
From: Kenny, Brian M. (Councillor)
Sent: 11 February 2014 16:50
To: Leyland, Richard K.
Cc: Davies, Phil L. (Councillor); Stapleton, Jean V. (Councillor); '<giuseppe.roberto@talktalk.net>'; 'Cath Bore'; 'mdaniel262@gmail.com'
Subject: RE: Licensing Act 2003 - Special Cumulative Impact Policy

Dear Richard

Thanks very much for your email from earlier this afternoon.

Birkenhead town centre is suffering because too many licences have been granted to licensees who act irresponsibly by selling alcohol to street drinkers, whose anti-social behaviour causes huge problems for residents and shoppers.

As a member of the Stronger Communities Initiative Assembly, based in Birkenhead, I see the magnificent efforts of many good, decent local people living in this area being totally undermined by the effects of street drinking.

I want to encourage regeneration in the Town Centre and I want to deter any further irresponsible sale of alcohol to street drinkers and, as a consequence, I totally support the introduction of a Cumulative Impact Policy.

I am extremely concerned about the problems caused by street drinkers in the centre of Birkenhead, and the dramatic increase in the number of premises wishing to obtain a license to sell alcohol.

There is no doubt, in my opinion, that the growth in the number of such outlets in such a small geographical area has been a major factor in the number of anti-social behaviour, and drink-related incidents, committed by people who are able to obtain easy access to cheap alcohol.

These people regularly make life an absolute misery for many constituents who live in this area. In particular, I have received many complaints from parents with young children, who dread having to walk past such individuals, who show no respect at all for decent local residents.

As Councillors, we are frequently contacted by local residents and businesses who suffer, on a daily basis, the impact of drunken people congregating to socialise and drink together on the street. Their subsequent behaviour is intolerable. Bad language and fighting occurs and local residents have to suffer the blight of their abandoned empty beer cans and other forms of litter which obviously has to be cleared by the Council, at some cost. Businesses have told us they are suffering an increase in shoplifting, and some want to leave when their leases end.

As a local Councillor for Birkenhead & Tranmere Ward, I totally support the introduction of a Cumulative Impact Policy for the Oxtan Road/Grange Road West area of Birkenhead.

There are many positive initiatives already taking place in, or planned for Birkenhead, including the proposed Wirral Youth Zone and Regeneration of the Town Centre. The newly-formed

Birkenhead Constituency Committee, chaired by Frank Field MP, should also bring about some real progress for Birkenhead.

Problems caused by the negative impact of alcohol on such initiatives in Birkenhead should not be allowed to take place. I have the privilege of working closely, along with my fellow-Ward Councillors, with many committed, enthusiastic and dedicated residents, who love Birkenhead too much to allow that to happen.

Please ensure that my above comments are taken into account, in considering the Cumulative Impact Policy.

Many Thanks.

Cllr. Brian Kenny

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