

Equality Impact Assessment Toolkit (January 2021)

Section 1: Your details

EIA lead Officer: Mark Edgar – Communities Equalities & Governance Officer

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Head of Section: Margaret O'Donnell – Licensing Manager – Law & Corporate Services

Chief Officer: Jill Travers – Director of Law & Corporate Services

Directorate: Law & Corporate Services

Date: 16 July 2024

Section 2: What Council proposal is being assessed?

DRAFT REVISED STATEMENT OF LICENSING POLICY UNDER THE LICENSING ACT 2003

It is a statutory requirement under the Licensing Act 2003 for the Council to review and consult on its Statement of Licensing Policy at least every five years prior to it being published.

This policy sets out how the Licensing Authority will carry out its function in respect of individual applications made under the terms of the Licensing Act 2003 (The Act).

This is an initial assessment which may be reviewed and amended as necessary to ensure continuing compliance with The Equality Act 2010 and Public Sector Equality Duty (Sect 149)

Section 2a: Will this EIA be submitted to a Committee meeting?

Yes / No **If 'yes' please state which meeting and what date**

Licensing Act Committee – 25 July 2024

Hyperlink to where your EIA is/will be published on the Council's website

<https://www.wirral.gov.uk/communities-and-neighbourhoods/equality-impact-assessments>

Section 3: Does the proposal have the potential to affect..... (please tick relevant boxes)

- Services**
- The workforce**
- Communities**
- Other** (please state eg: Partners, Private Sector, Voluntary & Community Sector)

If you have ticked one or more of above, please go to section 4.

- None** (please stop here and email this form to your Chief Officer who needs to email it to engage@wirral.gov.uk for publishing)

Section 4:

Could the proposal have a positive or negative impact on any protected groups (age; disability; gender reassignment; marriage and civil partnership; pregnancy and maternity; race; religion or belief; sex; sexual orientation)?

You may also want to consider socio-economic status of individuals. We encourage services to consider the impact on those who serve and who have served in the armed forces and their families, in accordance with the Armed Forces Covenant

Please list in the table below and include actions required to mitigate any potential negative impact.

Which group(s) of people could be affected	Potential positive or negative impact	Action required to mitigate any potential negative impact	Lead person	Timescale	Resource implications
Race / Religion	We recognise that the consumption/ sale of alcohol is forbidden in some religions.	Licences are only awarded under the Licensing Act 2003. The Licensing Authority aims to provide a transparent balanced, consistent, proportionate and fair licensing service for all service users including applicants, licence holders, Responsible Authorities and members of the public.	Licensing Manager	For the duration of the policy	
Age	The Licensing Authority is committed to protecting children from harm. We are aware that alcohol misuse is one of the recurring key 'parental factors' in child protection and safeguarding, often contributing to parental	It is mandatory for premises which sell or supply alcohol to have an age verification policy in place. The Licensing Authority supports	Licensing Manager	For the duration of the policy	

	neglect of children and domestic abuse and violence within families.	<p>the Challenge 25 scheme, and such a scheme volunteered as part of an operating schedule will be given the appropriate weight when the Licensing Authority determines the licence application.</p> <p>Where cinemas are concerned, the Licensing Authority would expect licensees to impose conditions that children will be restricted from viewing age-restricted films according to the recommendations of the British Board of Film Classification</p>			
All	We recognise that some members of the community may need information in different languages or formats.	We will ensure that any consultation exercises are as accessible as possible and that reasonable adjustments are available where The Licensing Authority has been made aware of requirements. Information will be made available in different languages and formats upon request and within a reasonable timeframe	Licensing Manager	For the duration of the policy	We have a call off contract through Procurement for interpretation and translation activities

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Section 4a: Where and how will the above actions be monitored?

The Licensing Authority will monitor the effect of this Policy throughout the period it covers through licensing liaison meetings with representatives of licence holders and also by way of regular meetings with the Responsible Authorities

Section 4b: If you think there is no negative impact, what is your reasoning behind this?

N/A

Section 5: What research / data / information have you used in support of this process?

Existing Licensing Policy
Licensing Act 2009
Equality Act 2010
Crime and Disorder Act 1998
Community Safety Partnership

Section 6: Are you intending to carry out any consultation with regard to this Council proposal?

Yes /No – (please delete as appropriate)

If 'yes' please continue to section 7.

If 'no' please state your reason(s) why:

(please stop here and email this form to your Chief Officer who needs to email it to engage@wirral.gov.uk for publishing)

Section 7: How will consultation take place and by when?

Should Committee approve the draft revised Statement of Licensing Policy it is proposed that public consultation will take place between 29 July and 27 September 2024. Notification of the consultation will be published on the Council's Website and its Social Media platforms.

Before you complete your consultation, please email your preliminary EIA to engage@wirral.gov.uk via your Chief Officer in order for the Council to ensure it is meeting it's legal publishing requirements. The EIA will need to be published with a note saying we are awaiting outcomes from a consultation exercise.

Once you have completed your consultation, please review your actions in section 4. Then email this form to your Chief Officer who needs to email it to engage@wirral.gov.uk for publishing.

Section 8: Have you remembered to:

- a) **Select appropriate directorate hyperlink to where your EIA is/will be published** (section 2a)
- b) **Include any potential positive impacts as well as negative impacts?** (section 4)
- c) **Send this EIA to engage@wirral.gov.uk via your Chief Officer?**
- d) **Review section 4 once consultation has taken place and sent your updated EIA to engage@wirral.gov.uk via your Chief Officer for re-publishing?**