

*These pages deal with the special policy which affects Hereford City Centre.*

## **ANNEX 1**

### **SPECIAL CUMULATIVE IMPACT POLICY**

**A1** The Council recognises that the cumulative effect of licensed premises may result in adverse effects on the licensing objectives and 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 and disturbance to residents;
- Traffic congestion and/or parking difficulties;
- Littering and fouling.

**A2** The licensing policy is not the only means of addressing such problems. Other controls include:

- planning controls
- CCTV
- provision of transport facilities including Taxi Ranks
- Late Night Levy
- Early Morning Restriction Orders (EMRO's)
- Designated Public Places Orders
- police powers
- closure powers
- positive measures to create safer, cleaner and greener spaces

**A3** Where the Council recognise there is such a cumulative effect it will consider adopting a specific Cumulative Impact Policy for an area if this proves necessary.

**A4** The Guidance to the Act states that the cumulative impact of licensed premises on the promotion of their licensing objectives is a proper matter for a licensing authority to consider in developing its Statement of Licensing Policy.

**A5** In accordance with the Guidance the Council consulted on the proposal for Cumulative Impact Zones in the area identified as part of the wider consultation on the council's revision of its Statement of Licensing Policy during 2010. Consultation was therefore specifically undertaken with:

- The Responsible Authorities
- Licensees and those representing licensees
- Local Residents and Businesses
- Those representing local residents and businesses.

**A6** In considering whether to adopt such a Policy for the areas, the council took the following steps as recommended by the Guidance:

- Gather crime and disorder statistics, ambulance service statistics, data from A & E and such other statistics that may be appropriate
- Identify serious and chronic concern from a responsible authority or from residents or local businesses (or their representatives) concerning nuisance and/or disorder;
- Identify the area in which problems are arising and the boundaries of that area

**A7** As a result the Council has designated the following areas within Herefordshire as being subject to a special Cumulative Impact Policy:

- Commercial Road full length (both sides) from its junction with Aylestone Hill to its junction with Blueschool Street and Bath Street – a point known as Commercial Square.
- Commercial Square, all sides and in all directions.
- Bath Street (both sides) east 50m from its junction with Commercial Square.
- Union Street (both sides) full length, both to South to St Peter's Square.
- Gaol Street (both sides) from its junction with Union Street East to a point East and starting at the private car park of Hereford Police Station.
- St Peter's Square East into St Owen Street (both sides) for a distance of 150m (opposite Hereford Town Hall).
- St Peter's Square to St Peter's Street – both sides of the streets.
- St Peter's Street to High Town pedestrian precinct – all sides and in all directions.
- High Town pedestrian precinct from its junction with High Street towards Widemarsh Street – all sides of all streets
- Widemarsh Street (both sides) north to its junction with Newmarket Street and Blueschool Street – commonly known as 'Wellington Corner'. Both sides of the streets and in all directions.
- Blueschool Street (both sides) from its junction with Newmarket Street and Widemarsh Street at a point commonly known as 'Wellington Corner' to its junction with Commercial Square
- All streets and locations enclosed within this defined area (as indicated in the shaded area of map Appendix A)

**A8** A summary of the evidence of the problems being experienced is attached to the bottom of this policy. The Licensing Authority are of the opinion based on the evidence that the number of licensed premises in the above areas adversely affect the promotion of the licensing objectives of:

- Prevention of Crime and Disorder
- Public Safety
- Prevention of Public Nuisance
- Protection of Children from Harm

**A9** Whilst the summary of the evidence was mainly based on crime and disorder, this Council is of the opinion that such crime and disorder also materially and severely affects the promotion of the other licensing objectives in the above areas.

**A10** The effect of the Cumulative Impact Policy is that it creates a rebuttable presumption that application within the cumulative impact area will normally be refused: -

1. Where relevant representations are received against any:  
New applications for Premises Licences, Club Premises Certificates or Provisional Statement, or Variation applications for an existing Premises Licences or Club Premises Certificates
2. Where the police have issued an objection notice in respect of a Temporary Event Notice

**A11** However, this Policy will not prevent applications in the above areas. Each case will be decided on its own merits, but applicants will have to comprehensively demonstrate in their application that it will not add to existing problems in the area.

**A12** The special policy will apply to all the licensable activities of:

- The sale by retail of alcohol,
- The supply of alcohol by or on behalf of a club to, or to the order of a member of the club,
- Regulated entertainment, and
- The provision of late night refreshment