



## Licensing Committee

**Date:** THURSDAY, 5 FEBRUARY 2026

**Time:** 1.45 pm

**Venue:** COMMITTEE ROOM - 2ND FLOOR WEST WING, GUILDHALL

<b>Members:</b>	Deputy John Fletcher (Chairman)	Deputy Marianne Fredericks
	James Tumbridge (Deputy Chairman)	Alderman Prem Goyal CBE
	Joanna Tufuo Abeyie	David Sales
	Samapti Bagchi	Sushil Saluja
	Brendan Barns	Matthew Waters
	Deputy Peter Dunphy MBE	Deputy Ceri Wilkins
	Anthony David Fitzpatrick	Vacancy

**Enquiries:** **Kelila Perry**  
**Kelila.Perry@cityoflondon.gov.uk**

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A recording of the public meeting will be available via the above link following the end of the public meeting for up to one civic year. Please note: Online meeting recordings do not constitute the formal minutes of the meeting; minutes are written and are available on the City of London Corporation's website. Recordings may be edited, at the discretion of the proper officer, to remove any inappropriate material.

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**Ian Thomas CBE**  
**Town Clerk and Chief Executive**

# AGENDA

1. **APOLOGIES**
2. **MEMBERS' DECLARATIONS UNDER THE CODE OF CONDUCT IN RESPECT OF ITEMS ON THE AGENDA**
3. **PUBLIC MINUTES**

To agree the public minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> July 2025.

**For Decision**  
(Pages 5 - 10)
4. **ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT HIGH-LEVEL BUSINESS PLAN 2026-30**

Report of the Executive Director Environment.

**For Decision**  
(Pages 11 - 30)
5. **REVENUE BUDGETS 2026/27**

Report of the Chamberlain.

**For Decision**  
(Pages 31 - 36)
6. **TABACCO AND VAPES BILL**

Report of the City Remembrancer.

**For Information**  
(Pages 37 - 42)
7. **LATE NIGHT LEVY – 12 MONTH REPORT (1 OCT 2024 – 30 SEP 2025)**

Report of the Executive Director Environment.

**For Information**  
(Pages 43 - 54)
8. **LICENSING REFORMS**

Report of the Executive Director of Environment.

**For Information**  
(Pages 55 - 78)

**9. DELEGATED DECISIONS OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR ENVIRONMENT PERTAINING TO PREMISES LICENCES**

Report of the Executive Director Environment.

**For Information**  
(Pages 79 - 106)

**10. FIRE SAFETY UPDATE**

The Executive Director Environment to be heard.

**For Information**  
(Verbal Report)

**11. QUESTIONS ON MATTERS RELATING TO THE WORK OF THE COMMITTEE**

**12. ANY OTHER BUSINESS THAT THE CHAIRMAN CONSIDERS URGENT**

**13. EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC**

**MOTION** - That under Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Part I of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act.

**14. NON-PUBLIC MINUTES**

To agree the non-public minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> July 2025.

**For Decision**  
(Pages 107 - 108)

**15. CITY OF LONDON POLICE QUARTERLY UPDATE QUARTER 4 2025**

Report of the Commissioner of Police.

**For Information**  
(Pages 109 - 118)

**16. APPENDIX 4: DELEGATED DECISIONS OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR ENVIRONMENT PERTAINING TO PREMISES LICENCES**

Report of the Executive Director Environment. *To be read in conjunction with item 9.*

**For Information**  
(Pages 119 - 128)

- 17. NON PUBLIC QUESTIONS RELATING TO THE WORK OF THE COMMITTEE**
  
- 18. ANY OTHER BUSINESS THAT THE CHAIRMAN CONSIDERS URGENT AND WHICH THE COMMITTEE AGREE SHOULD BE CONSIDERED WHILST THE PUBLIC ARE EXCLUDED**

# Agenda Item 3

## LICENSING COMMITTEE

Thursday, 10 July 2025

Minutes of the meeting of the Licensing Committee held at Committee Room - 2nd Floor West Wing, Guildhall on Thursday, 10 July 2025 at 1.45 pm

### Present

#### Members:

Deputy Marianne Fredericks (Chairman)	Jason Pritchard
Joanna Tufuo Abeyie	Sushil Saluja
Brendan Barns	Matthew Waters
Deputy Peter Dunphy MBE	

#### In Attendance

Deputy Ceri Wilkins (online)

#### Officers:

Joanne Hill	- Environment Department
Aggie Minas	- Environment Department
Jenny Pitcairn	- Chamberlain's Department
Rachel Pye	- Environment Department
Raquel Pinto	- Town Clerk's Department
Emma Anckorn	- City of London Police
Joshua Gauci	- City of London Police

*It was proposed by Deputy Peter Dunphy, seconded by Jason Pritchard and unanimously agreed by Members of the Committee, that Deputy Marianne Fredericks take the Chair for this meeting.*

### 1. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Deputy John Fletcher, James Tumbridge, Alderman Prem Goyal, Deputy Ceri Wilkins, Anthony Fitzpatrick and David Sales.

### 2. MEMBERS' DECLARATIONS UNDER THE CODE OF CONDUCT IN RESPECT OF ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

There were no declarations.

### 3. PUBLIC MINUTES

**RESOLVED** - That the public minutes of the meeting held on 13 May 2025 were approved as a correct record.

### 4. MINUTES OF LICENSING (HEARING) SUB-COMMITTEES

The Committee received the minutes from the Licensing (Hearing) Sub-Committee in respect of Bulbul, Part Ground & Lower Ground Floor, Victoria House, 25 Tudor Street, EC4Y 0DD.

The Chair of the Sub-Committee explained that the hearing was well attended, with many residents and legal representatives present. It concerned an alcohol licence for an Indian restaurant in a residential basement. The Sub-Committee focused on licensing issues and removed off-sales to address concerns about outdoor drinking. Measures like door supervision, smoking restrictions, and a dispersal policy were introduced to balance resident concerns with licensing objectives.

**5. APPEALS AGAINST LICENSING (HEARING) SUB COMMITTEE DECISIONS**

The Comptroller and City Solicitor provided an update in relation to one appeal logged in relation to the Sub-Committee decision regarding the hearing on the premise license for Tokyo Hit, Ground Floor & Basement, 165 Fleet Street, EC4A 2AE, held on the 10th of April 2024.

An appeal hearing was scheduled for the 25 July 2025, with respondent witness statements due on 11 and 18 July. There were ongoing without prejudice discussions, but the matter is still expected to proceed to court.

**6. REVENUE OUTTURN 2024/25**

The Committee received a joint report of the Chamberlain and the Executive Director Environment, which presented the revenue outturn for the services overseen by the Committee in 2024/25 with the budget for the year.

A Member raised a concern about the Gambling Act and Licensing Act fees, which were capped or fixed and have not been updated since 2005 and 2003 respectively which meant some application now cost more to administer than the fees allowed. Officers explained that they have been lobbying government for years to allow cost recovery. It was also noted that declining numbers of betting shops (from 50 to 11) have worsened the budget impact. Despite these challenges, The Chairman praised officers for managing costs within legal limits.

**RESOLVED** – that the report be noted.

**7. ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT HIGH-LEVEL BUSINESS PLAN 2024/25: YEAR-END PROGRESS REPORT (LICENSING TEAM)**

The Committee received a joint report of the Chamberlain and the Executive Director Environment, which presented the revenue outturn for the services overseen by the Committee in 2024/25 with the budget for the year.

A Member raised a concern about the Gambling Act and Licensing Act fees, which were capped or fixed and have not been updated since 2005 and 2003 respectively which meant some application now cost more to administer than the fees allowed. Officers explained that they have been lobbying government for years to allow cost recovery. It was also noted that declining numbers of betting shops (from 50 to 11) have worsened the budget impact. Despite these challenges, The Chairman praised officers for managing costs within legal limits.

**RESOLVED** – that the report be noted.

**8. PLANNED LEGISLATIVE AND OTHER CHANGES TO BE IMPLEMENTED BY THE LICENSING SERVICE**

The Committee received a report of the Executive Director Environment, providing an overview of details of upcoming new legislation, expected changes to statutory guidance, the introduction of new licensing regimes, pilot programmes and amendments to existing Acts, all of which will be required to be implemented and administered by the Licensing Service.

Officers highlighted that some changes, like those related to the Tobacco and Vapes Bill were pending parliamentary approval or guidance. A report would be presented to the Committee from the Remembrancer which would provide further detail as well as implications. Members were assured that once there were substantive updates on these policies, this would be brought back to the relevant committees.

In response to a question with regards to how businesses would be kept informed of any changes, Officers explained that they would be informed through their usual engagement methods (letters, visits, etc.).

**RESOLVED** – that the report be noted.

**9. DELEGATED DECISIONS OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR ENVIRONMENT PERTAINING TO PREMISES LICENCES**

The Committee received a report of the Executive Director, Environment, which detailed the premises licences, and variations to premises licences, granted under the Licensing Act 2003 and administered by the Licensing Service from 1 March 2025 to 31 May 2025.

A Member asked what concerns or uncertainties officers foresee. Officers explained that while some inspections were proactive, much of the team's work was reactive due to the fast-changing nature of daytime and nighttime activities in the City. The main concern was the rise in unauthorised street money collections, especially near busy tube stations.

Members praised the team's successful prosecution efforts. A Member asked whether the City could ban certain collectors ("chuggers") and raised concerns about a venue operating without CCTV for 18 months. Officers clarified that chuggers (prospectors) aren't banned by law but can be regulated if obstructive or aggressive. The team monitors them closely, using surveillance and working with police. On the issue of CCTV, Officers confirmed most venues comply quickly, and prosecution is a last resort.

A Member questioned why collectors kept moving locations. Officers noted that the outdated legislation (Police and Factories Act 1916) imposed only a £200 fine, which was not a deterrent. The team was considering lobbying for reform.

The Chairman suggested providing a public update on charitable collections and ensuring guidance was available online.

**RESOLVED** – that the report be noted.

**10. QUESTIONS ON MATTERS RELATING TO THE WORK OF THE COMMITTEE**

There were no questions.

**11. ANY OTHER BUSINESS THAT THE CHAIRMAN CONSIDERS URGENT**

The Chairman reminded Members of the Committee as follows:

**Training:**

Members were reminded about upcoming training opportunities (particularly new Members of the Committee). Interim materials have been shared with new Members, and in-person training by the Institute of Licensing was being arranged for new and existing committee members.

**Licensing Forum**

Members were reminded that the Licensing Forum would take place on Wednesday 16 July at The Forge, Cornhill.

Members interested in attending or joining licensing patrols with the police or environmental health officers were encouraged to contact the Town Clerk. The Town Clerk confirmed an email would be circulated to Members of the Committee with this information.

**12. EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC**

**RESOLVED** - That under Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Part I of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act.

**13. NON-PUBLIC MINUTES**

**RESOLVED** – That the non-public minutes of the meeting held on 13 May 2025, be approved as correct record.

**14. CITY OF LONDON POLICE QUARTERLY UPDATE QUARTER 2**

The Committee received a report of the Commissioner of Police containing data from Quarter 2 2025.

**15. APPENDIX 4: DELEGATED DECISIONS OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR ENVIRONMENT PERTAINING TO PREMISES LICENCES**

The Committee received a non-public appendix of the Executive Director Environment, in relation to item 9 of the agenda.

**16. NON PUBLIC QUESTIONS RELATING TO THE WORK OF THE COMMITTEE**

There were no questions.

**17. ANY OTHER BUSINESS THAT THE CHAIRMAN CONSIDERS URGENT  
AND WHICH THE COMMITTEE AGREE SHOULD BE CONSIDERED  
WHILST THE PUBLIC ARE EXCLUDED**

There was no urgent business.

**The meeting ended at 2.49 pm**

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Chairman

**Contact Officer: Raquel Pinto  
[Raquel.Pinto@cityoflondon.gov.uk](mailto:Raquel.Pinto@cityoflondon.gov.uk)**

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# Agenda Item 4

## City of London Corporation Committee Report

<b>Committee(s):</b> Licensing Committee	<b>Dated:</b> 5/2/2026
<b>Subject:</b> Environment Department high-level Business Plan 2026-30	<b>Public report:</b> For Decision
<b>This proposal:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>delivers Corporate Plan 2024-29 outcomes</b></li><li>• <b>provides statutory duties</b></li><li>• <b>provides business enabling functions</b></li></ul>	<b>Corporate Plan Outcomes:</b> Providing Excellent Services; Vibrant Thriving Destination; Leading Sustainable Environment; Diverse Engaged Communities; Dynamic Economic Growth; Flourishing Public Spaces <b>Statutory duties:</b> Local authority statutory duties/regulatory functions. <b>Business enabling functions:</b> Business Planning; Resource allocation and management; Risk Management; Health and Safety; EEDI.
<b>Does this proposal require extra revenue and/or capital spending?</b>	No
<b>If so, how much?</b>	N/A
<b>What is the source of Funding?</b>	N/A
<b>Has this Funding Source been agreed with the Chamberlain's Department?</b>	N/A
<b>Report of:</b>	Katie Stewart, Executive Director Environment
<b>Report author:</b>	Joanne Hill, Environment Department

## Summary

This report presents for approval the Environment Department's high-level Business Plan 2026-30. The Business Plan sets out the Department's priority workstreams for 2026-30 along with the specific actions and targets which will be undertaken in 2026/27 to deliver each one. For ease of governance and reporting, the department's workstreams have been separated into sections, each containing information relevant to one or more specific Committees. The remaining content of the plan relates to the Environment Department as whole.

The Business Plan presented at Appendix A contains the workstreams for the service areas which fall within the remit of the Port Health and Environmental Services Committee and the Licensing Committee. As such, the proportion of content that relates to the Licensing Committee is minimal and it is, therefore,

supplemented with a more detailed list of the Licensing Services' priorities for 2026/27 (Appendix B)

The high-level Business Plan is being presented for approval of the elements which are within the remit of the Licensing Committee. The elements of the Plan which are within the remit of the Port Health and Environmental Services Committee were approved by that Committee on 20 January 2026. Once approved by both Committees, the Plan will be adopted in April 2026.

## **Recommendation**

Members are asked to:

- i. Note the factors taken into consideration in compiling the Environment Department's high-level Business Plan 2026-30 (Appendix A); and
- ii. Approve, subject to the incorporation of any changes sought by this Committee (and with reference to the list of Licensing Service priorities for 2026/27 at Appendix B), the elements of the Environment Department's high-level Business Plan 2026-30 which fall within the remit of the Licensing Committee.

## **Main Report**

### **Background**

1. Each year, every City of London department produces a standardised high-level Business Plan, in alignment with the corporate business planning process. In 2025, the Environment Department was one of two pathfinder departments to transition from a single-year to a multi-year Business Plan which covered 2025-30. The Plan set out the Department's priority workstreams for 2025-30 and the specific actions which would be undertaken to deliver those workstreams in 2025/26.
2. The Environment Department's Business Plan has now been reviewed and refreshed for 2026-30. The workstreams are still relevant and remain unchanged, but the actions under each workstream have been updated for 2026/27. Performance measures and targets have also been reviewed and refined where possible. The end date of the Business Plan remains 2030 to align with the duration of the Corporate Plan 2024-29.
3. The high-level Business Plan 2026-30 aligns to our Corporate Plan 2024-2029 and demonstrates how the department's work supports delivery of the Corporate Plan outcomes. It also indicates the estimated funding and people resources associated with each priority workstream. As a high-level plan, this document does not capture the granularity of departmental work but gives an overall picture of departmental activity, trends where applicable and direction of travel.

## **Environment Department high-level Business Plan for 2026-30**

4. This report presents, at Appendix A, the high-level Business Plan for 2026-30 for the services of the Environment Department which fall within the remit of the Port Health and Environmental Services Committee and the Licensing Committee, ie:
  - Public Protection, including the Licensing Service
  - Port Health
  - Animal Health
  - Cemetery and Crematorium
  - Cleansing Service
5. The content of the high-level Business Plan which is specifically relevant to the Licensing Committee, and which Members are being asked to approve, has been highlighted in red font on page 8 of Appendix A. This high-level workstream is to '*Support Destination City through delivery of effective Licensing Services for the Square Mile whilst maintaining a balanced approach for our City residents.*'
6. As your Committee is responsible for only a small portion of the overall Business Plan, a full list of the Licensing Service's priorities for 2026/27 is also provided, at Appendix B, to provide the underlying detail for Members' reference. These priorities support delivery of the Environment Department's high-level Business Plan, the Corporate Plan and other key corporate strategies, programmes and policies.
7. Please note that the elements of the high-level Business Plan which are within the remit of the Port Health and Environmental Services Committee were approved by that Committee on 20 January 2026. Once both Committees have approved the Plan, it will be adopted in April 2026.

### **Prioritisation and alignment to Corporate Plan 2024-29**

8. The Environment Department's priority workstreams were identified by the Department's Senior Leaders and their management teams, in consultation with other members of staff. The establishment of these core workstreams enables management teams to set appropriate objectives and action plans to achieve the overarching goals during the years ahead.
9. The workstreams were selected to reflect key strategic priorities. They demonstrate how the department supports delivery of the Corporate Plan 2024-29 outcomes and other cross-cutting strategies, programmes and priority projects, such as Destination City and the Climate Action Strategy, as well as the statutory duties of the services. However, due to the high-level nature of the Plan, the workstreams do not include all elements of the teams' work; there is a significant amount of 'business as usual' activity that will continue alongside the priority workstreams.

## **Synergies and collaboration**

10. Each workstream is linked to corporate priorities. Direct links to Corporate Plan performance measures are shown in bold font; other corporate strategies, programmes and projects are referenced throughout.
11. Colleagues are working collaboratively to identify synergies and opportunities to work together across the department and the wider organisation and continue to develop opportunities for improvement. All projects and programmes will adhere to the new corporate P3 Project Framework.
12. The front and back pages of the Plan contain information which relates to the whole of the Environment Department and these pages are being presented to all Committees along with the relevant Committee-specific workstream section.
13. As a key enabling function, the Department's Business Services Division works to align common processes and procedures to achieve consistency and effectiveness. This Division leads cross-departmentally on areas including business planning; risk management; health and safety; workforce planning; Equality, Equity, Diversity and Inclusion; communications and engagement; information and data management; and GIS mapping.

## **Resources utilised**

14. As part of a pilot prioritisation exercise which began in 2024/25, every City Corporation department has again been required to include an estimation of the budget and people resource associated with each workstream. These figures are expressed as percentages of the overall revenue budget and Full-Time Equivalent (FTE) staff.
15. It has not been possible to determine accurate allocation of financial or people resources for each workstream; very few are discrete projects with specific budgets, and very few members of staff spend specific proportions of their time on one workstream. Therefore, the figures shown in the Business Plan are very much estimates. Should this exercise be repeated in future years, accurate methodology will need to be designed and applied to ensure consistency across and within departments.

## **Performance measurement**

16. Progress made against priority workstreams is assessed by monitoring key performance measures and achievement of milestones. Performance is reviewed regularly by Directors and their Management Teams and is reported to your Committee to enable Member scrutiny. The Town Clerk's Executive Leadership Board also reviews the progress of every department's Business Plan workstreams and performance measures on a quarterly basis.
17. In addition, the priority workstreams identified in this high-level Business Plan flow through the Licensing Service's priorities and individual performance plans of members of staff, which provide further methods of assessing progress. This also enables individual officers to fully understand how their work feeds into divisional, departmental and corporate activities, aims and objectives.

## **Departmental Operational Property Assets Utilisation Assessment**

18. The Environment Department's staff are based across 25 sites throughout London and the south-east. The Department holds approximately 340 physical assets, almost 270 of which are at its Natural Environment sites.
19. To fulfil the requirements of Standing Order 56, the Environment Department has undertaken a detailed utilisation assessment of all allocated operational property assets beyond Guildhall. A separate detailed utilisation assessment of accommodation allocated to the Environment Department within the Guildhall complex was undertaken over a four-week period in November 2025. The results of both exercises have been returned to the City Surveyor's Department.

## **Corporate and Strategic Implications**

**Strategic implications** - The Environment Department's high-level Business Plan is aligned to Corporate Plan 2024-29 outcomes and some of the department's performance measures are included in the Corporate Plan (these are shown in bold font and labelled 'CP 2024-29 KPI'). There are common themes woven throughout the Department's high-level Business Plan which highlight its contribution and commitment to the delivery of the Corporate Plan, Destination City, the Climate Action Strategy, the People Strategy and other key cross-cutting programmes and projects. Any new strategies will be reviewed as they are approved, and consideration given as to how the services can and will support their delivery.

**Security implications** - None

**Financial implications** - The high-level Business Plan has been produced in liaison with Chamberlain's Department and takes into consideration opportunities to reduce expenditure and increase income to make necessary savings.

**Equalities implications and the Public Sector Equality Duty (PSED)** - The Department has an established Equality, Equity, Diversity and Inclusion (EEDI) Working Group. The Group has developed a Departmental EEDI Plan which aligns with the Corporate EDI Plan. Members of the Group lead on a range of EEDI actions, including those set out in the Business Plan, to ensure compliance with the PSED across the department.

**Resourcing implications** - Any changes to resources will be brought to the relevant Committee(s).

**Risk Implications** - The risk management processes in place in the Environment Department support the delivery of the Corporate Plan, our Departmental and Divisional Business Plans and relevant Corporate strategies. Risk management is an integral factor in the business planning process: the Environment Department's risk register includes risks to the achievement of its priority workstreams, and the actions being taken to address those risks.

