The Council, may however, review the policy at any time within those three years should it consider it appropriate to do so.
- 27.4 Consultees are encouraged to report to the Council annually on the operation of the licensing function.
- 27.5 Following consultation, any revisions to this Policy will be published.

28. Further information

- 28.1 Further information about the Licensing Act 2003 and the Council's Licensing Policy can be obtained from:

Licensing Section
Regulatory Services
Gateshead Council
Civic Centre
Regent Street
Gateshead
Tyne and Wear
NE8 1HH

Tel: 0191 4333911
Fax: 0191 4774827
email: licensing@gateshead.gov.uk
Website: www.gateshead.gov.uk

Information is also available from:

Department for Media, Culture and Sport
2-4 Cockspur Street
LONDON
SW1Y 5DH

Tel: 020 72116200
email: enquiries@culture.gov.uk
Website: www.culture.gov.uk

Public Information

- 28.2 The Register of Premises Licences and Personal Licence holders will be available for inspection by appointment during normal office hours.

APPENDIX 1

LICENSING ACT 2003

POOL OF MODEL CONDITIONS

Notes: -

- (i) These conditions shall be read in conjunction with the “Guidance issued by the Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport under section 182 of the Act issued on 28 June 2007”.
 - (ii) The conditions shall not be regarded as “standard conditions” which are to be automatically imposed in all cases. They are designed to provide a range of possible conditions which may need to be attached to Premises Licences and Club Premises Certificates depending upon differing situations. The wording of the conditions may need to be modified to suit a particular premises and situations.
 - (iii) This is not an exhaustive or exclusive list of conditions. Additional conditions may be drafted and attached to Premises Licences and Club Premises Certificates to meet individual circumstances.
 - (iv) Individuals preparing operating schedules are at liberty to use these conditions, or volunteer any other measures(s) to promote the Licensing Objectives.
 - (v) When incorporated into a Premises Licence or Club Premises Certificate, any condition becomes enforceable under the law and a breach of such a condition could give rise to prosecution.
-

CONDITIONS RELATING TO THE PREVENTION OF CRIME AND DISORDER

1. The Licensee, that is the person in whose name the Premises Licence is issued, shall ensure that at all times when the premises are open for any licensable activity, there are sufficient, competent staff on duty at the premises for the purpose of fulfilling the terms and conditions of the Licence and for preventing crime and disorder.
2. The Licensee shall ensure that on each day that door supervisors are engaged for duty at the premises, their details (names and licence numbers) are recorded in an appropriate book kept at the premises. In conjunction with this record book, the licensee shall also keep an incident book. This record book and incident book must be available for inspection by the Police or Authorised Officer at all times when the premises are open.
3. Glass bottles containing beverages of any kind shall not be left in the possession of any patrons after service and following the discharge of the contents into an appropriate glass or drinking vessel.
4. Glass bottles containing wine may be sold for consumption with a meal taken at a table, by customers who are seated in an area set aside exclusively for patrons taking table meals.
5. No persons carrying open or sealed glass bottles shall be admitted to the premises at any time that the premises are open for any licensable activity.
6. One pint and half pint capacity drinking glasses, and highball (tumbler) drinking glasses, in which drinks are served, shall be of strengthened glass (tempered glassware) or of a material whereby in the event of breakage, the glass will fragment with no sharp edges being left. Alternatively, drinks may be served in non-glassware drinking vessels (e.g. plastic, polystyrene, waxed paper).

(Note. Weights and measures legislation requires the use of "stamped glasses" where "meter-measuring equipment" is not in use.)

7. No glass drinking vessels or glass bottles shall be permitted *(in the areas described in the attached schedule and delineated on the approved plan.)*
8. No patrons shall be allowed to leave the premises whilst in the possession of any drinking vessel or open glass bottle, whether empty or containing any beverage.

(Note. This condition shall not apply to patrons who have purchased beverages for consumption off the premises (within the curtilage of the premises licensed area or in the area covered by a Pavement Café Licence) with the express consent of the Licensee, designated premises supervisor or responsible person.)

9. The Licensee and designated premises supervisor shall ensure that there are effective management arrangement in place to enable them to know how many persons there are in the premises at all times when the premises are open for a licensable activity.

