

Safety Thirst vs LSAVI and Best Bar None

	Safety Thirst	LSAVI	Best Bar None
Background	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Safety Thirst is a local award scheme unique to the City of London Corporation. • The scheme, first introduced in 2006, is now running in its 18th year with 72 participant venues. • It is highly regarded by CoL licensees who are keen to participate and to improve their level of accreditation. • Over the years, an element of healthy competition has developed amongst the licensees, each striving to be the best in the City. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LSAVI is a national award scheme that has been developed by the Police Service via Police Crime Prevention Initiatives (PCPI). • The scheme was launched in March 2021, and it is not known how many venues actively participate. • It is a central scheme and licensees can complete the self-assessment irrespective of whether the licensing authority has adopted the scheme 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Best Bar None is a national award scheme. • The scheme was first piloted by Greater Manchester Police in 2003 and currently has 40 active local authority memberships across the country. • Licensing Authorities must join the scheme and roll out to venues in their area. • There is also a central scheme that allows individual premises to apply for accreditation where a local scheme does not operate.
Support / Sponsorship	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The scheme is developed and managed in-house by CoL Licensing Team with support from Safer City Partnership and City of London Police. • There is a local coordinator to guide and support premises in achieving accreditation. • It is fully funded through the CoL Late Night Levy. • The scheme is fully endorsed by Licensing Committee 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supported by the Home Office, National Police Chiefs' Council and Project Servator • The scheme is administered by a central LSAVI team with no local input by licensing authorities. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supported by the Home Office and the drinks industry, with its main sponsors being Diageo, Heineken and Pernod Ricard. Associate sponsors are Stonegate Pub Co., JD Wetherspoons. Ei Group, Mitchells and Butlers and Asahi UK. There is a national coordinator available to guide and support authorities with their adopted scheme. • Costs in setting up and administering the scheme would need to be funded locally.

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Partnership	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local level: City of London Licensing Authority, Safer City Partnership, City of London Police, London Fire Brigade 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local level: Licensing and Police authorities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local level: Licensing, Police and Fire authorities in areas where scheme has been adopted. National level: Drinkaware, Home Office, National Pubwatch, ALMR, Portman Group, SIA, BII, CAP, PASS.
Aims	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To reduce alcohol related crime and disorder at licensed premises, to provide a safer environment for customers and reduce problems for those who live or work nearby. Encourages applicants to reach high operational standards and continuous improvement by adopting responsible management approach and promotion of good practice. Encourages collaboration between licensed trade, police and local authority. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To reduce crime and the fear of crime and to create safe and secure licensed premises 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To reduce alcohol related crime and disorder and reducing harmful effects of binge drinking at licensed premises. Encourages positive relationship between licensed trade, police and local authority.
Participants	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Open to all licensed premises 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Open to all licensed premises 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Open to all licensed premises.
Engagement with licensees	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CoLC and CoLP officers are familiar with licensees, venue managers, area managers. Participation is encouraged through partnership working. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> PCPI marketing team and social media 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participation encouraged by licensing and police authorities at local level
Cost	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Free 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> £100 per application 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Free
Timeline	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Set by CoLC to coincide with LNL year 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Application can be made at any time – may clash with LNL year 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Flexible – can be set to coincide with LNL year