**Climate Implications** - The work of the service areas for which your Committee is responsible supports the delivery of the Corporate Climate Action Strategy through delivery of relevant workstreams. Updates on progress are reported to this Committee.

## **Conclusion**

This report presents, for consideration and approval, the high-level Business Plan for 2026-30 for the services of the Environment Department which fall within the remit of the Port Health and Environmental Services Committee and the Licensing Committee.

Members of the Licensing Committee are asked to approve (with reference also to the more detailed list of Licensing Service priorities at Appendix B) the elements of the high-level Business Plan 2026-30 which relate specifically to the Licensing Service. Once approved, the Plan will be updated in line with any changes requested by this Committee and the Port Health and Environmental Services Committee and will be adopted in April 2026.

## **Appendices**

- Appendix A – Environment Department high-level Business Plan 2026-30
- Appendix B – Licensing Service Priorities 2026/27

### **Joanne Hill**

Business Planning and Compliance Manager, Environment Department

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# ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT HIGH-LEVEL BUSINESS PLAN 2026-2030

## CONTENTS

### Executive Director's introduction

### About us: Our purpose, aims and impacts

### Our key objectives, priority workstreams and major projects

#### SECTION A: Planning and Transportation Committee

Priority workstreams 2026-2030 and key deliverables 2026/27  
Finance and key risks

#### SECTION B: Port Health and Environmental Services Committee and Licensing Committee

Priority workstreams 2026-2030 and key deliverables 2026/27  
Finance and key risks

#### SECTION C: Natural Environment Board

Priority workstreams 2026-2030 and key deliverables 2026/27  
Finance and key risks

## Environment Department enablers

### Executive Director's introduction

The Environment Department is the largest and most complex department in the Corporation with over 800 staff working in 25 locations, providing key front-line services to the City and beyond. The work of the department is overseen by more than eight Committees.

Over the next four years, the Department will deliver world-class places and infrastructure across the Square Mile – where it plays a key role in supporting growth and investment – as well as the many assets it manages beyond the City's boundaries.

In doing so, the Department – still relatively new in being a single Department, at four years on – will continue to build its approach to stronger, more robust management of its services, with the aim of providing a model for delivering excellent services sustainably and in a way that is more open and engaging with its service users, including City residents, workers, businesses and visitors, its partners and other stakeholders.

The Department will become an increasingly proactive and constructive corporate partner, developing a reputation for working across siloes and contributing as positively to the direction of the Corporation as to its own aims. It will continue to build its capacity to attract, retain and grow investment and business in the Square Mile and across our services.

**Katie Stewart, Executive Director Environment**

## About us: Our purpose, aims and impacts

### **The Environment Department** *Shaping future environments and nurturing current ones.*

#### **Our aims:**

- Deliver transformative, high profile, and strategic infrastructure and public realm schemes, that will result in major economic, social and cultural benefits.
- Encourage the construction of high quality, safe and inclusive buildings.
- Provide spaces for businesses to grow, improve transport and maintain our unique historic environment.
- Create an inclusive, accessible and healthy Square Mile with clean streets and air.
- Support and advise businesses, including SMEs and licensed premises, to enable them to thrive and to protect consumers.
- Protect and promote public, animal and environmental health, including at the borders.
- Protect and enhance the Corporation's green and open spaces and celebrate local heritage.
- Address long term issues such as climate resilience to deliver sustainable built and natural environments.

#### **Our achievements, impacts and outcomes in 2025/26**

During 2025/26 our teams continued to work in collaboration with other departments, including, but not limited to, City Surveyor's; Innovation and Growth; and Remembrancers, and external partners to fulfil their statutory duties and deliver excellent services, adapting to the requirements of new and changing legislation and government demands. Progress against key workstreams and performance measures remained on track with targets consistently achieved or exceeded.

We developed and delivered strategies, policies, and actions which will have positive impacts on the environment, City residents, consumers, businesses and members of the public, including:

- Progressed the City Plan 2040 through the next stages of development.
- Implemented the Action/Delivery Plans of the SME Strategy, Circular Economy Framework, Air Quality Strategy and Transport Strategy.
- Developed the Licensing Service to introduce free pre-application meetings for residents and the trade; and reported to stakeholders on Late Night Levy spend and outcomes.
- Played a key role in delivery of Destination City, the Climate Action Strategy and other key Corporate strategies and programmes.
- Continued to implement the Natural Environment Division strategies to protect and improve our natural habitats, and ensure they are more accessible, sustainable, and preserved for public benefit.

## Our key objectives and priority workstreams and major projects

### Priority workstreams 2026/30

Although each of our workstreams is specific to relevant Committees, there are common themes woven throughout that highlight our contribution and commitment to the delivery of the Corporate Plan, Destination City, the Climate Action Strategy and other key strategies and programmes, whilst taking account of stakeholder views and needs.

**City development and economic growth:** We will seek to facilitate growth through our planning policies which aim for office development of the highest quality and ensure that the City's historic environment fully supports the City's strategic economic and cultural objectives. Officers across the department will collaborate to share knowledge and expertise which supports sustainable development.

**Excellent local authority services:** We will continue to provide excellent statutory and regulatory services to ensure a safe and clean built environment and public realm, and protect and promote public, animal and environmental health and consumer protection.

**Climate and environment:** We will provide a climate resilient and environmentally enhanced city through the protection and enhancement of the biodiversity of our open spaces; delivery of Climate Action Strategy programmes and our Air Quality Strategy; consideration of sustainability, carbon emissions and biodiversity as part of planning decisions; and the promotion of Circular Economy principles through delivery of our Circular Economy Framework.

**Business support:** The launch of the SME Gateway brand will aid start-up businesses and SMEs to scale and grow, helping to maintain London's position as the leading global financial and professional services centre. We will support licensed premises to thrive, while balancing their needs with those of residents and visitors, helping to deliver the Destination City vision.

**Healthy and inclusive environment:** The facilities and services at our open spaces will be further developed to offer welcoming places that visitors from all backgrounds and abilities are comfortable to explore. City streets will be well maintained with increased accessibility delivered through streets and spaces projects. New planning advice and guidance will be published to improve inclusivity and accessibility, and the City of London's Access Team will be reformed and expanded to increase engagement with disabled people based on lived experience.

### Operational capability and interdepartmental collaboration

As we continue to develop the Department, we will maximise the advantages of our size and extensive remit: we deliver a vast range of services and have the largest workforce of all city departments, but this also means we have a vast range of skills, knowledge and expertise among our staff. We will look for synergies and opportunities to work together across the department and the wider organisation.

**Our people:** We will support delivery of the People Strategy and build 'Brilliant Basics'. Health and safety will be embedded in all our decisions, processes and actions, and be compliant with the Corporate Health and Safety Framework. Our EEDI activities, Workforce Plan, and focus on learning and development will help us to understand and meet the needs of our staff and enable our talent to grow. We will promote a departmental culture that ensures staff feel valued, supported through change, and respected by their managers and colleagues. By helping individuals understand how their work contributes to the aims of the wider department, and Corporation, we aim to enhance job satisfaction and staff retention.

**Our corporate partners:** We will continue to work collaboratively with colleagues across other departments, as intelligent clients, to break down silos and realise efficiencies. Where our workstreams will impact or require the support of other departments, we will consult them as early as possible. We will continue to work in partnership with the City Surveyor's Department to review, assess and progress essential repairs and maintenance to the approximately 340 physical assets we hold. Through production of a departmental Asset Plan, we will manage and develop these assets to ensure they add value to the charities and organisation while being fit for purpose, well maintained, and safe for our staff and service users.

**Our external stakeholders:** We will continue to communicate with our stakeholders appropriately and take their feedback into consideration when shaping our services. This will include consultation on new policies and strategies; planning applications; proposed changes to the public realm; and regular communications to residents, local groups and customers.

**Our finances:** By developing financially sustainable business models, we will ensure we consistently deliver high quality services. We will achieve this through proactive budget management, prioritisation and seeking value for money and opportunities for income generation. Across the department, we will seek ways to improve; embracing change, enhancing our use of data and adopting new ways of working and technologies that will make us more efficient and cost effective.

## SECTION B: Port Health and Environmental Services Committee and Licensing Committee

This section covers the service areas which fall within the remit of the Port Health and Environmental Services Committee and Licensing Committee:

- Cleansing Service
- Port Health and Public Protection, including the Licensing Service

Priority workstream and key 2026/27 deliverables	Funding / People resource approx.%*	Corporate Plan 2024-2029 Outcomes	Performance measures	Impacts
<b>a) Deliver an environmentally enhanced City</b>				
<p>1. Implement and deliver the Air Quality Strategy 2025 – 2030</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Deliver the Strategy actions, subject to funding being secured.</li> <li>• Prepare and submit the Annual Status Report. <b>Q1 2026/27</b></li> <li>• Assess the % of the City's area that meets the World Health Organisation air quality guidelines. <b>Q2 2026/27</b>.</li> <li>• Publish the Air Quality SPD. <b>Q1 2026/27</b>.</li> </ul> <p>2. Deliver the Action Plan of the Circular Economy Framework. Continue to develop baselines for circular economy metrics which can be measured in future years. <b>Q2 2026/27</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Commence monitoring of Circular Economy Framework targets against approved baseline metrics. <b>Q4 2026/27</b></li> </ul> <p>3. Deliver an effective, high-quality and responsive Cleansing Service which aligns with Member-approved service levels and meets the needs of City residents, businesses and visitors. <b>Ongoing</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure services are compliant with new legislation and introduce additional waste and recycling streams/services as necessary. <b>Q4 2026/27</b></li> </ul>	57% / 14.2%	<p>Leading Sustainable Environment</p> <p>Diverse Engaged Communities</p> <p>Providing Excellent Services</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Air Quality: the Square Mile meets an annual average (mean) of 30µg/m<sup>3</sup> for nitrogen dioxide by 2030.</b> <b>Target:</b> &gt;90% (CP 2024-29 KPI)</li> <li>• Cleansing: City streets with unacceptable levels of litter, detritus, graffiti and flyposting (NI 195). <b>Target:</b> &lt;5%</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A Square Mile that has air that is healthy to breathe.</li> <li>• Improved health for residents, workers and visitors.</li> <li>• More efficient use of resources through a circular economy and an increase in environmental resilience.</li> </ul>

*N.B. This table has been adapted to meet the needs of the Environment Department.*

\* Funding allocation and people resource %s are estimates. Funding is shown as a percentage of the total PH&ES and Licensing Committee 2026/27 revenue budget. People resource is shown as a percentage of the total FTE in the Port Health and Public Protection Division and the Cleansing Service. Figures across the workstreams do not total 100% as much 'business as usual activity' is not captured in this high-level plan.

Priority workstream and key 2026/27 deliverables	Funding / People resource approx.%*	Corporate Plan 2024-2029 Outcomes	Performance measures	Impacts
<b>b) Protect and promote Public, Animal and Environmental Health and Consumer Protection</b>				
<p>1. Embed the changes to Border Controls in line with UK legislation and proposed EU agreement, at the Ports for food and feed and at Heathrow for live animals (AVI).</p> <p>2. Deliver high quality statutory services and support for businesses.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Deliver the Food Law Enforcement Plan.</li> <li>• Deliver the Health and Safety Cooling Towers regime.</li> <li>• Deliver a 24/7/364 Noise Response Service.</li> <li>• Support the Planning and Development Service as a statutory consultee and provide expert advice.</li> <li>• Develop and prepare for the 2026-2036 Noise Strategy. (for publication in 2026/27).</li> <li>• Actively participate in multi-agency partnership, Operation Broadway, to disrupt investment fraud in and around the square mile.</li> </ul> <p>3. Medium and High-Rise Fire Building Safety Programme:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Work towards set up a Building Safety Enforcement Team to deliver the Programme (subject to funding).</li> </ul> <p>4. Suicide Prevention - Establish a dedicated business network focused on suicide prevention.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop, publish, and actively promote a Suicide Prevention Charter.</li> <li>• Integrate suicide prevention measures into the planning process, particularly for tall buildings.</li> <li>• Collaborate with HR colleagues to review all policies and procedures, ensuring suicide prevention is embedded.</li> <li>• Include suicide prevention awareness as part of the induction process for all new staff.</li> </ul>	4.8% / 60% <i>(N.B. Border control work is cost neutral)</i>	<p>Providing Excellent Services</p> <p>Vibrant Thriving Destination</p> <p>Dynamic Economic Growth</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Port Health: Official controls completed on controlled imported food and feed commodities within 48 hours. <b>Target: 70%</b></li> <li>• HARC: Flight collections attended within 30 minutes of the flight offloading. <b>Target: 95%</b></li> <li>• City EH: Planned food hygiene interventions on Category A-C premises completed within 28 days of due date. <b>Target: 75%</b></li> <li>• City EH: Planned Cooling Tower inspections completed within 28 days of due date. <b>Target: 75%</b></li> <li>• City EH: Justifiable noise complaints investigated which result in a satisfactory outcome. <b>Target: 90%</b></li> <li>• Trading Standards: Actionable Operation Broadway intelligence items that result in a confirmed disruption outcome within 3 months of being logged at an Operation Broadway tasking meeting. <b>Target: 70%</b></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provision of effective biosecurity controls at the border and promotion of animal welfare.</li> <li>• Realisation of new border controls for food and feed from the EU where the service is meeting demand from industry whilst providing effective public health protection.</li> <li>• Effective delivery of our statutory duties ensures residents and consumers are protected, businesses are supported, and Members are provided with reassurance in relation to the residents they serve.</li> </ul>

Priority workstream and key 2026/27 deliverables	Funding / People resource approx.%*	Corporate Plan 2024-2029 Outcomes	Performance measures	Impacts
<b>c) Ensure provision of appropriate facilities to enable delivery of services</b>				
<p>1. Ensure that property is fit for purpose to enable efficient, effective and sustainable service delivery.</p> <p>2. Implement decisions from operational facilities review.</p> <p>3. Respond to local property pressures for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cemetery and Crematorium.</li> <li>• Port Health Service accommodation.</li> <li>• Heathrow Animal Reception Centre.</li> </ul> <p>4. Secure an agreement for a facility to deliver jury inquests on behalf of His Majesty's Coroner.</p> <p>5. Build on agreed medium term strategy for Walbrook Wharf as the sustainable cleansing waste transfer station from 2025/26 and initiate options for long term strategy post 2032. <b>Q4 2026/27</b></p> <p>6. Deliver appropriate provision of public toilets - which aligns with Member approved service levels. <b>Ongoing</b></p>	0.3% / 0.5%	Providing Excellent Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Narrative updates will be provided on progress against actions 1-5.</li> <li>• Action 6: We will monitor provision of public and private provision of toilets. <b>Target: TBC following October PHES.</b></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The continued delivery of high-quality statutory services to customers and stakeholders in the most efficient and sustainable manner.</li> </ul>

Priority workstream and key 2026/27 deliverables	Funding / People resource approx. %*	Corporate Plan 2024-2029 Outcomes	Performance measures	Impacts
<b>d) Financial security and development</b>				
<p>1. Progress commercial development opportunities for Port Health and HARC across London and a wider area.</p> <p>2. Adapt Cemetery and Crematorium services to provide a variety of options relevant to the needs and preferences of customers and optimise income, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Commence project to extend Haywood Lawn, providing additional lawn graves.</li> </ul>	<p>0% / 3% (N.B. this workstream is cost neutral)</p>	<p>Dynamic Economic Growth Flourishing Public Spaces Providing Excellent Services Vibrant thriving destination</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide additional lawn graves by end of 2026/27. <b>Target:</b> circa. 350 graves</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sustainable services delivering high quality outcomes and 'steady state' infrastructure.</li> <li>• Generation of additional income for the services to protect staffing levels and ensure sustainable delivery of statutory services.</li> <li>• Increase CoL reputation for delivery of excellent public services within the Square Mile and beyond.</li> </ul>

\* Funding allocation and people resource %s are estimates. Funding is shown as a percentage of the total PH&ES and Licensing Committee 2026/27 revenue budget. People resource is shown as a percentage of the total FTE in the Port Health and Public Protection Division and the Cleansing Service. Figures across the workstreams do not total 100% as much 'business as usual activity' is not captured in this high-level plan.

Priority workstream and key 2026/27 deliverables	Funding / People resource approx.%*	Corporate Plan 2024-2029 Outcomes	Performance measures	Impacts
<p><b>e) Support Destination City through delivery of effective Licensing Services for the Square Mile whilst maintaining a balanced approach for our City residents.</b></p> <p>1. Deliver the Licensing Service           <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Administer the Late Night Levy and report to stakeholders on its spend and outcomes. <b>Q4 2026/27</b></li> <li>Deliver a proactive engagement and enforcement regime with the City's licensed trade. <b>Ongoing</b></li> </ul> </p> <p>2. Promote and develop the Licensing Interactive Map. <b>Ongoing</b></p> <p>3. Review and deliver the annual Safety Thirst Awards. <b>Q4 2026/27</b></p> <p>4. Promote Destination City and other events to hospitality venues to enable trade and an offer for visitors. <b>Ongoing</b></p> <p>5. Review, refresh and publish policies as required, including:           <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Promote a refreshed Street Trading Policy. <b>Q1 2026/27</b></li> <li>Update the Gambling Policy as required to meet government changes. (Timeline subject to release of Gambling Commission review).</li> <li>Review, consult on (in <b>Q3 2026/27</b>), and publish refreshed Licensing Policy by <b>Q4 2026/27</b></li> </ul> </p> <p>6. Actively participate in, and present at, biannual City of London Police Licensing Forums. <b>Q1/Q3 2026/27</b></p> <p>7. Prepare for the implementation of the new Tobacco and Vapes Licensing regime.</p>	2% / 3%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Diverse Engaged Communities</li> <li>Providing Excellent Services</li> <li>Vibrant Thriving Destination</li> <li>Flourishing Public Spaces</li> <li>Dynamic Economic Growth</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ensure that within 12 months 90% of licensed premises in the red or amber zone of Traffic Light Scheme are brought back into amber or green zones respectively.</li> <li>Increase in the number of premises in the Safety Thirst Awards Scheme. <b>Target: 85.</b></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A sustainable licensing landscape that balances the needs of residents and businesses.</li> <li>A thriving day time and night-time licensed economy.</li> <li>Licensed premises that are safe and do not give rise to public nuisance or crime and disorder.</li> <li>Events running in the City are supported by an open, staffed and welcoming hospitality trade.</li> <li>Engaged and informed hospitality trade.</li> </ul>

## SECTION B: Port Health and Environmental Services Committee and Licensing Committee

### Finance 2026/27

Port Health and Environmental Services Committee and Licensing Committee Estimated budget 2026/27 (£000)	
<b>Local risk net expenditure</b>	12,197
<b>Central risk</b>	8
<b>City Surveyor's local risk</b>	4,624
<b>Recharges</b>	7,410
<b>Total net expenditure</b>	<b>24,239</b>

### Our key risks\*

Our business risks are managed in accordance with the Corporate Risk Management Framework. Risks are regularly reviewed and updated by management teams in consultation with risk owners. Committees receive regular updates on the risks held by the services within their remit to provide them with necessary assurance that risks are being managed and mitigated effectively, and to enable Members to fulfil their oversight and scrutiny role.

Our key risks to the delivery of our priority workstreams are listed below. Officers are undertaking a range of appropriate mitigating actions to actively manage each risk.

Risk Title	Score
Border Controls – impact on Port Health and Animal Health	RED, 24 (Likelihood: Possible / Impact: Extreme)
Road traffic collision caused by City of London staff or contractor who is unfit to drive while on City business	RED, 16 (Likelihood: Unlikely / Impact: Extreme)
A major incident, such as flooding or fire, makes Walbrook Wharf unusable as a depot	AMBER, 8 (Likelihood: Unlikely / Impact: Major)
Air Quality ( <i>Department-level risk</i> )	GREEN, 3 (Likelihood: Possible/ Impact: Minor)

*\*Risk details were correct at 28 November 2025 but are subject to continual review and change.*

## ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT ENABLERS

N.B. the information on this page relates to the Department as a whole.

### Business Services Division

The Business Services Division enables the Department as whole to deliver its aims and objectives, by ensuring a consistent, compliant and joined-up approach. Across this large and diverse department, the teams provide a central hub of expertise, advice and guidance on themes, duties and responsibilities which are common to all, and act as a conduit between divisions and the corporate centre.

Working with management teams across the Department, and with key links throughout the organisation, the Business Services Division leads cross-departmentally on areas including business planning; risk management; health and safety; workforce planning and talent management; work environment; Equity, Equality, Diversity and Inclusion; communications and staff engagement; information and data management; and Geographical Information System (GIS) mapping.

Vital to its success is the development of strong, reciprocal working relationships between officers within the Division and their colleagues across the Department and wider Corporation. Officers work collaboratively to build a cohesive department with a unified identity, and which recognises and celebrates the achievements of individuals and teams.

### Corporate Risks and Red Departmental Risks

Due to the size and wide remit of the Environment Department, the majority of its operational risks are specific to individual divisions and reported regularly to their respective Service Committees. Those risks are managed at service-level and the key ones are reported in the relevant Committee's section of this Business Plan.

The Environment Department currently holds NO Corporate Risks.

The Department's Senior Leadership Team manages four Departmental-level risks, of which one is scored 'Red' (as below).

Risk Title	Score
ENV-SLT 001 Maintenance and renewal of physical assets	16

### Operational Property

To fulfil the requirements of Standing Order 56, the Environment Department has undertaken a detailed utilisation assessment of all allocated operational property assets beyond the Guildhall.