10. The maximum number of persons permitted to assemble on the licensed premises, or relevant part of the licensed premises shall be indicated by a fixed notice bearing the words "Maximum Occupancy" with letters and numbers not less than 20 mm high, conspicuously sited at each relevant part of the premises and at the reception point.
11. All members of staff at the premises including Door Supervisors shall seek "credible photographic proof of age evidence" from any person who appears to be under the age of 18 years and who is seeking access to the premises or is seeking to purchase or consume alcohol on the premises. Such credible evidence, which shall include a photograph of the customer, will either be a passport, photographic driving licence, or Proof of Age card carrying a "PASS" logo.
12. A suitably worded sign of sufficient size and clarity shall be displayed at the point of entry to the premises and in a suitable location at any points of sale, advising customers that they may be asked to produce evidence of their age.
13. The Licensee shall not advertise, promote or supply alcoholic drinks in such a way that is intended or likely to encourage persons to consume alcohol to an excessive extent.
14. The Licensee shall not supply alcoholic drinks at a "reduced price" during any limited period on any day.

Reduced price means :-

- i) At no cost to the customer, or
 - ii) By the way of exchange for any ticket or voucher, or
 - iii) By inclusion of the price of an alcoholic drink in some other charge or payment for a product, goods or services such as with a 'mixer', food or an entrance/cloakroom charge, or
 - iv) A price less than that being charged either during an earlier or later period of the same day, or
 - v) In such a way whereby types, brands, and mixtures of drinks are sold either singly or in multiples, at a price for greater measures or quantities than those same drinks being sold for the same price but in smaller measures and quantities during an earlier or later period of the same day.
15. The Licensee shall not supply alcoholic drinks in such a way which will enable or which is intended to enable persons to consume unlimited quantities of alcoholic drinks on payment of a single payment or payment arrangement which is not related to the amount or number of alcoholic drinks supplied.
 16. The Licensee shall not sell or supply alcoholic drinks at prices less than the "agreed minimum prices". "Agreed minimum prices" are the prices for a variety of specified products or types of drinks, agreed from time to time by all participating members of the "Pubwatch scheme", in conjunction with the Council and Northumbria Police.

17. A conspicuous notice shall be displayed on or immediately outside the premises adjacent to the entrance to the premises which gives details of times when the premises are permitted to be open for any licensable activity.
18. A conspicuous notice shall be displayed on or immediately outside the premises, or which is immediately adjacent to the premises, which gives details of any restrictions relating to the admission of children to the premises.
19. A CCTV system shall be designed, installed and maintained in proper working order, to the satisfaction of the Licensing Authority and in consultation with Northumbria Police. Such a system shall: -
 - Ensure coverage of all entrances and exits to the Licensed Premises internally and externally,
 - The till area
 - Ensure coverage of such other areas as may be required by the Licensing Authority and Northumbria Police.
 - Provide continuous recording facilities for each camera to a good standard of clarity. Such recordings shall be retained (on tape or otherwise) for a period of 28 days, and shall be supplied to the licensing Authority or a Police Officer on request.
 - Be in operation at all times the premises are in use.
20. The Premises Licence Holder and Designated Premises Supervisor shall co-operate with any reasonable crime prevention initiative which are promoted by the Licensing Officer at Gateshead Police Station from time to time.
21. The Premises Licence Holder and Designated Premises Supervisor shall comply with any reasonable measures required by the Licensing Authority from time to time relating to preventing the sale of alcohol to children.
22. A 'Challenge 21' policy shall be adopted, ensuring that all members of staff at the premises shall refuse to sell alcohol to anyone who appears to be under the age of 21 and who is seeking to purchase alcohol unless that person provides credible photographic proof of age evidence.
23. Implementing and maintaining a 'Challenge 21' policy, including staff training to prevent underage sales, and ensuring that all members of staff at the premises shall seek credible photographic proof of age evidence from any person who appears to be under the age of 21 and who is seeking to purchase cigarettes and/or alcohol. Such credible evidence, which shall include a photograph of the customer, will either be a passport, photographic driving licence, or Proof of Age card carrying a 'PASS' logo.
24. Staff are to be made aware of 'proxy sales' and shall refuse sales of alcohol to adults who they suspect are buying alcohol on behalf of children.

25. Staff shall refuse to sell age restricted products to any adult who they suspect to be passing age restricted products to under age children (i.e. proxy sales). Details of these refusals should also be kept in the ledger.
26. Staff are to be given sufficient training agreed with the Licensing Authority in the control of age-restricted products, refresher training for existing staff and training for all new staff.
27. Accurate training records are to be kept for all staff involved in sales of age-restricted products.
28. A refusals ledger shall be maintained, and made available to Local Authority enforcement officers on request, these refusals to be supported by the CCTV cameras.
29. Staff are to be provided with an unobstructed view of the area immediately outside the shop and entrance.
30. Persons under the age of 18 shall only be allowed to enter or remain on the premises prior to 21.00 hours each day, and only when accompanied by a responsible adult, and with the discretion of the Designated Premises Supervisor.
31. No person carrying open or sealed glass bottles shall be admitted to the premises at any time that the premises are open for any licensable activity.
32. There shall displayed suitably worded signage of sufficient size and clarity at the point of entry to the premises and in a suitable location at any points of sale advising customers that underage sales of alcohol are illegal and that they may be asked to produce evidence of their age.
33. No alcoholic drinks shall be sold or supplied for consumption on weekdays during the term time (inclusive) of [] School.

