

Safety Thirst vs Best Bar None

	Safety Thirst	Best Bar None
Background	Safety Thirst is a local award scheme created and managed by the City of London Corporation. The scheme was first introduced in the City of London in 2006 and is now running in its twelfth year.	Best Bar None is a national award scheme. The scheme was first piloted in Manchester in 2003 and has since been adopted by 75 authorities across the country. It currently has 35 active memberships across the country.
Support / Sponsorship	In-house only through Safer City Partnership	Supported by the Home Office and the drinks industry, with its main sponsors being Diageo, Heineken, Molson Coors and Pernod Ricard. Also partnered with Stonegate pub co. and Wetherspoons. There is a national coordinator available to guide and support authorities with their adopted scheme.
Partnership	Local level only: City of London Licensing Authority, Safer City Partnership, City of London Police, London Fire Brigade	Local level in areas where scheme has been adopted: Licensing Authority, Police and Fire authorities. National level: Drinkaware, Home Office, National Pubwatch, Portman Group, Security Industry Authority, ALMR, British Institute of Innkeeping, ATCM, CAP, Purple Flag.
Aims	To reduce alcohol related crime and disorder at licensed premises, to provide a safer environment for customers and to reduce problems for those who live or work nearby. Encourages applicants to reach high operational standards and continuous improvement by adopting a responsible management approach through the promotion of good practice.	To reduce alcohol related crime and disorder and reducing harmful effects of binge drinking at licensed premises. Encourages positive relationship between licensed trade, police and local authority.
Participants	Open to all licensed premises	Open to all licensed premises.

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Criteria	Bespoke local criteria based on the four licensing objectives and City of London corporate and licensing policies.	National set of criteria some of which may not be applicable to City of London.
Assistance to applicants	Application toolkit has been designed to assist applicants in meeting criteria, setting out clear examples of best practice measures that can be adopted. There is also the City of London Code of Good Practice for licensed premises.	Nothing available at national level, any guidance would have to be developed at local level. Policy and procedure templates available via BBN coordinator.
Assessment	Questions structured to ensure consistency in gathering evidence irrespective of who carries out the assessment (licensing authority or police officer). Assessor form provides clear guidance to the assessor on what the answer should be.	Some criteria can only be assessed by an officer with experience in that field e.g. Determining whether an adequate fire detection system is in place can only be done by a fire officer. Some of the criteria have very open ended answers which could lead to discrepancies in evidence gathering. Assessments need to be carried out jointly between licensing authority, fire authority and/or police. CoL doesn't have these resources available.
Accreditations	Informal awards ceremony, free to attend. Awards given at 3 levels: Pass, Commended, Highly Commended with an overall winner.	Usually a formal black tie event, with a cost to be borne by applicant. Category Winners and overall winners.
Benefits for accredited premises	Framed award certificate to be displayed at premises. 30% discount to any accredited venue paying the late night levy.	Accreditation plaque to be displayed at premises. Can be used to give 30% discount to any accredited venue paying the late night levy.