A separate detailed utilisation assessment of accommodation allocated to the Environment Department within the Guildhall complex was undertaken over a four-week period in November 2025.

The results of both exercises have been returned to the City Surveyor's Department.

### People

(Data correct at 30 November 2025)

The Environment Department has 832 members of staff (785 FTE), this represents an 8.3% increase over the last 12 months.

Average length of service: 10 years (corporation-wide average: 8 years)

Median age: 45 years (corporation wide average: 44 years)



## Equity, Equality, Diversity and Inclusion (EEDI)

- The Environment Department is committed to creating an environment of collaboration and equality of opportunity where everyone recognises the positive contribution a diverse workforce and community can make.
- The Department is committed to EEDI in our service provision and for all our employees. Creating a workplace aligned to these values is a strategic business priority that fosters fair and equal access, innovation and connection to the communities and stakeholders we serve.
- The Department has an EEDI Working Group which consists of representatives (Champions) from across the department and is chaired by a member of the Senior Leadership Team (SLT). Working with the SLT, the group is responsible for developing and implementing the Departmental EEDI Action Plan.
- Our Departmental EEDI Action Plan 2025/26 was launched in July 2025 and aligns with the CoL's Corporate Equality Objectives. Progress will continue to be regularly monitored.
- The EEDI Working Group is collaborating with the corporate EEDI team, other departments, and staff networks, on key EEDI priorities including, but not limited to, Gender Identity, accessibility, and social mobility. Appropriate actions and progress against these are reflected in our 2025/26 Departmental Action Plan.

### The top three priorities of our Departmental EEDI Action Plan 2025/26 are to:

1. Continue to build on our action plan to further develop an inclusive culture, including making cross-departmental working groups fully inclusive; aligning representatives' objectives with individual appraisals; and ensuring EEDI remains a standing agenda item at departmental meetings, led from the top down. We will continue to promote and celebrate inclusivity and diversity through departmental events, employee communications, and engagement activities, while also maintaining robust monitoring of corporate EEDI training completions and Equality Impact Assessments (EQIAs) to track progress and accountability.
2. Undertake a comprehensive review of our services, communications, and support mechanisms for staff and stakeholders considering the recent Supreme Court ruling on Gender Identity. Collaborate closely with the Corporate EEDI Team, departmental leads, and staff networks through the Gender Identity (GI) Working Group and GI Policy Working Group, as well as through related workstreams, to ensure our approach remains inclusive, compliant, and reflective of best practice.
3. Ensure that our services are accessible for all. We will achieve this by undertaking a review of our functions, services, and facilities in terms of accessibility; undertaking EQIAs with results taken into consideration when making decisions on service delivery; and hosting quarterly accessibility workshops for employees to develop their knowledge and understanding on how to produce information and communications in accessible formats.

## Health and Safety

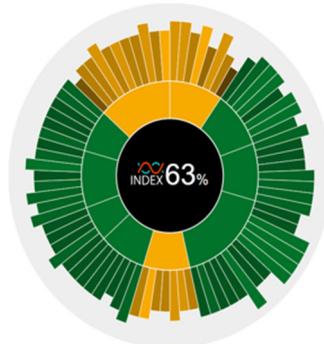
Following the implementation of Safe365 in July 2024, we have taken a range of actions which have increased the departmental maturity rating from 56% to 63%. Several of our business areas currently exceed the Executive Leadership Board's target of 65% and work is ongoing to achieve that across the whole department.

The exercise has identified opportunities to improve Health and Safety within the department, with a refreshed focus on our Natural Environment colleagues and working environments. This approach supports the mitigation of the Health and Safety risks held by our divisions and charities.

Managers across the department are undertaking Health and Safety training in accordance with corporate recommendations, and this is supported by further specialised training for our higher risk working environments.

Our top three health and safety priorities for 2026/27 are:

- Front line worker safety.
- Development of a departmental Health and Safety audit and verification system.
- Provision of targeted guidance and relevant bite-sized training sessions to our staff.



**Live, Work, Learn, Explore**

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### Licensing Service Priorities 2026/27

This business plan sets out the priority workstreams that will be undertaken by the Licensing Service during 2026/27.

These workstreams support those set out in the Environment Department's high-level Business Plan which, in turn, supports the delivery of the City of London's Corporate Plan and other key corporate strategies, programmes and policies.

1. Prepare for the implementation of the new Tobacco and Vapes Licensing Regime, including public communication and engagement with retailers to ensure awareness and compliance; the development of online application processes; officer workflows and guidance; staff training; and enforcement protocols with Trading Standards.
2. Review and update the Statement of Licensing Policy (SoLP) to reflect new and emerging regulatory requirements including Martyn's Law and the National Licensing Policy Framework (NLPF). The Policy will address arising issues around Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG), drink spiking, vulnerability and accessibility. It will incorporate initiatives such as Welfare and Vulnerability Engagement (WAVE), Ask for Angela, and Safe Havens, and align with the Corporation's wider culture policies and objectives.
3. Contribute to the Mayor of London's Strategic Licensing Pilot for London. Participate in consultations and engagement sessions, monitor and evaluate the impact of the pilot on the City of London's Night Time Economy, local businesses and residents.
4. Review the City of London Safety Thirst accreditation scheme, consult with participants and key stakeholders to streamline and digitalise the scheme, and align it with the revised SoLP and NLPF.
5. Review the City of London Traffic Light Scheme, consult with key stakeholders to ensure that incidents around VAWG, drink spiking, and vulnerability are addressed and adequately weighted, and that the scheme aligns with the revised SoLP and NLPF.
6. Deliver the Licensing Service within the context of Destination City with a balanced approach, considering the needs of residents, businesses, workers and the public.
7. Consult on a revised Street Trading Policy and publish the new policy.
8. Implement the new requirements of the Terrorism (Protection of Premises) Act 2025, also known as 'Martyn's Law', as the Licensing Authority and work with the new Regulator, City of London Police, and other relevant bodies as it develops.

## **Appendix B**

9. Review and re-publish the City of London Statement of Licensing Principles under the provisions of the Gambling Act 2005 following the release of Government Guidance expected in 2026.
10. Continue to refresh and develop the Licensing mapping project to identify useful data sets which provide insights into streets, spaces or areas of the City that could be suitable for markets, events, adapted licensing hours or more licensed premises, as a tool for potential investors to the City and other stakeholders.

## City of London Corporation Committee Report

<b>Committee(s):</b> Licensing – For decision	<b>Dated:</b> 05/02/2026
<b>Subject:</b> Revenue Budgets 2026/27	<b>Public report:</b> For Decision
<b>This proposal:</b> • provides business enabling functions	N/A
<b>Does this proposal require extra revenue and/or capital spending?</b>	No
<b>If so, how much?</b>	N/A
<b>What is the source of Funding?</b>	N/A
<b>Has this Funding Source been agreed with the Chamberlain's Department?</b>	N/A
<b>Report of:</b>	The Chamberlain Executive Director Environment
<b>Report author:</b>	Jenny Pitcairn, Chamberlain's Department

### Summary

This report presents for approval the revenue budget for the Licensing Committee for 2026/27.

Overall, the proposed revenue budget for 2026/27 totals £414,000, an increase in net expenditure of £49,000 compared to the 2025/26 budget of £365,000.

The proposed budget for 2026/27 has been prepared within the resource envelope allocated to the Executive Director Environment, including an inflation increase of 3%.

### Recommendation(s)

Members are asked to:

- Note the budget for 2025/26.
- Review and approve the proposed revenue budget for 2026/27 for submission to Finance Committee.
- Agree that minor amendments for 2025/26 and 2026/27 budgets arising from changes to recharges or for any further implications arising from energy price increases and other reviews and changes to the capital charges during

budget setting are delegated to the Chamberlain in consultation with the Executive Director Environment.

## Main Report

### Background

1. This report sets out the budget for 2025/26 and the proposed revenue budget for 2026/27 for your Committee and under the control of the Environment Department, analysed between:
  - **Local risk budgets** – these are budgets deemed to be largely within the Chief Officer's control.
  - **Central risk budgets** – these are budgets comprising specific items where a Chief Officer manages the underlying service, but where the eventual financial outturn can be strongly influenced by external factors outside their control or are budgets of a corporate nature.
  - **Support services and capital charges** – these cover budgets for services provided by one activity to another. The control of these costs is exercised at the point where the expenditure or income first arises as local or central risk.
2. In the various tables, expenditure, increases in expenditure and reductions in income are shown as positive balances, whereas brackets are used to denote income, increases in income, or reductions in expenditure. Only significant variances (generally those greater than £50,000) have been commented on.
3. The 2025/26 budget and provisional 2026/27 budget are summarised in Table 1 below.

<b>Table 1</b> <b>Summary Revenue Budgets</b> <b>2025/26 and 2026/27</b>	<b>Budget</b> <b>2025/26</b>	<b>Budget</b> <b>2026/27</b>	<b>Movement</b> <b>2025/26</b> <b>Budget to</b> <b>2026/27</b> <b>Budget</b> <b>£'000</b>
	<b>£'000</b>	<b>£'000</b>	
Expenditure	1,069	1,120	51
Income	(682)	(682)	0
Support Services and Capital Charges	(22)	(24)	(2)
<b>Total Net Expenditure</b>	<b>365</b>	<b>414</b>	<b>49</b>

4. The projected outturn for 2025/26 as at the end of Q3 is £352,000, an underspend of £13,000.

### Assumptions

5. The budget for 2026/27 incorporates a 3% uplift for inflation in accordance with Resource Allocation Sub-Committee guidelines.
6. The pay award for July 2025 has been approved at 3.2% which is 1.2% above the budgetary provision. Members are to note this increase above the 2% pay inflation allocated for 2025/26 will need to be met through savings within Chief

Officers' local risk budgets. Any pay adjustment for 2026/27 has yet to be decided. This has therefore not been reflected in this budget.

7. The budget for 2026/27 has been prepared within the resource envelope allocated to the Executive Director Environment.

### **Budget 2025/26 and Proposed Budget 2026/27**

8. The proposed budget for 2026/27 totals £414,000, an increase of £49,000 compared to the budget for 2025/26.
9. Table 2 below provides an analysis of the budget movements by service from the 2025/26 budget to the 2026/27 budget.

<b>Table 2 Provisional Revenue Budgets 2026/27</b>	<b>Budget 2025/26 £'000</b>	<b>Proposed Budget 2026/27 £'000</b>	<b>Movement 2025/26 to 2026/27 £'000</b>	<b>Para Ref</b>
<b>LOCAL RISK Expenditure</b>				
Employees	883	926	43	
Premises Related Expenses	35	36	1	
Supplies and Services	65	71	6	
Third Party Payments	86	87	1	
<b>TOTAL Expenditure</b>	<b>1,069</b>	<b>1,120</b>	<b>51</b>	
<b>Income</b>				
Customer, Client Receipts	(682)	(682)	0	
<b>TOTAL Income</b>	<b>(682)</b>	<b>(682)</b>	<b>0</b>	
<b>TOTAL LOCAL RISK</b>	<b>387</b>	<b>438</b>	<b>51</b>	
<b>RECHARGES</b>				
Central Recharges	132	153	21	
Recharges within Fund	20	19	(1)	
Recharges across Funds	(174)	(196)	(22)	
<b>TOTAL RECHARGES</b>	<b>(22)</b>	<b>(24)</b>	<b>(2)</b>	
<b>TOTAL NET EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>365</b>	<b>414</b>	<b>49</b>	

10. The significant movements (greater than £10,000) between the budgets shown in Table 2 are attributable to:
  - i) Increases in pay costs due to National Insurance rate change, pay awards, incremental and career grade progression
  - ii) A net increase in central and departmental recharges reflects changes in the budgets of departments and their apportionment between committees. All support services recharges are based on time spent or use of services.
  - iii) An increase in funding from City Bridge Foundation for Bridges Enforcement offsetting an increase in costs.

11. Appendix 1 contains an analysis of the budget movement, detailing the submissions to your Committee, the progression toward the agreed 2025/26 budget and the development leading to the proposed 2026/27 budget.

### **Potential Further Budget Adjustments**

12. The provisional nature of the proposed 2026/27 budget recognises that further revisions may be required to realign funds for:

- a. Changes to central and departmental support services apportionments as a result of the agreement of the estimates for these services (no changes are at present anticipated)
- b. During the Star Chamber process, a pressure on Licensing service resources resulting from new legislative burdens, statutory policy development requirements and growth in the hospitality sector was highlighted. Plans to address this issue are currently being developed to and have therefore not been incorporated into the 2026/27 budget.

### **Staffing Statement**

13. A summary staffing statement is set out in Table 3 below.

<b>Table 3 Staffing Summary</b>	<b>Budget 2025/26</b>		<b>Budget 2026/27</b>		
	Service	Staffing Full-time Equivalent	Estimated Cost £'000	Staffing Full-time Equivalent	Estimated Cost £'000
<b>Total Licensing</b>		<b>10.7</b>	<b>883</b>	<b>10.7</b>	<b>926</b>

### **Conclusion**

14. This report presents the proposed budget for 2026/27 for the Licensing Committee for Members to consider and approve.

### **Appendices**

- Appendix 1 – Summary of Budget Movements from 2025/26 Budget to 2026/27 Budget (cash limit)

#### **Jenny Pitcairn**

Chamberlain's Department

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**Summary of Budget Movements from 2025/26 Budget to 2026/27 Budget (cash limit)**

<b>Budget Summary Movements 2025/26 to 2026/27</b>	
	<b>£'000</b>
<b>Provisional Budget 2025/26</b>	<b>350</b>
National Insurance rate change and July 2024 pay award adjustment	16
Corporate mobile phone contract savings	(1)
<b>Budget 2025/26</b>	<b>365</b>
Net 3% inflation	12
Increase in Bridges Enforcement expenditure funded from CBF	22
Virement from Planning & Transportation Committee	17
Support Services & Capital Recharges (including increase in CBF funding)	(2)
<b>Proposed Budget 2026/27</b>	<b>414</b>

This demonstrates the progression from last year's committee submissions and agreed budget through to the 2026/27 estimate.

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# Agenda Item 6

<b>Committee(s):</b> Port Health and Environmental Services Committee – For Information Health and Wellbeing Board – For Information Licensing Committee – For Information	<b>Dated:</b> 25/11/2025 04/02/2026 05/02/2026
<b>Subject:</b> Tobacco and Vapes Bill	<b>Public</b>
<b>Which outcomes in the City Corporation's Corporate Plan does this proposal aim to impact directly?</b>	Providing Excellent Services
<b>Does this proposal require extra revenue and/or capital spending?</b>	<b>N</b>
<b>If so, how much?</b>	<b>£</b>
<b>What is the source of Funding?</b>	
<b>Has this Funding Source been agreed with the Chamberlain's Department?</b>	<b>N/A</b>
<b>Report of:</b> City Remembrancer	<b>For Information</b>
<b>Report authors:</b> James Edwards, City Remembrancer's Office Rachel Pye, Environment Department	

## Summary

This report outlines the provisions of the Tobacco and Vapes Bill and any implications for the City of London Corporation.

## Recommendation(s)

Members are asked to note the report.

## Main Report

### Background

1. The Tobacco and Vapes Bill was first introduced in the House of Commons in November 2024 and, at the time of writing, has passed all its stages in the first House and awaits its Report Stage in the House of Lords.
2. The Bill would implement a commitment contained in Labour's General Election manifesto to ensure that the next generation can never legally buy cigarettes, and to ban vapes from being branded and advertised to appeal to children. This commitment was made as part of Labour's pledge to introduce preventative public health measures to support people to live longer, healthier lives.
3. The Bill follows on from a previous Tobacco and Vapes Bill introduced during Rishi Sunak's premiership, which sought to raise the legal smoking age each year, to ensure those born after 1 January 2009 could never legally purchase cigarettes.

4. The Bill has, to date, made relatively slow progress through Parliament, with six months elapsing between its Second Reading in the House of Lords and the tabling of its Committee Stage. Nonetheless, it has cross-party support within Parliament and is likely to reach Royal Assent in early 2026.

## **Current Position**

5. The Bill aims to create the first “smoke-free generation” by ensuring children born in 2009 or later can never be legally sold tobacco. It also includes provisions to make vaping less attractive and accessible to children and young people, strengthen smoke-free restrictions, and strengthen enforcement around the sale of tobacco and vaping products.
6. In relation to tobacco products, the Bill would:
  - I. make it an offence to sell tobacco products, herbal smoking products and cigarette papers to anyone born on or after 1 January 2009. This would replace the current age of sale restriction of 18 years for these products.
  - II. provide regulation-making powers that would enable the government to extend smoke-free restrictions to a wider range of premises (such as outside schools and hospitals), and to designate smoke-free places as also being heated tobacco-free.
  - III. provide the Secretary of State with powers to make regulations about tobacco products, such as establish requirements for product, substances and flavours.
7. In relation to vaping and nicotine products, the Bill would:
  - I. widen the scope of nicotine and vaping products that are subject to an age of sale restriction (18 years). For the first time, it would be an offence to sell non-nicotine vapes, e-liquids and refills to under 18s.
  - II. prohibit the sale of vaping and nicotine products from vending machines in the UK.
  - III. prohibit the free distribution, advertising, sponsorship and brandsharing of vaping and nicotine products to people of all ages.
  - IV. extend ‘smoke-free’ restrictions to vaping.
  - V. provide the Secretary of State with regulation-making powers to regulate vaping and nicotine products, including contents and flavour, packaging, and product requirements.
8. In relation to enforcement and retailer licensing, the Bill would:
  - I. provide for regulation-making powers to create a retailer licensing scheme for the sale of tobacco products, herbal smoking products, cigarette papers, vaping and nicotine products.
  - II. provide enforcement authorities with the power to issue fixed penalty notices for offences related to the underage sale, proxy sale and free distribution of tobacco and vaping products (£200) and offences in connection with licensing (£2,500).

9. In relation to advertising and sponsorship, the Bill would:

- I. introduce a UK-wide ban on the advertising, brandsharing and sponsorship of herbal smoking products, cigarette papers, vaping and nicotine products.
- II. extend provisions of the Communications Act 2003 about audiovisual and radio broadcasting to all herbal smoking products, cigarette papers, vaping and nicotine products.
- III. make a “relevant person” (such as a director or manager of a company or a partner in a firm) potentially liable for an advertising or sponsorship offence committed by a “body” (such as a body corporate, a partnership, or an unincorporated association).
- IV. impose a duty on relevant enforcement authorities to enforce the provisions in part 6 of the bill (relating to advertising and sponsorship) and regulations made under powers in part 6.
- V. empower the appropriate national authority to take over enforcement functions or proceedings instead of the relevant local enforcement authority.

10. Finally, the Bill would enable the UK Government and devolved administrations to expand the extent of provisions in existing legislation and within the Bill itself that regulate the sale and distribution of tobacco products, including to include products not currently in scope.

### **Implications for the City of London Corporation**

11. The City of London Corporation will be in scope of the Bill both as a local weights and measures (Trading Standards) authority and as a licensing authority.
12. The implications with respect to the City of London as licensing authority relate to the proposed retail licensing regime for the sale of tobacco, vapes and nicotine products. The government has indicated a two-tier approach separating a personal licence for individuals from a premises licence for retail locations, aimed at ensuring that only responsible retailers and staff can sell these products.
13. Licensing authorities would administer applications, renewals, suspensions and revocations and could attach conditions to licences. The practical design of the retail licensing scheme is still to be determined including the licence fee, whether it will be nationally or locally set, subject to annual review or if it will fully cover the costs of administration and enforcement.
14. Trading Standards and licensing will enforce elements of the new penalties for unlicensed selling or breaches of licence conditions which could include fixed penalties and higher fines through the courts for offences such as underage sales, packaging and advertising. The licensing model is intended to deter rogue traders, support legitimate businesses that comply with rules, and provide a clearer enforcement route for local authorities.
15. All of these responsibilities introduce additional finance, skills and resource burden implications for the licensing and trading standards authorities in establishing and discharging these new additional functions.

16. A further potential implication is that the new licensing scheme could encourage further the illegal market, with the consequence that the controls create an opportunity for criminals to exploit demand for unregulated and cheaper products, particularly if flavoured vapes are restricted.
17. The market in illicit products is controlled by organised crime, and the products represent a significant funding avenue for organised crime groups' other illegal schemes, such as human trafficking, money laundering and modern slavery.
18. The sale of illegal tobacco and vapes makes it easier for children and young people to start smoking and establish addictions. Some illegal cigarettes are not fire safe, they do not extinguish themselves if left unattended, presenting an increased fire risk.

## **Corporate & Strategic Implications**

*Strategic implications* – Providing Excellent Services: Protecting and promoting public health.

*Financial implications* – None at this stage

*Resource implications* – None at this stage

*Legal implications* – As outlined in the body of the report.

*Risk implications* – None at this stage

*Equalities implications* – Tobacco use continues to be the leading preventable cause of death, disease, and disability in our communities. Smoking rates show strong positive correlation with deprivation and reducing smoking rates among disadvantaged groups is the most effective way to tackle health inequalities.

Smoking rates are disproportionately higher amongst vulnerable populations such as the homeless, those with serious mental illness, and those with substance misuse issues. As the harms of tobacco use are not experienced equally across the population, reducing overall smoking rates in the City will contribute to mitigating the disparity in health and wellbeing burdens experienced across different population groups.

*Climate implications* – Every stage of the tobacco supply chain poses serious environmental challenges, including deforestation, the use of fossil fuels and the dumping or leaking of waste products into the natural environment. Reducing tobacco product use will lead to positive environmental outcomes.