CONDITIONS RELATING TO PUBLIC SAFETY

34. Notices detailing the actions to be taken in the event of fire or other emergency, including how to summon the fire brigade shall be prominently displayed and protected from damage and deterioration.
35. Temporary electrical wiring and distribution systems shall not be provided without notification to the licensing authority at least ten days before commencement of the work and prior inspection by a suitable qualified electrician. Premises shall not be opened to the public until the work is deemed satisfactory by the above parties.
36. Where it is not possible to give ten days notification to the licensing authority of provision of temporary electrical wiring and distribution systems, the work shall be undertaken by competent, qualified persons.
37. All temporary electrical wiring and distribution systems shall be inspected and certified by a competent person before they are put to use.
38. An appropriately qualified medical practitioner shall be present throughout a sports entertainment involving boxing, wrestling, judo, karate or similar.
39. Where a ring is constructed for the purposes of boxing, wrestling or similar sports, it must be constructed by a competent person, and inspected by a Building Control Officer of the Council (at the cost of the applicant). Any material used to form the skirt around the ring must be flame retardant.
40. At any wrestling or other entertainment of a similar nature, members of the public shall not occupy any seat within 2.5 metres of the ring.
41. Any Licensee wishing to hold a 'Total Fighting' event on the licensed premises shall first apply to the Council for a variation of this licence and in the event that such application is granted, shall comply with any additional conditions that may be imposed. The term 'Total Fighting' shall include any 'full contact' martial arts involving the combined codes of judo, karate and ju-jitsu, judo, sombo and Olympic wrestling or any other mixed martial arts.
42. At water sports entertainments, staff adequately trained in rescue and life safety procedures shall be stationed and remain within the vicinity of the water at all material times.

CONDITIONS RELATING TO PUBLIC SAFETY IN THEATRES, CINEMAS, CONCERT HALLS AND SIMILAR PLACES

43. The number of attendants on each floor in a closely seated auditorium shall be as set out on the table below:

Number of members of the audience present on a floor	Minimum number of attendants required to be present on that floor
1	One
101	Two
251	Three
501	Four
751	Five
And one additional attendant for each additional 250 persons (or part thereof)	

44. Attendants shall not be engaged in any duties that would hinder the prompt discharge for their duties in the event of an emergency or entail their absence from that floor or auditorium where they are on duty.
45. All attendants shall be readily identifiable to the audience (but this need not entail the wearing of a uniform).
46. The premises shall not be used for a closely seated audience except in accordance with seating plan(s), a copy of which is available at the premises and shall be shown to any authorised person on request.
47. No article shall be attached to the back of any seat which would reduce the clear width of seatways or cause a tripping hazard or obstruction.
48. A copy of any certificate relating to the design, construction and loading of any temporary seating shall be kept available at the premises and shall be shown to any authorised person on request.
49. Sitting on floors shall not be permitted except where authorised in the premises licence or club premises certificate.
50. Waiting or standing shall not be permitted except in areas designated in the premises licence or club premises certificate.
51. In no circumstances shall anyone be permitted to –
- sit in any gangway;
 - stand or sit in front of any exit; or
 - stand or sit on any staircase including any landings.
52. Except as authorised by the premises licence or club premises certificate, no drinks shall be sold to or be consumed by a closely seated audience except in plastic and paper containers.

53. Clothing or other objects shall not be placed over balcony rails or upon balcony fronts.
54. Any special effects or mechanical installation shall be arranged and stored to minimise any risk to the safety of the audience, the performers and staff.
55. Except with the prior written approval of the Council and subject to any conditions, which may be attached to such approval no special effects shall be used on the premises.