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Criteria	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bespoke local criteria based on the four licensing objectives, CoL licensing policy, CoL corporate policies, national guidance or standards from Police, CTSA, Fire, HSE, SIA on matters related to licensed premises Criteria is reviewed each year and revised based on current matters and feedback from stakeholders. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> National set of criteria some of which may not be applicable to City of London Criteria based on licensing objectives and national guidance from Home Office, Police, CTSA, Fire, HSE, SIA 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> National set of criteria some of which may not be applicable to City of London. Criteria based on licensing objectives and national guidance from Home Office, Police, CTSA, Fire, HSE, SIA
Assistance to applicants	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Safety Thirst applicant toolkit to assist applicants in meeting criteria - sets out examples of best practice that can be adopted. CoL Code of Good Practice for licensed premises available to applicants. Self-assessment toolkit available for all licensees irrespective of whether they participate in accreditation scheme. They can use this to improve management and operational practices at their venue with advice offered by CoLC and CoLP. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Following the completion of a self-assessment, a report is generated setting out areas for improvement and directing the applicant to approved sites for obtaining best practice and information The applicant can then use this self-assessment to apply for accreditation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> National level: a scoring booklet and assessor guide is provided to applicants Local level: any guidance would have to be developed at local level. National level policy and procedure templates available via BBN coordinator.
Assessment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Questions structured to ensure consistency in gathering evidence irrespective of who carries out the assessment (licensing authority or police officer). Assessor form provides clear guidance to the assessor on what the answer should be. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Self-assessment is confidential and will only be shared with LA / Police at the licensee's discretion. If the licensee applies for accreditation, the self-assessment is shared with LA / Police to verify responses and this may be followed up with a site visit to discuss responses. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Some criteria can only be assessed by an officer with experience in that field eg. determining whether an adequate fire detection system is in place can only be done by a fire officer. Some of the criteria have very open-ended answers which could lead to discrepancies in evidence gathering. Assessments

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			need to be carried out jointly between licensing authority, fire authority and/or police. CoL doesn't have these resources available.
Evidence Base	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The assessing officer can ask to see evidence on any of the criteria. This might in the form of physical evidence eg notices displayed, or documented evidence eg. training records 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The only evidence required to be submitted with the self-assessment is age verification process. Assumption that when LA / Police visit as part of accreditation they can ask for evidence of anything else 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assessing officer can request evidence for any of the criteria.
Scoring	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> An applicant must meet all the core standards to achieve the basic level of accreditation. Additional points are awarded where the applicant has demonstrated measures in excess of the basic requirements. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There are no core or essential standards. An applicant will receive an overall score based on questions answered. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> An applicant must meet all essential criteria to pass. There are also desirable and bonus criteria that can be achieved.
Accreditations / Awards ceremony	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Awards given at 3 levels: Pass, Commended, Highly Commended with an overall winner. All scores are moderated at LLP where local knowledge is applied to ensure that problematic premises are not inappropriately accredited. Traffic light scheme RAG rating is considered Informal awards ceremony, free to attend – CoLC bears the cost 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Awards given on a star-rating 1-5 LSAVI is set to auto-approve an accreditation request after 30 days if not actioned No awards ceremony 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Category Winners and overall winners. Scores are moderated by a panel of stakeholders (eg LLP) where local knowledge can be applied Usually a formal black-tie event, with a cost to be borne by applicant.

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Benefits for accredited premises	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Framed award certificate to be displayed at premises • 30% discount to any accredited venue paying the late night levy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Star rating award logo to be displayed at premises • National rating, Home Office and Police endorsed • Can be used to give 30% discount to any accredited venue paying the late night levy. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Accreditation plaque to be displayed at premises • Home Office endorsed • Can be used to give 30% discount to any accredited venue paying the late night levy.
Benefits for licensing authority and partner authorities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The scheme is fully managed by CoLC • It is run in conjunction with the LNL year so premises are assessed and accredited before each levy year commences. • Local knowledge and guidance are given to applicants as part of the application process • Responses to questions are accurate as these are elicited from the applicant during the onsite assessment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The scheme is independent of the licensing authority and partner authorities. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The scheme can fully managed by CoLC • It can be run in conjunction with the LNL year so premises are assessed and accredited before each levy year commences. • Local knowledge and guidance can be given to applicants as part of the application process • Responses to questions will be accurate as these would be elicited from the applicant during the onsite assessment • It is a nationally endorsed accreditation scheme
Disbenefits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not recognised outside of the City 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Licensees might place too much weight on a national accreditation and lose focus of local issues • As part of self-assessment licensees might be advised to do things differently than CoLC / CoLP would advise • Answers to questions rely on the honesty of the applicant 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Some local issues might not be addressed.