*Security implications* – None

## **Appendices**

- None

**Background Papers**

- Tobacco and Vapes Bill – <https://publications.parliament.uk/pa/bills/cbill/59-01/0121/240121v2.pdf>

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## City of London Corporation Committee Report

<b>Committee(s):</b> Licensing Committee	<b>Dated:</b> 05/02/2026
<b>Subject:</b> Late Night Levy – 12 Month Report (1 Oct 2024 – 30 Sep 2025)	<b>Public report:</b> For Information
<b>This proposal:</b> • provides statutory duties	Licensing authority duty under the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 (as amended by the Policing and Crime Act 2017) to publish information about how revenue raised from late night levy is spent.
<b>Does this proposal require extra revenue and/or capital spending?</b>	No
<b>If so, how much?</b>	n/a
<b>What is the source of Funding?</b>	n/a
<b>Has this Funding Source been agreed with the Chamberlain's Department?</b>	n/a
<b>Report of:</b>	Katie Stewart, Executive Director of Environment
<b>Report author:</b>	Aggie Minas, Licensing Manager

### Summary

A late-night levy ('the levy') has been operating within the City of London since 1 October 2014. This report looks back at the eleventh year of operation, setting out the number of premises paying the levy, income collected and how that money has been spent to date.

Evidence shows the number of premises liable to pay the levy at the beginning of the twelfth levy year, due to their terminal hour for selling alcohol being after midnight, remains the same as the first levy year. The levy is therefore not a barrier to incoming and expanding businesses in the City's night-time economy.

Income from the levy is used to support the management of the night-time economy. It enables the Licensing Service to operate its unique risk scheme and its best practice accreditation scheme (Safety Thirst). Membership of the accreditation scheme enables a 30% discount on the levy. The levy is also used by the Environment Department's Cleansing service and City Police to provide additional resources and targeted support in managing the night-time economy and any alcohol related crime and disorder, anti-social behaviour and public nuisance.

## **Recommendation(s)**

Members are asked to:

- Note the report

## **Main Report**

### **Background**

1. The Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 introduced the power for licensing authorities to charge a levy to premises that are licensed to sell alcohol after midnight in the authority's area, as a means of raising a contribution towards the costs of policing the late-night economy, with the aim of reducing or preventing crime and disorder in connection with the sale or supply of alcohol during the late night supply period.
2. On the 28 April 2014 this committee considered a report on the introduction of such a levy within the City of London and recommended to the Court of Common Council on 12 June 2014 that the levy be adopted. The levy was adopted and introduced in the City from 1 October 2014, with the levy year running annually from this date.
3. The levy is applied to all premises selling alcohol after midnight between the hours of 00:01 and 06:00. This includes premises that only sell alcohol after midnight on limited occasions such as New Year's Eve.

### **Current Position**

#### **Premises Liable**

4. In October 2014, when the levy was introduced in the City, there were 308 premises subject to the levy. During the eleventh levy year (October 2024 to September 2025) 315 premises were subject to the levy (up from 303 premises in year ten). This indicates that the levy is not a barrier to incoming and expanding businesses in the City wanting to sell alcohol after midnight.
5. Once agreed by the Licensing Authority, the collection of the levy is mandatory and failure to pay must result in a suspension of the licence.

#### **Generated Income**

6. The amount of the levy is prescribed nationally and is based on the premises rateable value. The annual charges for the levy, and weekly equivalents, are set out in the table overleaf:

**Table 1: Levy Payable by Premises**

Rateable Value (£)	Rateable Band	Amount of Levy (£)	
		Annual Levy	Weekly Equivalent
0 – 4,300	A	299	5.75
4,301 – 33,000	B	768	14.77
33,301 – 87,000	C	1,259	24.21
87,001 – 125,000	D	1,365 (2,730*)	26.25 (52.50*)
125,001 +	E	1,493 (4,440*)	28.71 (85.39*)

\* Where a multiplier applies for premises used exclusively or primarily for the supply of alcohol for consumption on the premises (bands D & E only)

7. The total amount collected in the eleventh levy year, and the apportionment between administration costs, the City Police and the City Corporation, is shown in Table 2 below. The previous three levy years are shown for comparative purposes, along with the projected income for the first half of the twelfth Levy Year.

**Table 2: Levy Income and Apportionment by Levy Year**

Levy Year	Total Collected £000	Admin Cost £000	Police Share (70%) £000	City Share (30%) £000
8 (Oct 21 – Sep 22)	390	15	263	112
9 (Oct 22 – Sep 23)	458	15	310	133
10 (Oct 23 – Sep 24)	436	15	295	126
11 (Oct 24 – Sept 25)	461	15	312	134
12 (Oct 25 – Mar 26) (part year prediction)	174	10	115	49

8. The Late Night Levy (Application and Administration) Regulations 2012, enable licensing authorities to deduct their administration expenses from the gross levy income before apportioning the net sum between the police (minimum 70%) and the authority (maximum 30%). The licensing authority is reviewing its administration costs to ensure that deductions from the gross levy income are reflective of the time taken to collect and enforce the levy. An estimated adjustment has been made to the projected costs for the first half of the twelfth year (Oct 25 – March 26), with the full year cost estimated to be in the region of £25k-£35k.
9. Income from the levy during year eight appears lower than subsequent years. This can be attributed to (a) short-term pandemic effects as hospitality premises were gradually reopening throughout 2021-22 and income is consistent with the trade operating at approximately 70% of pre-pandemic levels at the time, and (b) a 'soft' approach to licence suspensions during the pandemic, allowing premises additional time to pay their annual fees. As a result, some of that income was

recovered during the ninth levy year, resulting in the increase in income between levy years eight and nine.

10. Legislation permits a local authority to give a 30% discount on the levy payment for those premises that participate in a best practice scheme. The scheme must show why membership of it is likely to result in a reduction of alcohol-related crime and disorder, there is a requirement for active participation by scheme members and those members who do not participate appropriately can be removed from the scheme. The scheme currently used by the City Corporation is the Safety Thirst accreditation scheme (the scheme).
11. The scheme has been running for many years but was completely revamped in 2014 prior to the levy being adopted. It lays down a set of criteria drawn from the City's Code of Good Practice for Licensed Premises, covering the four licensing objectives that premises must meet to join the scheme. Members of the scheme receive a 30% discount in their levy fees.
12. The number of premises achieving membership of the scheme during 2025 was 78 of which 54 were subject to the levy.
13. The City Corporation are required to spend their allocation of levy money in specific areas namely:
  - The reduction or prevention of crime and disorder
  - The promotion of public safety
  - The reduction or prevention of public nuisance
  - The cleaning of any highway maintainable at the public expense within the City of London (other than a trunk road) or any land to which the public are entitled or permitted to have access with or without payment and which is open to the air.
14. Since the late-night levy was introduced in 2014 the total amount collected (as projected to 31 March 2026) is as follows:

Total collected	£5,044,000
Administration costs	£180,000
Police share of levy	£3,405,000 (70% minimum statutory share)
City Corporation share	£1,459,000

15. Since the late-night levy was introduced in 2014 the total amount spent by the City Corporation (as projected to 31 March 2026) is as follows:

Total Spent	£1,382,000
Unspent balance	£77,000
Total:	£1,459,000

16. There is nothing in the late night levy regulations or the Home Office late night levy guidance requiring levy revenue to be spent within a defined period of time. The unspent balance has accrued due to several factors including lower spend in the early levy years while plans for the most effective use of the funding were

developed, vacancies now filled, and the pandemic, during which time the cleansing service in the NTE was reduced, the traffic light scheme and safety thirst were temporarily suspended and additional support in the NTE ceased.

17. As The City's revenue is ringfenced, any surplus from one year is rolled forward to the next year. The current annual committed spend exceeds the forecast annual income. This is due to a combination of inflationary price increases, and the City Corporation supporting the Police led partnership initiative Operation Reframe, described in more detail at paragraph 22 below. Over time, this will use up the City's unspent balance.
18. Of the total levy funds apportioned to the City Corporation during 2025/26 the amounts shown in Table 3 below have so far been spent or committed. The previous three years have been shown for comparative purposes.

**Table 3: City Corporation Levy Expenditure to 31 March 2026**

*(Expenditure shown by financial year)*

Financial Year	Area of expenditure	Cost £000	
2022/23	Out of Hours Team Funding of Licensing posts Cleansing Supporting Operation Reframe Urirlifts <b>Total 2022/23</b>	41 45 38 1 3	128
2023/24	Out of Hours Team Funding of Licensing posts Cleansing Supporting Operation Reframe <b>Total 2023/24</b>	41 23 38 3	105
2024/25	Out of Hours Team Funding of Licensing posts Cleansing Supporting Operation Reframe <b>Total 2024/25</b>	42 55 41 1	139
2025/26	Out of Hours Team Funding of Licensing posts Cleansing Supporting Operation Reframe <b>Total 2025/26 (projected)</b>	44 58 42 5	149

19. **Out of Hours Team.** The out of hours team gives additional support to the Corporation's Pollution Control Team and operates Monday to Friday between 17:00 and 08:00 and provides a 24-hour service at weekends. The team consists of Street Environment Officers and can provide a rapid response to complaints relating to public nuisance and anti-social behaviour – usually in the form of noise. In addition, the team can identify areas where, although no complaint has

been received, problems do or may exist. This information is fed back to the Licensing Service who can visit the premises concerned and discuss ways in which problems can be avoided.

20. **Part funding of Licensing Team posts.** To mitigate problems occurring in the night-time economy, the City Corporation operates a risk (traffic light) scheme whereby incidents relating to licensed premises carry a score which is recorded and used to identify where problems may escalate. The Licensing team, City Police or other responsible authority are then able to meet with the premises and discuss ways in which problems can be avoided. In addition, the Licensing team operate a Safety Thirst scheme which ensures premises meet standards laid down in the Corporation's licensing code of practice for which they receive a 30% discount off the late-night levy if applicable. The scheme was previously operated by staff with no means of sustaining their funding. Although the risk and traffic light schemes are for all premises, over 70% of participating premises sell alcohol after midnight.

21. **The Environment Department provides a cleansing service** through their term contractor that is funded from the late-night levy. This service covers all areas of the City of London and operates Thursday to Sunday (inclusive) during the hours that the levy is applicable.

- a. The levy funded cleansing team visit locations throughout the City, sweep, clear litter, wash, disinfect and deal with any anti-social behaviour issues and staining identified around licensed premises. They also provide a service for one-off licensed events. Scheduled flushing and washing is carried out on streets around these locations, as well as removal of flyers and other related litter that is generated by the night-time economy. Part of the enhanced service also covers the flushing and washing of transport hubs.
- b. This service has a positive effect on the cleanliness and image of the City. The cleansing management team believe that this service addresses the additional challenges raised by the increasing night-time economy. The service is monitored by the Street Environment Team and Veolia Managers to make sure the required standards are achieved

22. **Operation Reframe.** The City Corporation provides resources to assist City Police during Operation Reframe partnership evenings in the form of staff experienced in licensing and environmental health.

#### **City of London Police – Levy Expenditure**

23. Unlike the City Corporation, the City of London Police does not have restrictions on how they can spend their allocation of the levy. However, the Police have committed to using levy income to fund additional work related to policing of the night-time economy.
24. A Late-Night Levy Planning Board (LNLPB) has been established to discuss levy spend by the Police and to co-ordinate expenditure between the police and the

City Corporation. LNLPB meets quarterly and is chaired by the Chief Superintendent of Uniformed Policing and attended by other representatives of City Police and Corporation staff including Licensing, Environmental Health, Community Safety and Finance.

25. The governance of this meeting replaces the requirement for requests for levy funds to go to Force Tasking for approval.
26. Police revenue spend is not ringfenced, therefore there is no obligation to roll any surplus from one year over to the next. However, the LNLPB has currently agreed that any unspent revenue should be rolled forward and committed to policing the NTE
27. The current annual Police expenditure exceeds forecast income. This overspend is driven by inflationary pressures and additional costs arising from staffing proactive deployments. These include, but are not limited to, the partner-supported initiative, Operation Reframe, and additional City Safe bus deployments. This spending is presently being met by depleting the unspent Police balance year on year.
28. A breakdown of the City of London Police levy expenditure can be seen as Appendix 1.

### **Summary of Police Spend**

29. City of London Police levy spend:

- a. **A dedicated Police Licensing Inspector** – the levy funds a police Licensing Inspector post in the Police licensing team. This post is fundamental in managing operational and tasking issues within the NTE, reducing alcohol related crime and disorder and keeping the City safe at night.
- b. **A dedicated Police Licensing Officer** – the levy funds an additional police officer in the Police licencing team. This officer provides ongoing resilience for the team and is responsible for gathering and checking risk management information for promoted events using intelligence systems. As a result, stakeholders are provided with the best information available for their events and can be warned about any particular issues identified in advance. The work of this officer also manages and removes risk from other NTE activity.
- c. **A Police CCTV Van** (including maintenance costs) – used to deter crime and anti-social behaviour stemming from the NTE and gather evidence following any incidents.
- d. **Resources for Operation Reframe** a City Police led partnership approach to facilitate the night-time economy by providing a high visibility presence, with the goal of making people feel safe in the City of London, in line with Safer Streets Campaign and preventing violence against women and girls. It involves targeted engagement with licensed premises around security and management, engaging with persons on the street that appear under the

influence of alcohol and/or vulnerable and directing them to a staffed 'safe zone', promoting the 'Ask for Angela' safety initiative, highlighting the risks of drink-spiking, and carrying out visible drink-spiking tests in agreement with premises. Cycle medics have become a key part of the Operation Reframe initiative, providing numerous timely interventions during every shift. They provide a gold standard of care to persons suffering significant injuries, mental health crisis and intoxication. Additional benefits are the reassignment of ambulances to other calls and early release of police resources back into servicing the NTE.

- e. **City Safe Bus** – The successful launch of the City Safe Bus in the latter half of 2025 has provided a focal point for safeguarding vulnerable persons in the NTE and high-profile public engagement. It is funded in partnership with the BID. In addition to being deployed during Operation Reframe it is out every Thursday, Friday and Saturday night, situated by the Liverpool Street hotspot. During December it was staffed until 3am in the morning via the City of London Police Operation Tinsel funding stream.
- f. **Operation Goliath** - This operation focuses on proactive, covert patrols targeting theft from licensed premises. These were primarily conducted last year by the Proactive Acquisitive Crime Team (PACT), both within standard working hours and additional hours funded by the LNL. Work by this team achieved numerous arrests, the return of property to victims, decreased levels of TFLP, identification of linked suspects and disruption of criminal networks. Joint working with the Metropolitan Police allowed for cross border analysis of hotspots and officers worked through the night to complete premises searches and process suspects for court. Operation Goliath spending has now been minimised during months with lower footfall with a view to revisiting as demand increases.
- g. **Bag Hooks** – these have been purchased as part of a target hardening initiative under Operation Goliath. They have been packaged and will be distributed during engagement/crime prevention visits.
- h. **Ask For Angela and Spiking Awareness testing** - These initiatives have been stepped up in 2025 both during Operation Reframe and outside of it. 76 Spiking Awareness Tests and 59 Ask for Angela Tests undertaken. Where educational opportunities were identified then bespoke training has been given to the venue. This is tailored to staff numbers, facilities, environmental factors and clientele demographic. There have been excellent operational demonstrations of venues elevating their response to live spiking reports after being trained. Increased staff confidence and awareness has likely contributed to elevated spiking reports. We consider this a positive outcome, increasing opportunities for victim care, suspect apprehension and evidence gathering.
- i. **Welfare and Vulnerability Engagement (WAVE)** - Training has been delivered throughout 2025, with most months having seen a WAVE training event take place. The average attendance for training sessions has been

around 50 persons, covering numerous venues. A large-scale WAVE event was held in November, supporting the VAWG intensification week, in which two sessions were held at The Steelyard. This culminated in over 200 NTE professionals being trained

- j. **Licensing Forum** - The Summer Licensing Forum was attended by approximately 150 individuals and was staffed by several CoLP departments and partners. Attendees were split into groups of 30 persons and had inputs from the CoLP Licensing Team, Proactive Crime Team and the Scientific Support Unit amongst others. Inputs were provided around spiking awareness, identification of fake ID's and Safe Havens, with the latter provided by the Safer Business Network

### **Engagement with premises paying the Late-Night Levy**

- 30. The Licensing Service presents at and engages with licensees at the annual City Police Licensing Forum. At these forums, the Licensing Service covers a range of licensing topics, including late night levy spend and guidance on how licensees can participate in the City Corporation's approved Safety Thirst accreditation scheme that enables a 30% discount on the levy. Late-night levy spend will remain an active item on the agenda and officers will continue to explore ways to engage with the trade and seek feedback from those who contribute to the levy on how it is spent.

### **Corporate & Strategic Implications**

- 31. **Vibrant Thriving Destination:** The proposals in this report will help to meet the aims contained within the Corporate Plan 2024-29 by attracting businesses and people to a safe, secure, and dynamic location. Providing resources to manage the nighttime economy reduces the risk of crime and anti-social behaviour, creating a safe environment for people to socialise in. The proposals also align with the government's aims in tackling violence against women and girls.
- 32. **Flourishing Public Spaces:** The levy contribution to cleansing and environmental management enhances the quality of the City's streets and public spaces at night, maintaining a clean and welcoming environment.
- 33. **Providing Excellent Services:** Protecting and promoting public safety and consumer protection at licensed premises.
- 34. **Dynamic Economic Growth:** A safe, well regulated nighttime economy is attractive to visitors, encourages footfall and supports economic growth in the hospitality sector. The stable number of licensed premises liable for the levy demonstrates that the City offers a favourable environment for commercial activity at night.

## **Financial implications**

35. Any money retained by the City Corporation from the levy income must be spent on the areas referred to in paragraph 13, although it does not have to be spent in the same levy year in which the income was generated. Any expenditure in excess of the income received would need to be met from existing local risk budgets.

36. **Resource implications** : none identified

37. **Legal implications** : none identified

38. **Risk implications**: none identified

39. **Equalities implications** – none identified

40. **Climate implications**: none identified

41. **Security implications**: none identified

## **Conclusion**

42. The number of premises paying the levy remains broadly the same as year one.

43. Forecasts for the twelfth levy year (1 October 2025 to 30 September 2026) are that income is likely to be maintained at level to that achieved in 2024-2025.

44. With Police achieving results which are likely to directly reduce the incidence of alcohol related crime and disorder, the levy money is continuing to have a positive effect on the night-time economy.

## **Appendices**

- Appendix 1 – Police Expenditure

## **Background Papers**

[Home Office 'Amended Guidance on the Late-Night Levy' – 13 July 2023.](#)

## **Aggie Minas**

Licensing Manager

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	<b>Financial Years</b>			
	<b>2021/22</b>	<b>2022/23</b>	<b>2023/24</b>	<b>2024/25</b>
<b>FUNDING</b>	<b>£'000</b>	<b>£'000</b>	<b>£'000</b>	<b>£'000</b>
Brought forward from previous period	297	361	340	326
Levy income	275	307	289	304
<b>Total Funds</b>	<b>572</b>	<b>668</b>	<b>629</b>	<b>630</b>
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>				
Licensing Inspector & Officer	155	159	176	191
CCTV Van Maintenance	6	6	0	0
Overtime	48	153	119	271
Operational costs	2	10	8	9
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>211</b>	<b>328</b>	<b>303</b>	<b>471</b>
<b>Carried Forward</b>	<b>361</b>	<b>340</b>	<b>326</b>	<b>159</b>

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## City of London Corporation Committee Report

<b>Committee(s):</b> Licensing	<b>Dated:</b> 05/02/2026
<b>Subject:</b> <b>Licensing Reforms</b>	<b>Public report:</b> For Information
<b>This paper:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>provides an overview of recent government licensing reforms including the National Licensing Policy Framework and the Mayor of London's Strategic Licensing Pilot</li></ul>	
<b>Does this proposal require extra revenue and/or capital spending?</b>	No
<b>If so, how much?</b>	n/a
<b>What is the source of Funding?</b>	n/a
<b>Has this Funding Source been agreed with the Chamberlain's Department?</b>	n/a
<b>Report of:</b>	Katie Stewart, Executive Director of Environment
<b>Report author:</b>	Aggie Minas, Licensing Manager

### Summary

This report provides an overview of recent government licensing reforms including

- (a) The National Licensing Policy Framework (NLPF), its purpose, scope, and implications for The City of London Corporation in its capacity as a licensing authority. It sets out the strategic objectives, key principles, and implementation requirements, and outlines next steps for integrating the NLPF into the City Corporation's Statement of Licensing Policy (SoLP) and local licensing practices.
- (b) An update on The Mayor of London's Strategic Licensing Pilot.
- (c) An overview of the proposal to introduce a Greater London Strategic Licensing Policy.