Special effects include:

- dry ice machines and cryogenic fog;
 - smoke machines and fog generators;
 - pyrotechnics, including fireworks;
 - real flame;
 - firearms;
 - motor vehicles;
 - strobe lighting;
 - lasers (see HSE Guide 'The Radiation Safety of Lasers used for display purposes' [HS(G)95] and BS EN 60825: 'Safety of laser products');
 - explosives and highly flammable substances.
56. In the case of any other special effects with safety implications prior notification shall be given in writing by the responsible licensing authority at least 10 days before the event with details as to their use to enable the Authority to consider if further inspection by the Fire Authority is necessary. It may be required that staff trained in fire prevention and extinction be present during any such performance.
 57. Any scenery shall be maintained flame-retardant.
 58. Where a safety curtain is provided, it shall be arranged to protect the audience from the effects of a fire or smoke on stage for sufficient time to enable the safe evacuation of the auditorium.
 59. Where a risk assessment requires a sprinkler or drencher all safety curtains incorporating a drencher, all smoke ventilators and sprinklers (where fitted) shall be maintained unobstructed and in good working order.
 60. Where a stage with a proscenium arch is not equipped with a safety curtain, any curtains provided between the stage and the auditorium shall be heavyweight and be made of non-combustible material or inherently or durably treated flame-retarded fabric.
 61. All ceilings in those parts of the premises to which the audience are admitted shall be inspected by a suitably qualified person who will decide when a further inspection would be necessary and a certificate concerning the condition of the ceilings forwarded to the licensing authority.
 62. Where the potential audience exceeds 250 all seats in the auditorium shall, except in boxes accommodating not more than 8 persons, be either securely fixed to the floor or battened together in lengths of not fewer than four or more than twelve.

63. Where premises used for film exhibitions are not equipped with a staff alerting system the number of attendants present shall be as set out in the table below:

Number of members of the audience present on the premises	Minimum number of attendants required to be on duty
1 – 250	2
And one additional attendant for each additional 250 members of the audience present (or part thereof)	
Where there are more than 150 members of an audience in any auditorium or on any floor	At least one attendant shall be present in any auditorium or on any floor

64. Where premises used for film exhibitions are equipped with a staff alerting system the number of attendants present shall be as set out in the table below:

Number of members of the audience present on the premises	Minimum number of attendants required to be on duty	Minimum number of other staff on the premises who are available to assist in the event of an emergency
1 - 500	Two	One
501 - 1000	Three	Two
1001 - 1500	Four	Four
1501 or more	Five plus one for every 500 (or part thereof) persons over 2000 on the premises	Five plus one for every 500 (or part thereof) persons over 2000 on the premises

65. Staff shall not be considered as being available to assist in the event of an emergency if they are: -
- the holder of the premises licence or the manager on duty at the premises; or
 - a member of staff whose normal duties or responsibilities are likely to significantly affect or delay his response in an emergency situation; or
 - a member of staff whose usual location when on duty is more than 60 metres from the location to which he is required to go on being alerted to an emergency situation.
66. Attendants shall as far as reasonably practicable be evenly distributed throughout all parts of the premises to which the public have access and keep under observation all parts of the premises to which the audience have access.
67. The staff alerting system shall be maintained in working order and be in operation at all times the premises are in use.

68. The level of lighting in the auditorium shall be as great as possible consistent with the effective presentation of the film; and the level of illumination maintained in the auditorium during the showing of films would normally be regarded as satisfactory if it complies with the standards specified in BS CP 1007 (Maintained Lighting for Cinemas).
69. No flammable films shall be allowed on the premises without the prior notification of the licensing authority/fire authority.

CONDITIONS RELATING TO PUBLIC NUISANCE

70. Windows, doors and fire escapes shall remain closed during proposed entertainment events within the premises
71. Noise generated by amplified music shall be controlled by a noise limiting device set at a level determined by the Local Authority Environmental Health Officer, such level being confirmed in writing to the Licensee.
72. Noise limiting devices, once set, cannot be reset or adjusted without consultation with the Local Authority Environmental Health Officer.
73. The lobby doors at the premises shall be kept closed except for access and egress. Door staff shall supervise to ensure that the doors are maintained closed as far as possible when public entertainment is taking place.
74. Clear and legible notices shall be displayed at exits and other circulatory areas requesting patrons to leave the premises having regard to the needs of local residents. In particular, the need to refrain from shouting, slamming car doors and the sounding of car horns shall be emphasised.
75. The premise personal licence holder, designated premise supervisor and door supervisor shall monitor the activity of persons leaving the premises and remind them of their public responsibilities where necessary.
76. Noise and vibration from regulated entertainment shall not be audible at the nearest noise sensitive premises
77. There shall be provided at sufficient regular intervals throughout the premises and grounds litter bins which shall be emptied and waste removed on a frequent basis, and staff and attendants shall as far as reasonably practicable ensure that the public, members and guests do not litter.

CONDITIONS RELATING TO THE PREVENTION OF HARM TO CHILDREN

78. Children under 18 years will not be allowed access to the premises.
79. The club premises certificate holder shall ensure that all attendants (including volunteers and staff) who are to supervise children have been properly vetted (by and enhanced Criminal Records Bureau check) and have no convictions that would make them unsuitable to supervise children.
80. There shall be child protection policies agreed with the Licensing Authority and actioned accordingly.