

Committee(s)	Dated:
Licensing Safer City Partnership	16 th October 2019 27 rd November 2019
Subject: Mapping and Assessing the City's Night Time Economy – The Way Forward	Public
Report of: Director of Markets and Consumer Protection	For Decision
Report author: Peter Davenport - Licensing	

Summary

The Markets and Consumer Protection Department commissioned the services of Safer Sociable London Partnership (SSLP) to carry out a mapping and analysis of the Night-time Economy (NTE) in the City of London to provide an evidence base for the development of policy, strategy, interventions and the targeting of resources.

The insight provided, when considered alongside the existing framework of the City's partnerships, Traffic Light Scheme and Safety Thirst initiative will ensure that the City's NTE remains well managed but also that the City's NTE is a place that workers, residents and visitors want to spend time in a safe environment with minimal disruption to residents.

This committee report outlines the proposed actions to be taken by the Licensing team in order to address the recommendations of the NTE report. The actions centre around the areas of cumulative impact, the advent of Crossrail, city of London drinking culture and the collection of data for analysis.

Recommendation(s)

Members are asked to:

1. Agree the actions to be taken by the Licensing Team outlined in paragraphs 8,9,10,14,18 and 19 of this report.
2. Note that a further report will be submitted to the next Licensing Committee with an update of the progress made against the proposed actions.

Main Report

Background

1. In July 2018 the City engaged SSLP who are an independent social purpose consultancy focused on preventing health harms through public health approaches. SSLP focus mostly on alcohol related harm and how it can be prevented through strategic approaches. SSLP were asked to use their expertise and carry out an analysis and mapping of the Nighttime Economy (NTE) within the City of London.
2. The final report was received in May 2019 and consists of an analysis of data taken from a variety of sources including observational data taken from SSLP's observations of 30 premises. These were selected utilising existing intelligence from partners in the City and the City of London Police.
3. A copy of this report was presented to this Committee for information on 16 July 2019.
4. The report made four recommendations namely:
 - Consider conducting a Cumulative Impact Assessment (CIA) for the Liverpool Street area or the Bishopsgate ward.
 - Consider preparations for increased passenger flows at the Liverpool Street/Farringdon Stations as a result of Crossrail.
 - Working to address the drinking culture within the NTE.
 - Consider joint approaches to collecting, analysing and utilising data between teams in the City of London and City of London Police (CoLP).
5. The Licensing Service has now had the opportunity to analyse the report and suggests a number of actions to address the findings of the NTE report.

Proposed Actions

Cumulative Impact Assessment (CIA)

6. Cumulative Impact is the potential impact on the promotion of the licensing objectives of a significant number of licensed premises concentrated in one area.
7. A licensing authority can publish a CIA to help limit the number or types of licence applications granted where there is evidence showing that the number or density of premises in an area is having a cumulative impact and leading to problems which are undermining the licensing objectives.
8. There must be an evidential basis for a Licensing Authority to publish a CIA. Much of that information can be found in the NTE report but the Licensing Service will supplement this evidence by:

- An analysis of premises to be able to exclude those premises that are not seen as problematical e.g. offices, premises with a terminal hour prior to mid-night etc. This will assist in exploring the correlation between crime and disorder and certain types of venues.
 - Establishing trends in licence applications/variations over the past three years.
 - Examining trends in changes to the terminal hour of premises.
 - An analysis of the capacities of premises and expected concentration of drinkers at various hours throughout the night.
 - Ascertain the correlation, if possible, between the number of door staff present at each venue and the number of crime and disorder incidents.
 - The production a series of heat maps showing a combination of licensed premises and incidents for each ward and the City as a whole
9. Following discussions with the CoLP information obtained by them during the following exercises will also be taken into consideration:
- Proposed CCTV data from their mobile vehicle unit which will be collect data in and around the Liverpool Street/Bishopsgate area on a Thursday, Friday and Saturday night.
 - Exercise to establish the extent of cocaine use and its link with anti-social behaviour.
10. In addition to the above we will look at other tools available and those used to design out crime i.e.
- The use of improved lighting in high incident areas and examine the effect this has on those incidents occurring.
 - Increased Safety Thirst membership in high incident areas as indicative data shows a potential correlation between membership and low number of crime or public nuisance.
 - Following the consideration of a Public Spaces Protection Order (PSPO) for use during large public events and the possibility of using this tool in high incident areas.
11. If the above actions suggest a need for a CIA a survey will need to be carried out. The survey will be conducted on those persons who are normally consulted on the production of a Licensing Policy (these are broadly in line with responsible authorities), and anyone else that is felt necessary.
12. The current Licensing Policy has a section on cumulative impact (Chapter 12). This does not amount to a CIA but states that the cumulative impact of granting a licence can be taken into consideration whether or not a CIA is in existence.

Preparations for Increased Passenger Flows

13. The advent of Crossrail is likely to increase the number of persons in the Liverpool Street/Bishopsgate area. The improved transport hub is likely to increase the number of persons visiting licensed premises and potentially adding to the issues identified in the NTE report.

14. In order to prepare for increased passenger flows this service will:
- Wherever possible establish current, and forecast future, passenger footfall for specific identified points around Liverpool Street Station.
 - Discuss with stakeholders the expected effect this will have on the NTE
 - Look into establishing a 'Stress Area' as opposed to a CIA.
15. A stress area is, essentially, an informal CIA and has no legal standing. The presumption is always to grant a licence unlike an application in a CIA where the presumption is to refuse. However, action plans can be developed to closely monitor a stress area with extra resources if necessary being used.
16. Criteria can be set as to the steps a premises must take if applying within a stress area and failure to take these steps would lend a licensing authority to take the view that the application if granted, would undermine one or more of the licensing objectives. In these circumstances the licensing authority would make a representation objecting to the granting of a licence and the matter would go to a hearing.
17. The setting of a stress area, or indeed a CIA, would result in a revision to the licensing policy and the subsequent consultation and authorisation.

Addressing the drinking culture

18. In order to address the perceived or otherwise drinking culture the Licensing Team will:
- Present the NTE report to a wide range of stakeholders in order to further analyse the ways in which the drinking culture can be addressed if necessary.
 - Establish working relationships with the Public Health Team and the Business Healthy Group.
 - Look at ways in which the traffic light scheme can be amended to assist if possible.

Collection of data

19. In order to streamline the way, and format, in which data is collected this service will:
- Establish a working relationship with SafeStats and use information gained to feed into our decision-making process.
 - Examine ways in which data is recorded by CoLP and other stakeholders and establish a uniform data collection protocol.
 - With data being received from a number of stakeholders the use of a standard protocol may not be possible. In these circumstances steps will be taken to record all data in a format that can be readily available.
 - Use further software tools wherever possible, such as PowerBI, to produce a dashboard summarising the available data which is regularly maintained.

Corporate & Strategic Implications

20. Supporting the City of London Corporate Plan 2018 to 2023 by contributing to all three key aims of a flourishing society, supporting a thriving economy and shaping outstanding environments.

Conclusion

21. The City now has a collated evidence base on which to build. The further actions will allow for greater opportunity for development of policy, strategy, interventions and the targeting of resources. It has increased the understanding of the issues and challenges a vibrant NTE brings and in doing so will inform for better management of the NTE.

Appendices

None

Background Papers

Safe Sociable London Partnership – City of London Night-time Economy Review 2019.

Peter Davenport

Licensing Manager

T: 020 7332 3227

E: peter.davenport@cityoflondon.gov.uk