### Recommendation(s)

Members are asked to:

- Note the report

## Main Report

### Background

1. In April 2025, as the Licensing Act 2003 (The Act) reached its 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary, a joint industry and government licensing policy sprint taskforce was established to review key aspects of The Act, investigate areas of concern, and to make recommendations in changing the licensing system to deliver economic growth in the hospitality sector and night-time economy, whilst upholding the four licensing objectives.
2. The taskforce concluded in May 2025, and provided government with 10 priority recommendations to consider:
  - 2.1. The introduction of a National Licensing Policy Framework\***
  - 2.2. A one-time (twentieth anniversary) licensing condition 'amnesty'
  - 2.3. Improvements to hearings and appeals
  - 2.4. Removing the hard-copy local newspaper advertising requirement
  - 2.5. Improve the potential for licensed premises to better use their outside spaces
  - 2.6. Increase the maximum entitlement for Temporary Event Notices (TENs) for licensed premises
  - 2.7. A 'sunset clause' on blanket hours policies where they exist
  - 2.8. An arbitration, evidence and data protocol for licensing decisions
  - 2.9. A review of licensing provisions around festivals and events
  - 2.10. The agent of change principle to be a factor that must be considered when making licensing decisions
3. The taskforce report made several other recommendations including a review of Licensing Act fees which have remained unchanged since 2005, a review of the evidential requirements for imposing a Late-Night Levy, a review and rewrite of the statutory S182 Guidance to the Act, **a London Licensing Pilot giving the Mayor of London 'call-in' powers on licensing authority decisions in areas of strategic importance, to be introduced as a 2-year pilot scheme, and the introduction of a Strategic Licensing Policy for London\***.
4. Government welcomed the taskforce recommendations, accepting the majority of them subject to further work and engagement and/or consultation, and acknowledging that some of them would require legislative changes to be implemented, therefore delivery of these latter reforms could only take place when/if Parliamentary time allows.
5. Through a Call for Evidence in October 2025, Government invited views and evidence to build on the taskforce recommendations and the development of a modern, proportionate and enabling licensing system.
6. Following analysis of responses, the NLPF (Recommendation 1) was launched as part of the Government's Autumn Budget on 26 November 2025. The other 9 priority recommendations and subsidiary recommendations were either agreed in principle or partially agreed subject to further stakeholder consultation or required

further review/legislative changes. Progress on implementation of these recommendations will be reported to this committee accordingly. \* **this report therefore only covers those recommendations in bold text above which have been progressed to the next stage by Government.**

## **National Licensing Policy Framework (NLPF)**

7. The NLPF seeks to modernise the licensing system and ensure consistency in the application of The Act across England and Wales. It responds to challenges in balancing the four licensing objectives with wider economic and social priorities, such as supporting the night-time economy and promoting public safety. The framework aims to provide a clear national direction while allowing local discretion and flexibility.
8. It is non-statutory guidance designed to support consistent, lawful and proportionate licensing. Licensing authorities must have regard to the Secretary of State's Guidance under section 182 of the Licensing Act 2003 and to their Statements of Licensing Policy and the NLPF does not displace those duties or restrict authorities' discretion to determine each application on its merit. However, it does create new legal obligations for Licensing Authorities as they are expected to take the NLPF into account as guidance and have regard to it when reviewing their SoLP and determining applications.

### **Scope of the NLPF**

9. **Licensing Authorities** - The NLPF applies to all licensing authorities operating under The Act. It covers the determination of applications for premises licences, club premises certificates, and temporary event notices, as well as reviews and variations. It also influences how authorities develop and review their Statements of Licensing Policy.
10. **Businesses** – The NLPF applies exclusively to on-trade premises licensed under The Act i.e. to those premises licensed for on-sales of alcohol, regulated entertainment, or late-night refreshment. This includes, but is not restricted to pubs, bars, restaurants, cafés, hotels, theatres, cinemas, concert halls, festivals, events and licensed outdoor areas such as beer gardens and licensed pavement areas. It excludes off-trade premises such as off-licences and supermarkets.

### **Strategic Objectives of the NLPF**

11. The NLPF provides a strategic direction for a modern licensing system that:

- 11.1. Maintains and reaffirms the importance of the four statutory licensing objectives:
  - Prevention of crime and disorder
  - Public safety

- Prevention of public nuisance
- Protection of children from harm

11.2. Is enabling as well as protective, supporting economic growth, high street regeneration and cultural vitality, particularly in the night-time economy.

11.3. Promotes proportionate, evidence-led decision-making, with only necessary conditions imposed on licences, supporting the evolving needs of businesses and communities.

11.4. Encourages collaboration between licensing, planning, and public health, working in harmony to unlock investment in the nighttime economy by creating safe and vibrant places for communities to socialise in.

### **Key Principles of the NLPF for Licensing Authorities**

12. Licensing Authorities are expected to:

- 12.1. Use the NLPF to guide the revision of their Statement of Licensing Policy (SoLP)
- 12.2. Align their SoLP with wider government ambitions around economic growth, public health, cultural vitality and the evolving role of hospitality venues, as well as working with planning policy to avoid conflict
- 12.3. Applying the Agent of Change Principle, ensuring new developments near existing licensed premises take responsibility for mitigating impacts such as noise, rather than placing undue burdens on established venues
- 12.4. Avoid imposing framework hours and blanket conditions on licences, ensuring decisions are necessary, proportionate and based on evidence.
- 12.5. Adopt risk-based regulation, using data such as crime reports and complaints, to identify patterns, prioritise interventions, and support proportionate responses, specific to the risks identified.
- 12.6. A graduated enforcement approach where issues arise, starting with informal engagement and support, and escalating only where necessary. Enforcement should be proportionate, transparent, and focused on resolving problems rather than penalising businesses unnecessarily.
- 12.7. Consider longer duration permissions where possible

### **Partnership Working**

13. The NLPF encourages partnership working as follows:

- 13.1. Licensing authorities should collaborate closely with responsible authorities, including the police, fire service, and public health teams, to ensure joined-up decision-making.

- 13.2. Engagement with local businesses, residents, and community groups is essential to balance economic growth with public safety and nuisance prevention.
- 13.3. Authorities should work in partnership with planning teams to align licensing decisions with regeneration and place-making strategies.
- 13.4. Joint initiatives with transport providers and night-time economy stakeholders can improve safety and accessibility.
- 13.5. Alignment of local licensing priorities with wider government or mayoral strategic objectives, where they exist.

#### **Next steps/impacts for City Corporation in implementing the NLPF**

- 14. **Statement of Licensing Policy** – the City Corporation's SoLP is due to be re-published in January 2027 and the statutory review of it will commence in February 2026, with a proposal report to include a stakeholder consultation, to be brought back to this committee in May 2026. The current policy is largely consistent with the NLPF as it does not have framework hours, cumulative impact zones, and only appropriate conditions are imposed on licences. However, the review will fully scope in all the visions and aims of NLPF and align with the City's Corporate Plan, planning/place-shaping & cultural strategies.
- 15. **Risk Based Regulation** – the City Corporation has been operating a risk (traffic light) scheme since 2013, whereby incidents relating to licensed premises carry a score which is recorded and used to identify patterns or where problems may escalate. The Licensing team, City Police or other responsible authority are then able to intervene at the earliest opportunity, meeting with licensees to discuss ways in which problems can be mitigated or avoided, to prevent formal enforcement action. Visits and inspections are usually carried out as a result of incidents, a complaint or they are intelligence led. The traffic light scheme will be reviewed alongside the SoLP to ensure it fully aligns with the NLPF.
- 16. **Partnership Working** – in addition to the traffic light scheme, the City Corporation has well-established partnership groups and other initiatives which align with the NLPF and support its aims and visions. These include but are not limited to:
  - 16.1. Weekly Night-Time Economy partners meeting which brings together the licensing authority, Police, Environmental Health, Health and Safety, Cleansing, and Fire Authority to jointly problem solve. These used to be held monthly but have been moved to a weekly cycle to enable a more dynamic, responsive approach, enabling partners to coordinate swiftly and tackle issues as they arise.
  - 16.2. Free pre-application licensing advice to applicants giving them an opportunity to discuss any issues with the relevant responsible authorities in advance of their application.
  - 16.3. An informal mediation service between applicants, responsible authorities and interested parties, to find solutions and resolve concerns without the need for costly hearings.

- 16.4. A good practice accreditation scheme 'Safety Thirst', which ensures premises meet standards laid down in the Corporation's Code of Good Practice for Licensed Premises and recognises the effort and dedication licensees put into promoting good practice at their venues, to ensure the City's night-time economy enjoys a reputation for safe, innovative, and vibrant hospitality.
- 16.5. Operation Reframe which is the City Police led partnership approach to facilitate the night time economy by providing a high visibility presence, involving targeted engagement with licensed premises around security, safety and management of patrons.

The City Corporation will keep these initiatives under review and build on them to keep them aligned with the NLPF.

17. A copy of the NLPF can be found at Appendix 1.

### **The Mayor of London's Strategic Licensing Pilot**

18. The Mayor of London's Strategic Licensing Pilot (The Pilot) was announced by Government in April 2025. When the Pilot is implemented (subject to legislative changes), it will give The Mayor 'call in' powers over local licensing decisions in strategic areas in London, potentially overriding licensing authority decisions where such Mayoral intervention is permitted, in respect of new grants and variations, opening hours or the imposition of restrictive conditions.
19. The Pilot will be a two-year scheme to trial Mayoral call-in powers and shape criteria for strategic applications.
20. The aim is to streamline approvals for hospitality, cultural, and nightlife venues to boost London's economy and night-time offer, by reducing red tape and enabling more consistent strategic growth for venues like pubs, clubs, and alfresco dining spaces, aligning London with other global cities like New York.
21. The GLA is currently developing plans with the Government, London Councils, Police, businesses and industry representatives. The plans (subject to Secretary of State regulations) will define the scope of The Mayor's new powers and set out the criteria for what constitutes a strategic area or strategic application and set out procedural requirements for calling in decisions. The GLA's London Nightlife taskforce has indicated that their plans will be published towards the end of January 2026, and at the time of writing this report, the plans are still awaited.
22. The model will likely draw on precedents from planning legislation where The Mayor already has call in Powers under the Town and Country Planning Act and London Plan policies.
23. At present, there is no information on whether any areas, venues, or applications within the City of London Corporation jurisdiction, will be defined as strategic for the purposes of The Pilot. Where such areas/venues/applications are defined, the Mayor of London will become a Responsible Authority under the provisions of the Licensing Act 2003 but only in respect of those areas/applications.

24. The Pilot proposal requires legislative changes, and these will be achieved through the English Devolution and Community Empowerment Bill, which is currently at the Committee stage in the House of Lords. Once enacted, the Secretary of State can determine by way of Regulations what will be subject to that pilot and the terms under which The Pilot will be exercised.

### **Mayor of London Strategic Licensing Policy**

25. This is separate to the above pilot scheme as part of the proposed reforms, The Mayor will publish a London Strategic Licensing Policy that licensing authorities in London must have regard to when developing their policies and making decisions, with the purpose of creating more consistency across the authorities.

26. Once the London Strategic Licensing Policy is published, The Mayor of London will become a statutory consultee on London licensing authority SoLP's and those authorities must align their SoLP with the Mayor's strategic direction.

27. The strategic policy proposal requires legislative change, and this will also be achieved through the English Devolution and Community Empowerment Bill, but once that bill is passed (unlike the pilot) will not require further legislation to be brought into effect (save for any necessary commencement provisions).

### **Next Steps relating to The Pilot and the Strategic Policy**

28. The City Corporation's licensing team has and will continue to contribute to the development of The Pilot scheme for London, by participating in consultations and engagement sessions with the GLA and will update this Committee on their progress accordingly.

29. There are no defined timelines for implementation of The Pilot or the Strategic Policy which are both subject to legislative changes, but the GLA has indicated that it will be conducting a formal consultation on its proposed plans in early 2026.

### **Corporate & Strategic Implications**

30. **Vibrant Thriving Destination:** The proposals in this report will help to meet the aims contained within the Corporate Plan 2024-29 by attracting businesses and people to a safe, secure, and dynamic location.

31. **Flourishing Public Spaces:** Promoting vibrant, safe and accessible environments, ensuring licensing in public spaces support cultural activities and community engagement, fostering well-managed, inclusive spaces that balance commercial activity with public safety, prevention of crime, disorder and anti-social behaviour, creating destinations where people can socialise, work, and enjoy cultural experiences in harmony.

**32. Providing Excellent Services:** Proportionate, evidence led decision making and integration with wider planning, cultural and regeneration strategies, delivering a licensing service that is transparent, responsive, and of high standards for applicants, residents, workers and other stakeholders.

**33. Dynamic Economic Growth:** A safe, well regulated nighttime economy is attractive to visitors, encourages footfall and supports economic growth in the hospitality sector.

### **Financial implications**

34. The review of SoLP and other interlinked schemes such as the Traffic Light Scheme and the Safety Thirst accreditation scheme in light of the NLPF requires officer time, external consultation and potentially expert legal advice. Whilst this review will form part of the wider statutory review of SoLP, additional resource will be required to scope in the NLPF, and this will need to be absorbed within existing budgets.

35. The Licensing Service will need to adapt processes to accommodate The Mayor's call-in powers and have regard to the forthcoming Strategic Licensing Framework. This may involve procedural changes and officer training but no direct financial outlay beyond internal resource adjustments.

### **Resource implications**

36. Additional officer time will be required to reflect the requirements of the NLPF in the SoLP, and Licensing Sub-Committee decision reports going forward. Licensing staff will need to be trained on the NLPF requirements and how to apply them in evidence-led decision making on delegated decisions, particularly in imposing proportionate and necessary conditions.

37. Additional officer time will be required to adjust workflows to accommodate the forthcoming Strategic Licensing Framework,

### **Legal implications**

38. The NLPF is non-statutory guidance, but The City Corporation is expected to have regard to it when making licensing decisions and reviewing its Statement of Licensing Policy. However, the Licensing Act 2003 and Section 182 Guidance remain the primary legal instruments, and any conflict must defer to these statutory provisions.

39. Departures from statutory guidance or failure to demonstrate regard for the NLPF could expose the Licensing Authority to appeals or judicial review, requiring clear reasoning and documentation.

40. Once the Mayor's Strategic Licensing Policy is published The City Corporation will be expected to have regard to it as per the NLPF as set out in paragraphs 38 & 39.

41. The introduction of Mayoral “call-in” powers would represent a shift in decision-making authority in such cases as the decisions would not be taken by “The City”.

42. While the Greater London Authority (GLA) may assume responsibility for decisions in strategic cases, uncertainty remains over who bears liability in appeals or judicial reviews, but it would be expected to rest with the actual decision maker.

43. **Risk implications:** none identified

44. **Equalities implications** – none identified

45. **Climate implications:** none identified

46. **Security implications:** none identified

## **Conclusion**

47. The SoLP and interlinked schemes and initiatives must be updated to reflect the non-statutory NLPF principles while maintaining compliance with the Licensing Act 2003 and its statutory guidance.

48. If the London Strategic Licensing Policy is published before the review of the City of London SoLP is completed, the City Corporation will need to have regard to the Strategic policy during its review.

49. Implementation will involve officer time for policy review, training, and enhanced stakeholder engagement, with no additional staffing provision.

50. Costs are primarily resource-based, with no new statutory fees or levies

## **Appendices**

- Appendix 1 – National Licensing Policy Framework

## **Background Papers**

[Licensing policy sprint: joint industry and HM government taskforce report - GOV.UK](#)

[Licensing taskforce report: government response - GOV.UK](#)

[Licensing Reforms Programme - Call for Evidence](#)

[Licensing Reform Programme: call for evidence analysis](#)

[National Licensing Policy Framework for the hospitality and leisure sectors \(web version\) - GOV.UK](#)

[English Devolution and Community Empowerment Bill \(16th October 2025\)](#)

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UK Government

# National Licensing Policy Framework

For the hospitality and leisure sectors

England and Wales

November 2025

Home Office and the Department of Business and Trade

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## Foreword

Over the past 20 years, the licensing regime has enabled over 200,000 businesses to operate, including over 145,000 'on-trade' venues such as restaurants, pubs, cafes, nightclubs and entertainment venues. Many committed professionals work within the licensing regime to process applications, hear residents' concerns, and support businesses and entrepreneurs. Plenty of good practice exists, with authorities working collaboratively to foster vibrant, inclusive and safe places.

The 4 statutory objectives – public safety, prevention of crime and disorder, prevention of public nuisance, and protection of children from harm – remain vital. However, when 1 in 5 high street properties stands empty in some areas, licensing must also support broader ambitions: business investment and growth, high street revival, businesses supporting rural communities, festivals and events, local jobs, and community cohesion.

Hospitality and leisure businesses have made a significant contribution to local economies and communities, helping to create places where people want to live, work, visit and invest. If we are to support them, we need to provide these key sectors with the ability to invest and adapt so that they can provide the types of services that people today want, need and deserve.

To achieve this, we need a licensing system that is flexible and responsive – a tool for enabling innovation and investment, not just managing risk. Licences should be granted on the terms sought, with conditions that are necessary and proportionate, ensuring they are fit for purpose and support the evolving needs of businesses, consumers and communities. Licensing decisions should complement, not undermine, planning and regeneration efforts. By making licensing predictable and proportionate, we aim to boost local economies and support local communities, create good jobs, keep costs down for consumers, and help meet the government's target to reduce administrative costs of regulatory burdens by 25%.

This Framework sets out a strategic vision for a modern licensing system, one that safeguards the public while empowering businesses to adapt, invest, and succeed in a changing world.

## Introduction

We aim to ensure a responsive and enabling licensing system for hospitality and leisure businesses that not only protects and safeguards communities, but supports:

- investment in existing and new venues – providing a wide range of cultural and social experiences, from dining experiences to theatre and live music to family friendly experiences
- Extended consumer choice – giving local communities and visitors greater freedom over where, when and how they enjoy leisure time
- Regeneration – unlocking the potential of day and night-time economies helping drive investment, employment and vibrancy in the places and communities that need it most

- Better regulation – reducing unnecessary bureaucracy and enabling businesses to adapt quickly to changing consumer expectations

This is the first iteration of the National Licensing Policy Framework. It recognises and builds on existing good practice by licensing authorities and licensees across the country, providing a high-level strategic steer for how the current licensing system should operate, both in safeguarding communities and enabling responsible hospitality and leisure businesses to succeed.

The framework has been developed in response to the call for evidence on the Licensing Policy Taskforce proposals, which showed strong support for the overarching objective of a consistent, transparent licensing system which empowers local authorities while promoting economic growth, cultural development, public safety and community wellbeing.

This new strategic steer from government should help to achieve these aims. We will monitor its impact carefully and in discussion with a range of stakeholders, consider whether other steps, such as making growth of the hospitality sector a statutory licensing objective, may be needed to help deliver these outcomes

We have heard from hospitality businesses that disproportionate licensing conditions can stifle their growth and reduce options for consumers. We are therefore asking licensing authorities to explicitly consider the need to promote growth and deliver economic benefits in their decisions and setting this out in the first National Licensing Policy Framework.

The government is committed to working in partnership with local authorities, hospitality and leisure businesses, and other stakeholders to develop future iterations of the framework. This will include responding to wider recommendations of the Licensing Taskforce. While some reforms may require legislation in due course, the government does not wish to delay progress. This framework has therefore been developed at pace to provide immediate direction and start seeing impacts on the ground.

## Scope of the framework

The government wants to ensure that hospitality, leisure, cultural and night-life venues are supported to thrive in a safe way. This National Licensing Policy Framework therefore applies exclusively to on-trade premises - that is, premises authorised under the Licensing Act 2003 for on-sales of alcohol, regulated entertainment or late-night refreshment. This includes, but is not restricted to pubs, bars, restaurants, cafés, and hotels as well as entertainment and cultural venues such as theatres, cinemas, concert halls, festivals and events. For the purposes of this framework, the premises includes beer gardens and licensed pavement areas.

The framework does not apply to off-trade premises, which are licensed primarily for the sale of alcohol for consumption off the premises. This includes, but is not limited to, off-licences, supermarkets, convenience stores and specialist retail outlets selling alcohol for takeaway. The guidance under section 182 of the Licensing Act 2003 continues to apply to all premises. Other statements of government policy may be material when preparing plans for deciding applications, such as licensing circulars and Written Ministerial Statements.

# A national framework for a balanced licensing system

This National Licensing Policy Framework sets out the government's strategic vision for a modern, consistent and pro-growth premises licensing system for England and Wales and how this should be applied in practice. It aims to align licensing practices with national priorities including economic growth, cultural development, jobs, regeneration, public safety and community wellbeing. It also can guide local statements of licensing policy and related strategies with wider government priorities for the economy and for society.

The framework builds on the Licensing Act 2003 and guidance issued under section 182 of the Licensing Act 2003 and aims to provide a strategic steer to help support the original intention of the Act, including supporting the viability of hospitality and leisure businesses so that they can invest and adapt to changing consumer demand.

## Supporting a changing hospitality and leisure landscape

Hospitality and leisure businesses remain central to community life, with traditional venues such as cafes, restaurants, theatres, pubs and nightclubs remaining important social spaces. However, consumer preferences have evolved significantly in recent decades. There has been a marked shift away from alcohol-centric socialising toward more diverse, experience-led activities - including live music, interactive entertainment, and health-conscious offerings such as low and no-alcohol drinks.

This changing landscape presents both opportunities and challenges. Businesses need the flexibility to evolve and invest - in their premises, programming, and service models - and a licensing system that supports innovation while maintaining public safety. The Licensing Policy Taskforce highlighted the need for this framework to support a more consistent, transparent and pro-growth licensing system.

The framework should enable responsible operators to diversify, with proportionate and responsive regulation. It recognises the value of entertainment and late-night refreshment in sustaining vibrant, inclusive high streets and town centres, while upholding the licensing objectives as set out in the Act.

## Status and legal effect

This framework is non-statutory guidance designed to support consistent, lawful and proportionate licensing. Licensing authorities must have regard to the Secretary of State's Guidance under section 182 of the Licensing Act 2003 and to their Statements of Licensing Policy. The framework does not displace those duties, create new legal obligations, or restrict authorities' discretion to determine each application on its merits.

