

Consultation on the Council's proposals to revise its Statement of Licensing Policy and publish the Cumulative Impact Assessment

Westminster is at the heart of London's night-time and visitor economy. Whilst licensed premises contribute a huge amount to the economy and vibrancy of the City, they can also create problems for residents and local services.

The Council's Licensing Policy aims to prevent crime and disorder, ensure public safety and protect children from harm. We are currently updating our policy and want to know what residents think.

Changes to Cumulative Impact Zones

The policy review is based in part on a Cumulative Impact Assessment. This research tells us if there are areas in the City where additional restrictions are needed. In light of the coronavirus pandemic, we are proposing to maintain, where possible, our current policy approach.

The revised policy retains the existing West End Cumulative Impact Zone, except for the North East area beyond Covent Garden.

Edgware Road and Queensway/Bayswater have been removed from the zone, as there was not enough evidence to show impact from licensed premises. However, there will be a new Special Consideration Zone for these areas, along with other parts of the West End, Victoria and Mayfair. This means businesses will only be granted new licences if they can demonstrate how they will manage local issues, above and beyond what would normally be required.

Other changes include:

- an expectation for licensed premises to promote inclusion in Westminster's night-time economy
- a revised Protection of Children from Harm policy to make safeguarding a key consideration
- a revised 'core hours' policy, based on premises use rather than licensable activities
- a change to the way we present our policies
- replacement of the 'Theatres, Cinemas, Other Performance Venues and Qualifying Clubs Policy' with two new policies: one for 'Cinemas, Cultural Venues, Live Sporting Premises and Outdoor Spaces' and another for 'Qualifying Clubs'.

Let us know what you think

Consultation will run from Monday 12 October to Sunday 15 November 2020.

[Read the full Licensing Policy and Cumulative Impact Assessment and have your say.](#)

If you have any questions, you may wish to sign up to attend the relevant virtual Q&A meetings:

[Businesses - Monday 19 October at 17:00.](#)

[Residents - Monday 26 October at 16:00.](#)