Authorities should, however, take this framework into account as guidance. At the next review, authorities should explain in their statement of licensing policy how they have had regard to it. Where any inconsistency arises between this framework and the 2003 Act or section 182 Guidance, the latter prevails. Decisions must be necessary and proportionate, non-discriminatory and consistent with the Regulators' Code.

General references to licensing policies in the framework should be applied in a way that is proportionate to the type of plan being produced, considering existing legislation and policy. The government recognises the importance of licensing policy being applied at a local level but notes this framework should allow for broader government priorities to be considered in licensing decisions.

## Strategic direction for a modern licensing system

As described, the National Licensing Policy Framework sets out a clear and forward-looking vision for a licensing system that protects communities while enabling responsible businesses to grow, adapt and thrive. It reaffirms the importance of the 4 statutory licensing objectives as the foundation of a safe and well-regulated hospitality and leisure sectors.

But the framework also recognises the need to go further. Licensing policy must reflect the evolving role of hospitality, leisure and entertainment in modern society, and support wider government ambitions around economic growth, public health, and cultural vitality. It must be enabling as well as protective: deliver licences that are granted on the terms sought, with conditions that are necessary and proportionate, ensuring they are fit for purpose and support the evolving needs of businesses and communities.

To that end, the framework provides a strategic steer for licensing authorities, central government and industry to work together in support of:

- business resilience and growth – licensing should be proportionate, evidence-based and responsive, giving responsible operators the freedom and flexibility to meet changing consumer expectations, diversify their offer, and invest in innovation
- place-making and regeneration – licensing and planning policy should work in harmony to support vibrant, mixed-use areas, revitalise high streets, and unlock investment in the night-time economy. Licensing should be a tool for shaping successful places, not just managing risks
- cultural and community life – licensing should help facilitate live music, theatre, dancing and other forms of entertainment that enrich local identity and bring people together — whether in rural villages or city centres
- consumer choice and tourism – licensing should support a diverse range of venues and experiences that reflect the UK's rich hospitality and leisure offer and meet the needs of both domestic and international visitors

Licensing is only about regulated activities within licensed premises. It should continue to play a key role in supporting safe day and night-time environments and ensuring that venues operate responsibly and contribute positively to their local area. Licensing should promote safe, regulated environments for socialising, and as part of the statutory objectives, protect children by preventing underage exposure and access to alcohol. It can also support the availability of low and no-alcohol options and encourage venues that are inclusive and family friendly.

This framework invites licensing authorities to take a strategic, place-based approach that supports long-term success for businesses and communities alike.

## Implementation

As with the whole framework, this section is advisory and non-statutory. The recommendations show how the government's strategic steer can be implemented within

existing powers and resources. We are aware some licensing authorities have already adopted good practice, which the government commends.

## **Predictability, consistency and supporting growth**

Licensing authorities should use this framework to guide the revision of their Statements of Licensing Policy, inform training, and review local approaches to ensure consistency, transparency and alignment with national strategic aims.

### **Strategic alignment**

Licensing policies should complement local economic, cultural, and night-time economy strategies, and work in harmony with planning policy to avoid conflict. This includes applying the Agent of Change principle, ensuring new developments near existing licensed premises take responsibility for mitigating impacts such as noise, rather than placing undue burdens on established venues. Authorities are encouraged to embed this principle in local licensing guidance and collaborate with planning colleagues to protect the viability of pubs, music venues, cultural spaces and events.

### **Framework hours**

Many authorities publish evidence-based guidelines (“framework hours”) indicating typical opening and closing times for different premises types. These are reference points, not blanket conditions, and each application is still considered individually. Premises should be granted licences under the terms sought, with the existence of guideline hours alone not grounds to refuse.

### **Service standards**

Service standards set out expected timelines for processing applications, helping applicants understand what to expect. Authorities without these practices should consider adopting them to improve predictability and transparency, while retaining case-by-case decision-making.

### **Permissive by design**

The Licensing Act is designed to be enabling, not prescriptive. In line with good practice, many authorities are already taking a light-touch approach to regulating compliant and responsible businesses, focusing on supporting entrepreneurship, innovation, investment and customer experience. Licensing policies should be framed to encourage operators to demonstrate how they will manage risks to the licensing objectives to a reasonably practicable level, rather than imposing unnecessary constraints.

## **Proportionate and evidence-led decision-making**

Licensing decisions should be based on clear, relevant evidence and proportionate to the risks identified. This includes both specific risks (for example, noise complaints, crime hotspots) and broader contextual risks, such as the known prevalence of violence against women and girls (VAWG) in the night-time economy. Decisions to proceed to a hearing should also be evidence-led. The Taskforce made recommendations about hearings and appeals which the government will be examining in due course.

### **Avoiding blanket conditions**

Conditions must be tailored to the specific premises and risks and should not duplicate requirements under other regimes (for example, planning, fire safety, environmental

health, or Martyn's Law where applicable). Model conditions may be used as drafting aids but should not be defaults/prerequisites and risks creating a blanket regime by proxy. Where Cumulative Impact Assessment Policies are used, these should be evidenced-based, not blanket bans.

Licensing decisions should apply a necessary and proportionate approach. This means that any conditions or steps taken must be reasonable in relation to the risks identified without placing undue burden on the business. Modest, contributory measures may be appropriate where they support safer, more inclusive environments. Authorities should cite specific data, locality intelligence, or patterns linked to the premises or area.

## **Keeping licences specific and fit for purpose**

Some licensing authorities already take a proactive and pragmatic approach to keeping licences up to date and fit for purpose. This includes conducting regular visits to licensed premises and operating licence simplification processes that help remove outdated, unnecessary or overly restrictive conditions, particularly minor ones that no longer serve a clear purpose. Where conditions do contribute meaningfully to public safety or the licensing objectives, they should be retained.

Licensing should be enabling, not unnecessarily burdensome, and authorities are encouraged to take a light-touch approach when engaging with responsible operators. Simplification efforts should be collaborative, with licensees supported to demonstrate how they manage risks effectively, and with a focus on maintaining safe, well-regulated environments without unnecessary red tape.

## **Risk-based regulation**

Many licensing authorities already take a risk-based approach to licensing, focusing their efforts on addressing the most significant risks to the licensing objectives. However, some businesses report that this is not always the case. This framework supports and encourages a risk-based approach, recognising that most licensed premises operate responsibly and do not require intensive oversight.

In line with existing good practice, businesses should consider:

- targeted oversight – authorities should consider triaging premises visits and licensing decisions so that compliant, low-risk premises, including non-contentious Temporary Event Notices, are subject to a lighter-touch approach. This allows licensing teams to focus their resources on problem premises or locations, using graduated, problem-solving enforcement where issues persist. Where possible, visits and inspections should be co-ordinated, including licensing, environmental health, trading standards and planning
- smarter use of data – licensing authorities should make use of available data such as crime reports, complaints, ambulance demand, and licensing reviews to inform local policies and individual decisions. This evidence should be used to identify patterns, prioritise interventions, and support proportionate responses. Authorities should record concise reasons for any measures imposed, showing how they are evidenced, appropriate and proportionate to the specific risks identified
- business certainty – where consistent with local policy, evidence, and legal limits, authorities should look to grant longer-duration permissions, such as pavement licences, to provide greater certainty for businesses. Short-term or restrictive permissions should only be used where there is a clear legal or evidenced reason to do so

- light-touch for responsible operators – licensing should be permissive by design. Authorities should avoid unnecessary prescription and instead support operators to demonstrate how they are managing risks to the licensing objectives to a level that manages risks effectively and proportionately. This approach fosters innovation, reduces regulatory burden, and builds trust between regulators and businesses
- graduated enforcement – where issues arise, authorities should adopt a graduated response, starting with informal engagement and support, and escalating only where necessary. Enforcement should be proportionate, transparent, and focused on resolving problems rather than penalising businesses unnecessarily

This approach ensures that licensing remains focused, fair, and enabling – supporting responsible operators while maintaining public safety and confidence.

## Partnership working first

Many authorities are already aware that effective licensing depends on strong local partnerships, and there are many good examples. It is a matter of good practice that licensing authorities work collaboratively with planning teams, responsible authorities, businesses and communities to ensure that licensing decisions support wider local priorities and deliver safe, vibrant places to live, work, study, visit and invest. Licensing authorities should consider the following:

- strategic coordination with planning – licensing authorities should engage proactively with planning teams during plan-making and site allocation processes. Licensing policies should be aligned with Local Plans, Neighbourhood Plans, and regeneration strategies to avoid policy conflict and support coherent place-making. This includes applying the Agent of Change principle. It is important that licensing decisions do not undermine planning decisions, which take primacy.
- integration with neighbourhood planning – licensing committees should consider the aspirations of Neighbourhood Plans when determining applications. These plans reflect community priorities and can help guide licensing decisions that support local identity, cultural life, and economic development.
- alignment with mayoral strategies – where licensing authorities operate within areas covered by a Mayor or Mayoral Strategic Authority, they should have regard to the Mayor's strategic plan, including Local Growth Plans and cultural or night-time economy strategies. These plans set out long-term priorities for investment, regeneration and public safety, and licensing should support their delivery.
- early engagement and mediation – in line with the Section 182 guidance, authorities should encourage early dialogue between applicants, responsible authorities, and objectors before formal hearings or appeals are initiated. Mediation and informal resolution can reduce conflict, improve understanding, and lead to more constructive outcomes. If not already doing so, licensing teams may wish to offer facilitated pre-application discussions or mediation services where appropriate.
- collaborative problem-solving – licensing should be seen as a shared responsibility. Authorities are encouraged to work with businesses, community safety partnerships, public health teams, and cultural organisations to co-design solutions that manage risks while enabling growth and innovation.

- transparent and inclusive processes – partnership working should be underpinned by clear communication, shared evidence, and inclusive engagement. In line with existing good practice, authorities should ensure that all stakeholders, including residents, businesses, and community groups, have meaningful opportunities to contribute to licensing policy and decisions.

Licensing is most effective when it is embedded in a wider ecosystem of local governance and place-making. By prioritising partnership working, authorities can ensure that licensing supports safe, inclusive and economically resilient communities.

## High streets and communities

### The role of hospitality and leisure businesses

Hospitality and leisure businesses are central to creating safe, vibrant high streets and supporting community health and wellbeing. Licensed premises provide regulated spaces where people can socialise safely, reducing risks associated with unregulated environments. They also generate employment and offer inclusive spaces for communities to come together, strengthening social cohesion and contributing to mental and physical health.

While licensing applies only to licensable activities within licensed premises, many businesses voluntarily adopt measures that go beyond statutory requirements, demonstrating leadership in promoting safer streets and healthier communities. This should be recognised and commended.

### Tackling crime and anti-social behaviour

Licensed premises play a vital role in creating welcoming spaces for people to socialise. Good licensing authorities and operators are committed to tackling crime and anti-social behaviour and recognise that these risks need to be managed in a way that is reasonably practicable to ensure venues remain safe, inclusive, and enjoyable for all. The police play an important role, with dedicated licensing officers supporting and advising compliant businesses as well as taking necessary and proportionate action against irresponsible businesses to keep the public safe. In particular, the government recognises the contribution made by policing to the licensing regime.

The government is committed to reducing crime and anti-social behaviour, including halving incidents of violence against women and girls. The deployment of additional neighbourhood policing officers and staff will support these goals, alongside local partnership working.

Many operators already demonstrate strong leadership in this space, adopting a range of voluntary measures to promote safety and prevent harm. The government recognises and commends this good practice and encourages all operators to consider how they can contribute to safer environments. It is not the role of licensing officers to prescribe the adoption of voluntary schemes safety measures, unless there is clear evidence that such steps are necessary to promote the licensing objectives. However, authorities can encourage the uptake of good practice, particularly where it can help mitigate known or emerging risks.

Responsible operators should be supported to demonstrate how they are managing risks to the licensing objectives to a reasonably practicable level.

## Community health and wellbeing

Hospitality and leisure businesses are more than places to eat and drink, they are hubs of social life that underpin community cohesion. By creating safe, inclusive environments and supporting wellbeing initiatives, they contribute significantly to safer streets, healthier lifestyles and stronger communities. This is not only good for communities, it is good for business, particularly given the increasing demand for low and no-alcohol drinks and for more food-led and experiential hospitality.

Responsible licensed premises therefore play a positive role in protecting public health and supporting healthy communities. By providing regulated environments, they help reduce excessive alcohol consumption and prevent injuries or risky behaviours caused by intoxication, providing welcoming spaces that help address isolation and loneliness.

There are lots of examples of voluntary good practice, including supporting people to drink within the [UK's Chief Medical Officers' low risk drinking guidelines](#) of 14 units of alcohol per week spread over 3 or more days with several alcohol-free days each week, and promoting customer wellbeing, including:

- health-conscious offerings – expanding menus to include a range of low and no-alcohol beverages and healthy food options, providing customers with information to support informed decisions
- activity-led social experiences - hosting events such as live music, quiz nights, board games, and cultural evenings encourages social interaction that is not centred solely on alcohol consumption, helping to moderate drinking
- inclusive safe spaces for all – creating welcoming environments for families, non-drinking social groups, and individuals seeking alternative leisure options or just company
- partnerships with local organisations – collaborating with charities and health bodies to tackle loneliness and promote wellbeing – for example, coffee mornings for older residents or hosting community fitness classes. Additionally, engaging with local public health teams to understand local patterns of alcohol-related harm and explore joint intervention
- supporting government/sector-led/charity initiatives – many operators work closely with organisations such as Pub is the Hub, the Inn Crowd, and the Centre for Ageing Better, showing how the sector contributes to wider social goals, including tackling loneliness and isolation
- promoting low-risk drinking – to help create these inclusive environments, avoiding promotions that encourage excessive consumption, such as “all-you-can-drink” offers and supporting campaigns such as THINK! “Drink a Little, Risk a Lot” to highlight the dangers of drink driving. Operators should protect children by preventing underage sales and good operators should monitor and recognise the signs of intoxication so that they can intervene early

In line with the principles of proportionate regulation, these should not be mandated through licensing conditions. However, where licensed premises do not comply with their legal obligations and licence conditions, the government fully expects licensing authorities to take the appropriate action.

## **Monitoring, evaluation and review**

The government recognises the importance of monitoring the impact of the National Licensing Policy Framework. In response to the call for evidence, many stakeholders, particularly licensing authorities, emphasised the need to avoid creating new reporting burdens or resource impacts, especially given the non-statutory nature of this first iteration. While some respondents called for more robust monitoring, the prevailing view was that a proportionate, light-touch approach is appropriate at this stage.

Accordingly, the government will track the impact of this framework using existing data and feedback mechanisms, without introducing new reporting requirements. This will include stakeholder feedback on the framework's impact and data on on-trade premises, feeding into future iterations and informing whether further action is needed, including reserving the right to make it statutory.

Licensing authorities may, as part of their normal policy cycle, take a light-touch look at their own outcomes using data they already hold and routine feedback from responsible authorities, operators and communities. There should therefore be no impact on licensing authority resources.

The framework will be reviewed 6 months after publication to assess early impact and whether further clarification is needed. If the strategic steer is not having the intended effect on consistency, predictability and enabling growth alongside the licensing objectives, the government will consider options to strengthen the approach (for example, clearer expectations, examples or statutory changes) and engage further with partners. The framework is then likely to be subject to further periodic reviews.

As the framework develops, the government will work with stakeholders to consider whether a more detailed set of monitoring tools is needed, ensuring any future approach remains proportionate and evidence based.

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**26 November 2025**

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## City of London Corporation Committee Report

<b>Committee(s):</b> Licensing Committee – For Information	<b>Dated:</b> 05/02/2026
<b>Subject:</b> Delegated decisions of the Executive Director Environment pertaining to premises licences	<b>Public report:</b> For Information
<b>This proposal:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• delivers Corporate Plan 2024-29 outcomes</li> <li>• provides statutory duties</li> <li>• provides business enabling functions</li> </ul>	Dynamic Economic Growth, Providing Excellent Services, Vibrant Thriving Destination
<b>Does this proposal require extra revenue and/or capital spending?</b>	No
<b>If so, how much?</b>	N/A
<b>What is the source of Funding?</b>	N/A
<b>Has this Funding Source been agreed with the Chamberlain's Department?</b>	N/A
<b>Report of:</b>	Katie Stewart, Executive Director, Environment Department
<b>Report author:</b>	Robert Breese, Licensing Officer

### Summary

This report details the premises licences, and variations to premises licences, granted under the Licensing Act 2003 and administered by the Licensing Service from 1 September 2025 to 31 December 2025. It does not include any premises where Members have been involved in the decision-making process i.e. decisions made at Licensing Sub-Committee hearings.

The report also gives a summary of the enforcement action taken under the Licensing Act 2003, under the Police, Factories (Misc Provisions) Act 1916, and under the City of London (Various Powers) Act 1987 between 1 September 2025 to 31 December 2025. In addition, the report presents data from the 'traffic light' risk scheme introduced within the City of London on 1 April 2013. The data gives a view of the scheme between 1 July 2025 to 31 December 2025.

## **Recommendation(s)**

Members are asked to:

Note the report

### **Main Report**

1. Pursuant to the instructions from your Committee, I attach for your information lists detailing 'premises licence' applications (Appendix 1) and variations (Appendix 2) granted by the Licensing Service between 1 September 2025 to 31 December 2025. Each of these appendices contain details of any conditions attached to the premises licences.
2. The report also contains information appertaining to the number of personal licences issued and the number of pavement licences issued. This information is also contained in Appendix 2.
3. Any questions of detail concerning premises licences can be obtained from the Corporation's public register which can be found at:  
<https://www.cityoflondon.gov.uk/services/licensing/alcohol-and-entertainment/search-the-public-register> or by email to  
[licensing@cityoflondon.gov.uk](mailto:licensing@cityoflondon.gov.uk)
4. Licensing Officers often mediate throughout an application process to try and find a position where the licence grant works for all stakeholders. Pre-application advice can involve engagement by email, alongside coordinating site meetings with the police, environmental health and other responsible authorities. Officers will discuss all aspects of the application and potential amendments to the application to ensure compliance with both legislation and the City Corporation Licensing Policy. The significance of such mediation is in reducing the number of representations and avoiding the cost for all parties in having to attend a hearing.
5. Notable mediation in the period 1<sup>st</sup> September 2025 to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2025 included a new premises licence application at 125 London Wall. A pre-application site meeting was coordinated, involving the proposed licence holder and members of the City of London Licensing team and the City of London Environmental Health team. The application caused initial concern as it was for an event space in an area on the 18<sup>th</sup> floor that had a roof terrace in close proximity to Barbican residents. Various conditions were agreed which would include no music on the terrace, and doors and windows onto the terrace remaining shut at all times. Informal agreements were reached on no use of the terrace at all (and doors to the terrace secured) by 2300 hours daily. With just people noise escape from the terrace to consider, it was our position that the licence could be granted, agreed conditions attached, with confidence that doing so would not adversely impact the licensing objectives and would still allow the business to potentially thrive. A representation from a local resident was received early in the period for representations, and was withdrawn when they were made aware of more details about the application from the site visit and subsequent conditions agreed.

6. Licensing Officers undertake routine enforcement visits to check on premises licence conditions where there are concerns, e.g. closing times, compliance with Temporary Event Notices and managing numbers of people consuming alcohol outside venues, and in response to complaints. The Department's Policy Statement on Enforcement (<https://www.cityoflondon.gov.uk/assets/Business/policy-state-of-enforcement-25.pdf>) is followed prior to escalating action and taking legal proceedings.
7. The Statement on Enforcement conforms to the Regulators' Compliance Code and the regulatory principles required under the Legislative and Regulatory Reform Act 2006. It sets out the general principles and approach which Officers are expected to follow and addresses issues of proportionality, consistency, targeting, transparency and accountability.
8. This report outlines the enforcement activity of the Licensing Service in relation to premises with a licence granted under the Licensing Act 2003 from 1 September 2025 to 31 December 2025 (Appendix 3). This shows the number of visits undertaken, the number of enforcement actions taken, and the number of noise complaints received. Enforcement actions include warning letters, simple cautions, legal proceedings, and the total number of prosecutions in progress and completed.
9. Appendix 3 also includes data from 1 September 2025 to 31 December 2025 that details the response to intelligence and complaints relating to unauthorised street collections and unauthorised street trading. This data shows the number of visits undertaken and the number of enforcement actions in relation to these visits – warning letters, verbal advice given, and the total number of prosecutions in progress and completed.
10. Appendix 3a contains a detailed summary as to the outcome of any completed prosecutions as referenced in Appendix 3.
11. More widely, enforcement arrangements are currently coordinated at the Weekly Night-Time Economy partners meetings and are attended by representatives from all enforcement agencies. Joint visits are organised via this forum and subsequent reports are used to add to the top-level premises list that comprises those premises that have accrued the most points under the 'traffic light' risk scheme. These are then monitored by relevant enforcement officers.
12. This report details data produced from the 'traffic light' risk scheme between 1 July 2025 to 31 December 2025. Further details can be seen in Appendix 4.
13. There is a very good working relationship between the Port Health & Public Protection (PH&PP) Licensing Team, the City of London Police Licensing Team and the PH&PP Pollution Control Team, all of whom are based at the Guildhall. These relationships and lines of communication have been maintained with regards to remote working, and we have furthered our relationships with various stakeholders through Operation Reframe – a regular monthly collaborative partnership with numerous responsible authorities aimed at building trust and confidence in our work and creating safe spaces.

14. There are also other City Corporation Departments routinely involved in enforcement, including the City of London Planning team. Where it appears that a material change of use has occurred at a licensed premises, or there is a failure to comply with any condition attached to a planning permission or a breach of planning controls, officers from the Planning Department may take appropriate enforcement action.
15. The Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the City of London Police and the Environment Department agreed in November 2011 (when it was the Markets and Consumer Protection Department) outlines specific arrangements for cooperation between the teams.
16. Any complaints about licensed premises are dealt with by the relevant agency/team, e.g. crime and disorder – Police, fire safety – London Fire Brigade. As far as PH&PP are concerned, complaints relating to the conditions on a licence will be dealt with in the first instance by the Licensing Team, but if there are noise issues the Pollution Team will also be involved.
17. Investigations are undertaken and if there are grounds for a review of the licence in relation to the licensing objectives, then the responsible authorities can apply accordingly. In practice, potential applications are considered at the Licensing Liaison Partnership meetings, and agencies/authorities support one another in providing evidence and making applications.

## **Implications**

Corporate & Strategic Implications:

Strategic implications – None

Financial implications - None

Resource implications - None

Legal implications - None

Risk implications - None

Equalities implications – None

Climate implications - None

Security implications – None

## **Appendices**

- Appendix 1 – New Licence Applications issued between 1 September 2025 to 31 December 2025.

- Appendix 2 – Applications to vary a licence issued between 1 September 2025 to 31 December 2025.
- Appendix 3 - Enforcement Action carried out between 1 September 2025 to 31 December 2025 (including noise complaints received).
- Appendix 3a – Summary of Prosecutions carried out between 1 September 2025 to 31 December 2025.
- Appendix 4 (Non-Public) – Update on the risk scheme as of 31 December 2025.

## **Background Papers**

None

## **Robert Breese**

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## Appendix 1

### New Applications Issued by way of Delegated Authority (1 Sept 2025-31 Dec 2025)

Name	Address	Ward	Details
Savanna	Unit 51A Broadgate Link, EC2M 7PY	Bishopsgate	A <b>22:00</b>
Vagabond	Unit G31, 1 Broadgate, EC2M 2QS	Bishopsgate	A, L, (e) (f) <b>00:00</b>
Sandwich Shop Dal Fiorentino	20 - 23 Holborn, EC1N 2JD	Farringdon Without	A <b>19:30</b>
Worshipful Company of Distillers	Apothecaries' Hall, Black Friars Lane, EC4V 6ER	Farringdon Within	A <b>18:30</b>
The Derby London City Hotel	5 - 10 Great Tower Street, EC3R 5AA	Billingsgate	A L (b) (e) (f) (g) <b>01:00</b>
Mcdonalds	54 King William Street, EC4R 9AD	Candlewick	L <b>00:00</b>
S&W Partners	45 Gresham Street, EC2V 7QA	Bassishaw	A <b>23:00</b>
Techspace	9 - 13 St Andrew Street, EC4A 3AF	Farringdon Without	A, (b) <b>22:00</b>
Nando's	R4 West Mall, Liverpool St Station, EC2M 7PY	Bishopsgate	A, L <b>00:00</b>
Baring Asset Management	9th Floor, 20 Old Bailey, EC4M 7AN	Farringdon Within	A <b>23:00</b>
Kings Arms	55 Old Broad Street, EC2M 1RX	Bishopsgate	A, L (e) (f) (g) <b>00:00</b>
The Horsemen	Unit G32, 1 Broadgate, EC2M 2QS	Bishopsgate	A, L, (e), (f) <b>00:00</b>
The Lucky Goat	Bow Bells House, 1 Bread Street, EC4M 9BE	Cordwainer	A L (b) (e) (f) (g) <b>02:00</b>
Humble Grape	125 Old Broad Street, EC2N 1AR	Walbrook	A, L <b>01:00</b>
Huckletree	8 Bishopsgate, EC2N 4BQ	Bishopsgate	A <b>23:00</b>
Bloomsbury Leisure	21 Copthall Avenue, EC2R 7BS	Coleman Street	A <b>23:00</b>
Avery (shadow licence)	77 Gracechurch Street, EC3V 0AS	Langbourn	A, L, (e) (f) <b>00:00</b>
Farmer J	3 - 4 Old Broad Street, EC2N 1DW	Cornhill	A, L <b>00:00</b>
Five Iron	1 Finsbury Avenue, EC2M 2PF	Bishopsgate	A L (b) (e) (f) (g) <b>00:00</b>
Mezzanine Screening Room	40 Leadenhall Street, EC3A 2BJ	Aldgate	(b) <b>23:00</b>
Burlington Bertie	77A Leadenhall Street, EC3A 3DE	Aldgate	A <b>18:00</b>
Bancone	7 Prince's Street, EC2R 8AQ	Walbrook	A, L, (e) (f) <b>00:00</b>

9 Bars Coffee	59 Fleet Street, EC4Y 1JU	Castle Baynard	A, (e)	<b>21:00</b>
MV Revelry	Custom House, Billingsgate Moorings, EC3R 6EA	Billingsgate	A, L, (e), (f)	<b>01:00</b>
Level 9 Woolgate	25 Basinghall Street, EC2V 5HA	Bassishaw	A	<b>23:00</b>

**Total Licences Issued = 25**

Key to Details:

A Sale of Alcohol, L Late Night Refreshment, (a) Plays, (b) Films, (c) Indoor Sporting Events, (d) Boxing or Wrestling, (e) Live Music, (f) Recorded Music, (g) Performances of Dance

**Times stated are the latest terminal hour for at least one of the licensable activities.**

Number of Licences by Ward

**Aldgate 2**

**Bassishaw 2**

**Bishopsgate 7**

**Billingsgate 2**

**Candlewick 1**

**Castle Baynard 1**

**Coleman Street 1**

**Cordwainer 1**

**Cornhill 1**

**Farringdon Within 2**

**Farringdon Without 2**

**Langbourn 1**

**Walbrook 2**

## **Conditions Applied to Licences Granted by way of Delegated Authority**

### **Savanna**

1. The premises shall install and maintain a comprehensive digital colour CCTV system. All public areas of the licensed premises, including all public entry and exit points will be covered enabling facial identification of every person entering in any light condition. The CCTV cameras shall continually record whilst the premises are open to the public and recordings shall be kept available for a minimum of 31 days with date and time stamping. A staff member who is conversant with the operation of the CCTV system shall be present on the premises at all times when they are open to the public. This staff member shall be able to show the police or the Licensing Authority recordings of the preceding two days immediately when requested.
2. A Challenge 25 Scheme shall operate to ensure that any person attempting to purchase alcohol who appears to be under the age of 25 shall provide documented proof that he/she is over 18 years of age. Proof of age ID must bear a photograph, date of birth and a holographic mark or an ultraviolet feature.

### **Vagabond**

1. The premises shall install and maintain a comprehensive digital colour CCTV system. All public areas of the licensed premises, including all public entry and exit points and the street environment, will be covered enabling facial identification of every person entering in any light condition. The CCTV cameras shall continually record whilst the premises are open to the public and recordings shall be kept available for a minimum of 31 days with date and time stamping. A staff member who is conversant with the operation of the CCTV system shall be present on the premises at all times when they are open to the public. This staff member shall be able to show the police or the Licensing Authority recordings of the preceding two days immediately when requested.
2. Promoted events will not be held at the premises. A promoted event is an event involving music and dancing where the musical entertainment is provided at any time by a disc jockey or disc jockeys one or some of whom are not employees of the licensee (premises licence holder) and the event is (independent of the licensee) promoted to the general public.
3. A Challenge 25 Scheme shall operate to ensure that any person attempting to purchase alcohol who appears to be under the age of 25 shall provide documented proof that he/she is over 18 years of age. Proof of age ID must bear a photograph, date of birth and a holographic mark or an ultraviolet feature.

### **Sandwich Shop Dal Fiorentino**

1. The premises shall install and maintain a comprehensive digital colour CCTV system. All public areas of the licensed premises, including all public entry and exit points will be covered enabling facial identification of every person entering in any light condition. The CCTV cameras shall continually record whilst the premises are open to the public and recordings shall be kept available for a minimum of 31 days with date and time stamping. A staff member who is conversant with the operation of the CCTV system shall be present on the premises at all times when they are open to the public. This staff member shall be able to show the police or the Licensing Authority recordings of the preceding two days immediately when requested.
2. A Challenge 25 Scheme shall operate to ensure that any person attempting to purchase alcohol who appears to be under the age of 25 shall provide documented proof that he/she is over 18 years of age. Proof of age ID must bear a photograph, date of birth and a holographic mark or an ultraviolet feature.

3. A log shall be kept at the premises recording all refused sales of alcohol to persons under the age of 18, or appearing under the age of 25 without valid ID. This log shall be made available on request to the Police or an authorised officer of the City of London Corporation.

### **Worshipful Company of Distillers**

NONE

### **The Derby London City Hotel**

1. The premises shall install and maintain a comprehensive CCTV system. All public areas of the licensed premises, including all public entry and exit points (and excluding toilet areas) will be covered enabling facial identification of every person entering in any light condition. The CCTV cameras shall continually record whilst the premises are open to the public and recordings shall be kept available for a minimum of 31 days with date and time stamping. A staff member who is conversant with the operation of the CCTV system shall be present on the premises at all times when they are open to the public. This staff member shall be able to show the police or the Licensing Authority recordings of the preceding two days immediately when requested.
2. An incident log shall be kept at the premises and made available on request to the Police or an authorised officer of the City of London Corporation. The log shall record the following with the date and time of the incident/refusal:
  - (a) all alcohol related crimes reported to the management of the premises
  - (b) any alcohol related incidents of disorder
  - (c) any refusal of the sale of alcohol.
3. A Challenge 25 Scheme shall operate to ensure that any person attempting to purchase alcohol who appears to be under the age of 25 shall provide documented proof that he/she is over 18 years of age. Proof of age ID must bear a photograph, date of birth and a holographic mark or an ultraviolet feature, or any other form of identification as approved by the Secretary of State.
4. The supply of alcohol may be provided 24 hours a day to residents of the hotel and their bona fide guests.
5. Members of the public shall not have access to the premises after midnight save that this prohibition shall not apply to residents of the hotel and their bona fide guests.
6. Promoted events will not be held at the premises. A promoted event is an event where the musical entertainment is provided at any time by a disc jockey or disc jockeys one or some of whom are not employees of the licence holder, and the event is promoted to the general public independent of the licence holder.

### **Mcdonalds**

1. The premises shall install and maintain a comprehensive digital colour CCTV system. All public areas of the licensed premises, including all public entry and exit points will be covered enabling facial identification of every person entering in any light condition. The CCTV cameras shall continually record whilst the premises are open to the public and recordings shall be kept available for a minimum of 31 days with date and time stamping. A staff member who is conversant with the operation of the CCTV system shall be present on the premises at all times when they are open to the public. This staff member shall be able to show the police or the Licensing Authority recordings of the preceding two days immediately when requested.

2. Prominent signage shall be displayed at all exits from the premises requesting that customers leave quietly.
3. The number of door supervisors shall be determined by a risk assessment completed by the licence holder. A copy of the risk assessment shall be retained on the premises and made available for inspection by a police officer and/or an authorised officer of the licensing authority on request.

### **S&W Partners**

1. Licensable activities will be restricted to employees and invited guests of the premises licence holder.
2. The premises shall install and maintain a comprehensive digital colour CCTV system. The cameras will cover entry and exit points to the premises which will enable facial identification of every person entering in any light condition. The CCTV cameras shall continually record, and recorded images shall be kept available for a minimum of 31 days with date and time stamping. A staff member who is conversant with the operation of the CCTV system shall always be present on the premises when licensable activities take place. This staff member shall be able to show the police or Licensing Authority recordings of the preceding two days immediately when requested.
3. There shall be no sale of alcohol in unsealed containers for consumption outside of Levels 4 & 5, 45 Gresham Street.
4. A Challenge 25 Scheme shall operate to ensure that any person attempting to purchase alcohol who appears to be under the age of 25 shall provide documented proof that he/she is over 18 years of age. Proof of age ID must bear a photograph, date of birth and a holographic mark or an ultraviolet feature.

### **Techspace**

1. Alcohol shall only be sold to members, people who work, have offices or hot-desk at the premises, their bona fide guests, ticket holders or invited guests whose names appear on a guest list. Events shall not be open to members of the general public on a walk-in basis.
2. The premises shall install and maintain a comprehensive digital colour CCTV system. All public entry and exit points will be covered enabling facial identification of every person entering in any light condition. The CCTV cameras shall continually record whilst the premises are open to the public and recordings shall be kept available for a minimum of 31 days with date and time stamping. A staff member who is conversant with the operation of the CCTV system shall be present on the premises at all times when they are open to the public. This staff member shall be able to show the police or the Licensing Authority recordings of the preceding two days immediately when requested.
3. Prominent signage shall be displayed at all exits from the premises requesting that customers leave quietly.
4. A Challenge 25 Scheme shall operate to ensure that any person attempting to purchase alcohol who appears to be under the age of 25 shall provide documented proof that he/she is over 18 years of age. Proof of age ID must bear a photograph, date of birth and a holographic mark or an ultraviolet feature.
5. A log shall be kept at the premises recording all refused sales of alcohol to persons under the age of 18, or appearing under the age of 25 without valid ID. This log shall be made available on request to the Police or an authorised officer of the City of London Corporation.

### **Nando's**

1. The premises shall install and maintain a comprehensive digital colour CCTV system. All public areas of the licensed premises, including all public entry and exit points will be covered enabling facial identification of every person entering in any light condition. The CCTV cameras shall continually record whilst the premises are open to the public and recordings shall be kept available for a minimum of 31 days with date and time stamping. A staff member who is conversant with the operation of the CCTV system shall be present on the premises at all times when they are open to the public. This staff member shall be able to show the police or the Licensing Authority recordings of the preceding two days immediately when requested.
2. A Challenge 25 Scheme shall operate to ensure that any person attempting to purchase alcohol who appears to be under the age of 25 shall provide documented proof that he/she is over 18 years of age. Proof of age ID must bear a photograph, date of birth and a holographic mark or an ultraviolet feature.

### **Baring Asset Management**

1. The premises shall install and maintain a comprehensive CCTV system. The cameras will cover all public areas of the premises. The CCTV cameras shall continually record, and recorded images shall be kept available for a minimum of 31 days with date and time stamping. A staff member who is conversant with the operation of the CCTV system shall always be present on the premises when licensable activities take place and the premises is open to the public. This staff member shall be able to show the police or Licensing Authority recordings immediately or download images when requested.
2. Licensable activities will be restricted to employees and invited guests of the premises licence holder.
3. A Challenge 25 Scheme shall operate to ensure that any person attempting to purchase alcohol who appears to be under the age of 25 shall provide documented proof that he/she is over 18 years of age. Proof of age ID must bear a photograph, date of birth and a holographic mark or an ultraviolet feature.

### **Kings Arms**

1. The premises shall install and maintain a comprehensive CCTV system. The CCTV cameras shall continually record whilst the premises are open to the public. Recordings shall be kept available for a minimum of 31 days with date and time stamping, and made available to the Police or Licensing Authority on request.
2. Speakers shall not be located in the entrance lobby or anywhere outside the premises, including the garden area at the rear of the premises.
3. Prominent signage shall be displayed at all exits from the premises requesting that customers leave quietly.
4. A Challenge 21 Scheme shall operate to ensure that any person attempting to purchase alcohol who appears to be under the age of 21 shall provide documented proof that he/she is over 18 years of age. Proof of age ID must bear a photograph, date of birth and a holographic mark or an ultraviolet feature.

### **The Horsemen**

1. The premises shall install and maintain a comprehensive digital colour CCTV system. All public areas of the licensed premises, including all public entry and exit points and the street environment, will be covered enabling facial identification of every person entering in any light condition. The CCTV cameras shall continually record whilst the premises are open to the public and recordings shall be kept available for a minimum of 31 days with date and time stamping. A staff member who is conversant with the operation of the CCTV system shall be present on the premises at all times when they are open to the public. This staff member shall be able to show the police or the Licensing Authority recordings of the preceding two days immediately when requested.
2. Promoted events will not be held at the premises. A promoted event is an event involving music and dancing where the musical entertainment is provided at any time by a disc jockey or disc jockeys one or some of whom are not employees of the licensee (premises licence holder) and the event is (independent of the licensee) promoted to the general public.
3. A Challenge 25 Scheme shall operate to ensure that any person attempting to purchase alcohol who appears to be under the age of 25 shall provide documented proof that he/she is over 18 years of age. Proof of age ID must bear a photograph, date of birth and a holographic mark or an ultraviolet feature.
4. All external doors, lobby doors and windows shall be kept closed after 2300 hours save for entry or exit, or in the event of an emergency.
5. Speakers shall not be located in the entrance lobby or anywhere outside the premises.

### **The Lucky Goat**

1. The premises shall install and maintain a comprehensive digital colour CCTV system. All public areas of the licensed premises, including all public entry and exit points will be covered enabling facial identification of every person entering in any light condition. The CCTV cameras shall continually record whilst the premises are open to the public and recordings shall be kept available for a minimum of 31 days with date and time stamping. A staff member who is conversant with the operation of the CCTV system shall be present on the premises at all times when they are open to the public. This staff member shall be able to show the police or the Licensing Authority recordings of the preceding two days immediately when requested.
2. The number of door supervisors shall be determined by a risk assessment completed by the licence holder. A copy of the risk assessment shall be retained on the premises and made available for inspection by a police officer and/or an authorised officer of the licensing authority on request.
3. There shall be a minimum of one SIA registered door staff deployed at venue from 21:00 on any day the premises will remain open beyond midnight for the sale of alcohol.
4. An incident log shall be kept at the premises and made available on request to the Police or an authorised officer of the City of London Corporation. The log shall record the following with the date and time of the incident/refusal:
  - (a) all crimes reported to the venue
  - (b) all ejections of customers
  - (c) all refusals of entry
  - (d) all refused sales of alcohol
5. Promoted events will not be held at the premises. A promoted event is an event where the musical entertainment is provided at any time by a disc jockey or disc jockeys one or some of whom are not employees of the licence holder, and the event is promoted to the general public independent of the licence holder.

6. A noise management plan shall be in place to identify how noise arising from all sources of noise including regulated entertainment, plant, pa systems and patrons shall be effectively controlled so as to minimise the risk of public nuisance and how any complaints of noise will be dealt with. A copy of the plan shall be retained on the premises and made available for inspection by a police officer and/or authorised officer of the licensing authority on request.
7. All external doors, lobby doors, and windows shall be kept closed after 23:00 save for entry or exit, or in the event of an emergency.
8. A written dispersal policy shall be in place and implemented at the premises to move customers from the premises and the immediate vicinity in such a way as to cause minimum disturbance or nuisance to neighbours. A copy of the policy shall be retained on the premises and made available for inspection by a police officer and/or authorised officer of the licensing authority on request.
9. Prominent signage shall be displayed at all exits from the premises requesting that customers leave quietly.
10. A Challenge 25 Scheme shall operate to ensure that any person attempting to purchase alcohol who appears to be under the age of 25 shall provide documented proof that he/she is over 18 years of age. Proof of age ID must bear a photograph, date of birth and a holographic mark or an ultraviolet feature.
11. Children under the age of 18 years shall not be allowed on the premises after 21:00 hours unless accompanied by an adult.

### **Humble Grape**

1. The premises shall install and maintain a comprehensive digital colour CCTV system. All public areas of the licensed premises, including all public entry and exit points, will be covered enabling facial identification of every person entering in any light condition. The CCTV cameras shall continually record whilst the premises are open to the public and recordings shall be kept available for a minimum of 31 days with date and time stamping. A staff member who is conversant with the operation of the CCTV system shall always be present on the premises when they are open to the public. This staff member shall be able to show the police or Licensing Authority recordings of the preceding two days immediately when requested.
2. Promoted events will not be held at the premises. A promoted event is an event where the musical entertainment is provided at any time by a disc jockey or disc jockeys one or some of whom are not employees of the licence holder, and the event is promoted to the general public independent of the licensee.
3. Prominent signage shall be displayed at all exits from the premises requesting that customers leave quietly.
4. There shall be no sale of alcohol in unsealed containers for consumption off the premises, save that consumption is permitted at tables and chairs in an external area benefitting from a pavement or tables and chairs licence and during times permitted as per that licence.

### **Huckletree (Bishopsgate)**

1. The premises shall install and maintain a comprehensive digital colour CCTV system. All public areas of the licensed premises, including all public entry and exit points will be covered enabling facial identification of every person entering in any light condition. The CCTV cameras shall continually record whilst the premises are open to the public and recordings shall be kept

available for a minimum of 31 days with date and time stamping. A staff member who is conversant with the operation of the CCTV system shall be present on the premises at all times when they are open to the public. This staff member shall be able to show the police or the Licensing Authority recordings of the preceding two days immediately when requested.

2. Prominent signage shall be displayed at all exits from the premises requesting that customers leave quietly.
3. A Challenge 25 Scheme shall operate to ensure that any person attempting to purchase alcohol who appears to be under the age of 25 shall provide documented proof that he/she is over 18 years of age. Proof of age ID must bear a photograph, date of birth and a holographic mark or an ultraviolet feature.

### **Bloomsbury Leisure**

1. The premises shall install and maintain a comprehensive digital colour CCTV system. All public areas of the licensed premises, including all public entry and exit points will be covered enabling facial identification of every person entering in any light condition. The CCTV cameras shall continually record whilst the premises are open to the public and recordings shall be kept available for a minimum of 31 days with date and time stamping. A staff member who is conversant with the operation of the CCTV system shall be present on the premises at all times when they are open to the public. This staff member shall be able to show the police or the Licensing Authority recordings of the preceding two days immediately when requested.
2. Promoted events will not be held at the premises. A promoted event is an event where the musical entertainment is provided at any time by a disc jockey or disc jockeys one or some of whom are not employees of the licence holder, and the event is promoted to the general public independent of the licensee.
3. Prominent signage shall be displayed at all exits from the premises requesting that customers leave quietly.
4. A Challenge 25 Scheme shall operate to ensure that any person attempting to purchase alcohol who appears to be under the age of 25 shall provide documented proof that he/she is over 18 years of age. Proof of age ID must bear a photograph, date of birth and a holographic mark or an ultraviolet feature.

### **Avery (shadow licence)**

1. The Licence Holder may not provide licensable activities at such a time as the designated area, shown on the submitted plan, is also being used by another operator for licensable activities.
2. This licence may not be used to provide licensable activity unless the Licensing Authority and Police are informed of the intention to use it, by the licence holder, at least 14 days prior to use.
3. When the licence is in use for licensable activities and the summary is displayed no other licence summary will be displayed at the same time.
4. All external doors and windows shall remain closed during regulated entertainment, except for access and egress or in an emergency.
5. No persons under the age of 16 are to be allowed in the bar area.

### **Farmer J**

1. The premises shall install and maintain a comprehensive digital colour CCTV system. All public areas of the licensed premises, including all public entry and exit points and the street environment, will be covered enabling facial identification of every person entering in any light condition. The CCTV cameras shall continually record whilst the premises are open to the public and recordings shall be kept available for a minimum of 31 days with date and time stamping. A staff member who is conversant with the operation of the CCTV system shall be present on the premises at all times when they are open to the public. This staff member shall be able to show the police or the Licensing Authority recordings of the preceding two days immediately when requested.
2. Promoted events will not be held at the premises. A promoted event is an event where the musical entertainment is provided at any time by a disc jockey or disc jockeys one or some of whom are not employees of the licensee (premises licence holder) and the event is (independent of the licensee) promoted to the general public.

### **Five Iron**

1. The premises shall install and maintain a comprehensive digital colour CCTV system. All public areas of the licensed premises, including all public entry and exit points and the street environment, will be covered enabling facial identification of every person entering in any light condition. The CCTV cameras shall continually record whilst the premises are open to the public and recordings shall be kept available for a minimum of 31 days with date and time stamping. A staff member who is conversant with the operation of the CCTV system shall be present on the premises at all times when they are open to the public. This staff member shall be able to show the police or the Licensing Authority recordings of the preceding two days immediately when requested.
2. Promoted events will not be held at the premises. A promoted event is an event involving music and dancing where the musical entertainment is provided at any time by a disc jockey or disc jockeys one or some of whom are not employees of the licensee (premises licence holder) and the event is (independent of the licensee) promoted to the general public.
3. All external doors, lobby doors and windows shall be kept closed after 2300 hours save for entry or exit, or in the event of an emergency.
4. Speakers shall not be located in the entrance lobby or anywhere outside the premises.
5. A Challenge 25 Scheme shall operate to ensure that any person attempting to purchase alcohol who appears to be under the age of 25 shall provide documented proof that he/she is over 18 years of age. Proof of age ID must bear a photograph, date of birth and a holographic mark or an ultraviolet feature.

### **Mezzanine Screening Room**

1. Films will only be shown to persons working at 40 Leadenhall Street, their bona fide guests or persons attending a private pre booked function.

### **Burlington Bertie**

1. The premises shall install and maintain a comprehensive digital colour CCTV system. All public areas of the licensed premises, including all public entry and exit points, will be covered enabling facial identification of every person entering in any light condition. The CCTV cameras shall continually record whilst the premises are open to the public and recordings shall be kept available for a minimum of 31 days with date and time stamping. A staff member who is conversant with the operation of the CCTV system shall always be present on the premises when

they are open to the public. This staff member shall be able to show the police or Licensing Authority recordings of the preceding two days immediately when requested.

2. The sale of super-strength beer, lagers, ciders, or spirit mixtures with an Alcohol by Volume (ABV) of 6.5% or higher will not be permitted on the premises, with the exception of premium beers and ciders supplied in glass bottles.
3. No more than 15% of the sales area may be utilized at any given time for the sale, display, or exposure of alcohol.
4. A Challenge 25 Scheme shall operate to ensure that any person attempting to purchase alcohol who appears to be under the age of 25 shall provide documented proof that they are over 18 years of age. Proof of age ID must bear a photograph, date of birth and a holographic mark or an ultraviolet feature.
5. A log shall be kept at the premises detailing all refused sales of alcohol to persons under the age of 18, or appearing under the age of 25 without valid ID. This log will include the date and time of the refusal and shall be made available on request to the Police or an authorised officer of the City of London Corporation.

### **Bancone**

1. The premises shall install and maintain a comprehensive digital colour CCTV system. All public areas of the licensed premises, including all public entry and exit points and the street environment, will be covered enabling facial identification of every person entering in any light condition. The CCTV cameras shall continually record whilst the premises are open to the public and recordings shall be kept available for a minimum of 31 days with date and time stamping. A staff member who is conversant with the operation of the CCTV system shall be present on the premises at all times when they are open to the public. This staff member shall be able to show the police or the Licensing Authority recordings of the preceding two days immediately when requested.
2. Promoted events will not be held at the premises. A promoted event is an event involving music and dancing where the musical entertainment is provided at any time by a disc jockey or disc jockeys one or some of whom are not employees of the licensee (premises licence holder) and the event is (independent of the licensee) promoted to the general public.
3. A Challenge 25 Scheme shall operate to ensure that any person attempting to purchase alcohol who appears to be under the age of 25 shall provide documented proof that he/she is over 18 years of age. Proof of age ID must bear a photograph, date of birth and a holographic mark or an ultraviolet feature.
4. Speakers shall not be located in the entrance lobby or anywhere outside the premises.

### **9 Bars Coffee**

1. The premises shall install and maintain a comprehensive digital colour CCTV system. All public areas of the licensed premises, including all public entry and exit points, will be covered enabling facial identification of every person entering in any light condition. The CCTV cameras shall continually record whilst the premises are open to the public and recordings shall be kept available for a minimum of 31 days with date and time stamping. A staff member who is conversant with the operation of the CCTV system shall always be present on the premises when they are open to the public. This staff member shall be able to show the police or Licensing Authority recordings of the preceding two days immediately when requested.

2. A Challenge 25 Scheme shall operate to ensure that any person attempting to purchase alcohol who appears to be under the age of 25 shall provide documented proof that he/she is over 18 years of age. Proof of age ID must bear a photograph, date of birth and a holographic mark or an ultraviolet feature.
3. A log shall be kept at the premises detailing all refused sales of alcohol to persons under the age of 18, or appearing under the age of 25 without valid ID. This log will include the date and time of the refusal and shall be made available on request to the Police or an authorised officer of the City of London Corporation.

### **MV Revelry**

1. The premises will install and maintain a comprehensive digital colour CCIV system. All public areas of the licensed vessel, including all public entry and exit points, will be covered enabling facial identification of every person entering in any light condition. The CCTV cameras shall continually record whilst the vessel is open to the public and recordings shall be kept available for a minimum of 31 days with date and time stamping. A staff member who is conversant with the operation of the CCTV system shall always be present on the vessel when they are open to the public. This staff member shall be able to show the police or Licensing Authority recordings of the preceding two days immediately when requested.
2. Promoted events shall be notified to the Police at least 10 days in advance of the event by way of a documented risk assessment by the licence holder. A promoted event is an event where the musical entertainment is provided by persons other than the licence holder or an employee of the licence holder, and the event is promoted to the general public independent of the licensee.
3. An incident log shall be kept on the licensed vessel and made available on request to the Police or an authorised officer of the Licensing Authority. The log shall record the following with the date and time of the incident/refusal:
  - (a) all crimes reported to the venue
  - (b) all ejections of customers
  - (c) all refusals of entry
  - (d) all refused sales of alcohol to persons under the age of 18, or appearing under the age of 25 without valid ID
  - (e) any incidents of disorder (disturbance caused either by one person or a group of people)
  - (f) any seizures of drugs or offensive weapons.
4. There shall be no speakers/loudspeakers located on the outside deck area.
5. Amplified music or regulated entertainment shall not take place whilst the vessel is moored or stationary at any pier.
6. All doors, windows and any roofs shall remain closed at all times except for access or egress to the decks and to/from the vessel.
7. All music and digital announcements shall be controlled through a digital sound processing unit (DSP) with a limiter, the limits for which shall be set and maintained at a level agreed with environmental health. The sound limiter controls shall be kept locked and only accessed by the licensee or a person authorised by the licence holder.
8. A Challenge 25 Scheme shall operate to ensure that any person attempting to purchase alcohol who appears to be under the age of 25 shall provide documented proof that he/she is over 18 years of age. Proof of age ID must bear a photograph, date of birth and a holographic mark or an ultraviolet feature.

9. A comprehensive safety announcement will be made at the beginning of each function before departure giving customers the locations of safety equipment.
10. A written dispersal policy shall be in place and implemented on the vessel to move customers from the vessel and the immediate vicinity from any dock/pier where embarkation/disembarkation occurs. This will be managed in such a way as to cause minimum disturbance or nuisance to neighbours. A copy of the policy shall be retained on the premises and made available for inspection by a police officer and/or authorised officer of the licensing authority on request.
11. A noise management plan/policy shall be in place to identify how noise arising from all sources of noise including regulated entertainment, plant, pa systems and patrons shall be effectively controlled so as to minimise the risk of public nuisance and how any complaints of noise will be dealt with. A copy of the plan shall be retained on the vessel and made available for inspection by a police officer and/or authorised officer of the licensing authority on request.
12. Notices shall be prominently displayed on all exterior decks and at all exits requesting guests to respect the needs of local residents and businesses when using the exterior decks and when leaving the area.

#### **Level 9 Woolgate**

1. The sale or supply of alcohol shall only be to invited guests or to persons who have pre-booked to attend a function at the premises.
2. A Challenge 25 Scheme shall operate to ensure that any person attempting to purchase alcohol who appears to be under the age of 25 shall provide documented proof that he/she is over 18 years of age. Proof of age ID must bear a photograph, date of birth and a holographic mark or an ultraviolet feature

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## Appendix 2

### Licence Variations Issued by way of Delegated Authority (1 Sept 2025-31 Dec 2025)

Name	Address	Ward	Details
The Anthologist	58 Gresham Street, EC2V 7BB	Walbrook	Variation to add films as a licensable activity.
The Refinery	1 Ropemaker Street. EC2Y 9AW	Coleman Street	Variation to add films as a licensable activity.
Hogan Lovells International LLP	50 Holborn Viaduct, EC1A 2FG	Farringdon Without	Variation to add an additional licensed area on level 2.
The Listing	27 Bush Lane, EC4R 0AN	Dowgate	Variation to add recorded music as a licensable activity.
Pitcher & Piano	Pitcher & Piano, 28 Cornhill, EC3V 3ND	Langbourn	Variation to increase the terminal hour for licensable activities by one hour to 03.00 (Monday to Sunday).
Eadn	2 Old Change Court, EC4M 8EN	Bread Street	Variation to change plans after refurbishment.
The Hoop & Grapes	80 Farringdon Street, EC4A 4BL	Farringdon Within	Variation to change layout of premises including an increase in the area for licensable activities. Removal of condition restricting children on the premises after 2100 hours.
Humble Grape	St Mary Le Bow Church, Cheapside, EC2V 6AU	Cordwainer	Variation to change layout and add off sales of alcohol.

**Total Number of Variations Issued = 8**

Number of Licences by Ward

**Bread Street 1, Coleman Street 1, Cordwainer 1, Dowgate 1, Farringdon Within 1, Farringdon Without 1, Langbourn 1, Walbrook 1**

## **Conditions Added to Licences Granted by way of Delegated Authority**

### **The Anthologist**

NONE

### **The Refinery**

NONE

### **Hogan Lovells LLP**

NONE

### **The Listing**

1. All music shall be controlled through a digital sound processing unit (DSP) with a limiter, the limits for which shall be set and maintained at a level agreed with the City of London Environmental Health team. The sound limiter controls shall be kept locked and only accessed by the licence holder or a person authorised by the licence holder.
2. The ground floor terrace shall be closed to customers after 2200 hours daily.
3. All external doors, lobby doors, terrace doors and windows shall be kept closed after 2200 hours save for entry or exit, or in the event of an emergency.

### **Pitcher & Piano**

NONE

### **Eadn**

NONE

### **The Hoop & Grapes**

NONE

### **Humble Grape**

NONE

## **Personal Licences Issued by way of Delegated Authority**

1 September 2025 to 31 December 2025

**1**

## **Pavement Licences Issued by way of Delegated Authority**

1 September 2025 to 31 December 2025

**109**

### Enforcement Action Carried out Under the Licensing Act 2003 1 September 2025 to 31 December 2025

Between 1<sup>st</sup> June and 31<sup>st</sup> August 2025 there were 49 pro-active inspections of the 982 licensed premises currently in the City of London. From these visits 27 premises were informally advised and 3 received a warning letter relating to minor breaches found at the premises. Compliance with licensing conditions and the Code of Good Practice remains high. An overview of the figures are as below:

**Total Number of Inspections: 49    Number of Warning Letters: 3    Number of Premises advised: 27    Number of simple cautions: 0**

**Number of suspension notices: 2    Licences lapsed/surrendered: 15 \*    Prosecutions in progress: 1    Prosecutions completed: 0**

\*Licences are deemed lapsed in circumstances where the licence holder no longer exists e.g. a company has gone into liquidation.

### Enforcement Action Carried out Under The Police, Factories (Misc Provisions) Act 1916 1 September 2025 to 31 December 2025

**Total Number of Inspections: 4    Number of Warning Letters: 0    Verbal advice: 0**

**Prosecutions in progress: 2    Prosecutions completed: 3 ([details in appendix 3a](#))**

### Enforcement Action Carried out Under the City of London (Various Powers) Act 1987/London Local Authorities Act 1990 1 September 2025 to 31 December 2025

**Total Number of Inspections: 271    Number of Warning Letters: 1    Verbal advice: 270**

**Prosecutions in progress: 2    Prosecutions completed: 3 ([details in appendix 3a](#))**

## Noise complaints received between 01/09/2024 and 31/12/2025

Total number of complaints: 19

NAME	ADDRESS	WARD	COMPLAINT DETAILS	TYPE	DATE AND TIME	OUTCOME
Patch	58-62 Carter Lane	Farringdon Within	Complaint about regular disturbance from drunken behaviour, shouting, broken glasses, and vomit in the street between the hours of 2200 hours and 0000 hours. This takes place most weeks between Thursday and Saturday	PEOPLE NOISE	01-September-2025 08:33	Informally Resolved
Patch	58-62 Carter Lane	Farringdon Within	Complaint about loud music and talking coming from Patch	MUSIC AND PEOPLE NOISE	06-September-2025 22:46	Informally Resolved
Patch	58-62 Carter Lane	Farringdon Within	Complaint about loud noise coming from people outside premises	PEOPLE NOISE	14-September-2025 00:24	Informally Resolved
Patch	58-62 Carter Lane	Farringdon Within	Complaint from local resident about people making noise outside premises	PEOPLE NOISE	21-November-2025 00:09	Informally Resolved
Patch	58-62 Carter Lane	Farringdon Within	Complaint from local resident about people making noise outside premises	PEOPLE NOISE	07-December-2025 22:10	Informally Resolved
The Black Parrot	8 Bride Court	Castle Baynard	Complaint from resident above about loud music from premises	MUSIC NOISE	03-September-2025 22:52	Informally Resolved
The Refinery	CityPoint, 1 Ropemaker Street	Coleman Street	Complaint from resident in Moor Lane about loud music coming from premises	MUSIC NOISE	13-September-2025 23:30	Informally Resolved
The Refinery	CityPoint, 1 Ropemaker Street	Coleman Street	Complaint from resident about loud music and noise coming from this premises in CityPoint Plaza	MUSIC NOISE	02-October-2025 20:45	Informally Resolved

The Refinery	CityPoint, 1 Ropemaker Street	Coleman Street	Complaint from resident about loud music ongoing emanating from premises	MUSIC NOISE	02-October-2025 21:23	Informally Resolved
Samuel Pepys	Stew Lane	Queenhithe	Complaint from resident about loud music coming from the Samuel Pepys	MUSIC NOISE	20-September-2025 22:18	Informally Resolved
Samuel Pepys	Stew Lane	Queenhithe	Complaint from resident about loud music coming from the Samuel Pepys	MUSIC NOISE	04-December-2025 21:39	Informally Resolved
Ye Olde Cheshire Cheese	145 Fleet Street	Castle Baynard	Complaint about loud music emanating from premises	MUSIC NOISE	02-October-2025 21:39	Informally Resolved
Origin City	12 West Smithfield	Farringdon Without	Complaint from resident about loud music from speakers inside the roof	MUSIC NOISE	10-October-2025 19:27	Informally Resolved
Origin City	12 West Smithfield	Farringdon Without	Complaint from resident about loud music from speakers inside the roof	MUSIC NOISE	04-December-2025 21:26	Informally Resolved
Seething Lane Tap	14-15 Seething Lane	Tower	Complaint from resident about loud music ongoing	MUSIC NOISE	23-October-2025 22:40	Informally Resolved
Teapsy Project	28 Chancery Lane	Farringdon Without	Complaint from resident about loud music emanating from premises with doors wide open	MUSIC NOISE	31-October-2025 22:40	Advice/Information Only
Mattarello Restaurant	3 Middlesex Street	Portsoken	Complaint from resident about loud music ongoing	MUSIC NOISE	06-November-2025 22:41	Informally Resolved
Proud	4 Minster Pavement	Billingsgate	Complaint from local resident about dispersal noise from Proud	PEOPLE NOISE	07-December-2025 04:31	Informally Resolved
Gazette Chancery	20-21 Tooks Court	Farringdon Without	Complaint from local resident about thumping noise coming from premises	MUSIC NOISE	10-December-2025 23:44	Informally Resolved

#### Key to Outcomes

**Advice/Information Only** - for use when we have given a complainant advice only.

**Informally Resolved** – when we have taken action and a matter has been resolved without formal action.

**Notice Served**

**Prosecution Successful**

**Referred to Other Authority**

**Referred to Other Department**

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## Appendix 3a

### Prosecution Outcomes

**1 September 2025 – 31 December 2025**

**Police Factories Act 1916 – illegal street collections  
City of London (Various Powers) Act 1987 – illegal street trading**

<b>Location</b>	Outside Cannon Street Station, South East Side of London Bridge
<b>Collector / Trader</b>	We R Blighty
<b>Offences</b>	<p>The City of London Corporation brought further legal proceedings against We R Blighty C.I.C. for the unlawful collection of money and unlawful street trading.</p> <p>The offences, committed on 6 March 2025, 8 April 2025 and 15 May 2025, are summarised as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Collecting money for the benefit of the charitable or other purposes without a permit, contrary to s5(1) Police, Factories 7. C. (misc. Provisions) Act 1916</li> <li>- Selling or offering for sale a magazine from several locations without a licence, contrary to s15 and 16 of the City of London (Various Powers) Act 1987</li> </ul>
<b>Details of offences</b>	Mr Ben Mills, one of the company directors, and We R Blighty had 6 offences each – 2 for each of the dates. Ms Vidler, also a company director, had 5 as we only pursued her for one offence on 6 March 2025.
<b>Court Hearing</b>	<p><b>These offences were heard in the City of London Magistrates Court on 5 November 2025. The company directors, Mr Ben Mills and Ms Danielle Vidler, pleaded guilty to all offences brought against them and pleaded guilty to the offences on behalf of the C.I.C.</b></p> <p><b><u>Outcome was as below:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Individual fines:</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>6th March 2025</b> <p><b>Mr Mills - £80</b>  <b>Ms Vidler - £60</b>  <b>WRB - £400</b></p> </li> <li>- <b>8th April 2025</b> <p><b>Mr Mills - £80</b>  <b>Ms Vidler - £80</b>  <b>WRB - £400</b></p> </li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- <b>15 May 2025</b></li><li><b>Mr Mills - £80</b></li><li><b>Ms Vidler - £80</b></li><li><b>WRB - £400</b></li></ul> <p><b><u>Total fines/costs:</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- <b>Mr Mills was fined £240, Ms Vidler was fined £220, and WRB was fined £1200.</b></li><li>- <b>Victim surcharge and legal costs:</b> <b>Victim surcharge and legal costs were only applied to the company, so the company was ordered to pay a victim surcharge of £480 and legal costs of £1500. So, in total WRB was ordered to pay £3180.</b></li><li>- <b>Total to pay for all offences:</b> <b>Mr Mills - £240</b> <b>Ms Vidler - £220</b> <b>WRB - £3180</b></li></ul>
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# Agenda Item 14

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# Agenda Item 15

By virtue of paragraph(s) 7 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A  
of the Local Government Act 1972.

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By virtue of paragraph(s) 7 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A  
of the Local Government Act 1972.

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# Agenda Item 16

By virtue of paragraph(s) 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A  
of the Local Government Act 1972.

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