

**Progress against Licensing Service Priorities 2023/24**

Licensing Service Priorities 2023/24	Summary of progress during 2023/24
<p>Attain stakeholder/industry engagement to support business friendly licensing, promote the City’s Night Time Economy, and attract new business to the City.</p>	<p>A number of stakeholder engagement events were delivered and attended during the year, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Mansion House Hospitality and Alcohol Trades Roundtable</li> <li>• Spring and Autumn City of London Police Licensing Forums</li> <li>• The Institute of Licensing Annual Conference</li> <li>• GLA Business Friendly Licensing Workshops</li> <li>• Ward Cluster Panels</li> <li>• City of London Annual Residents Meeting</li> <li>• Operation Reframe</li> <li>• Many individual contacts and engagements with all City stakeholders – residents; workers; internal departments, such as the Destination City Team; and businesses.</li> </ul>
<p>Review the City of London’s pool of model conditions to provide a consistent approach by specifying appropriate and enforceable conditions that can be included on the grant of a premises licence.</p>	<p>The City of London’s pool of model conditions for licensing applications underwent a full review. The revised version was approved by the Licensing Committee in February 2024 and is now published and in use.</p>
<p>Implement the provisions of the Levelling-Up and Regeneration Bill in respect of the Business and Planning Act 2020, and a permanent pavement licence regime.</p>	<p>This workstream was carried forward into 2024/25. The government further extended the temporary scheme through the Business and Planning Act 2020 (Pavement Licences) (Coronavirus) (Amendment) Regulations 2023 (the 2023 amendment regulations) until 30 September 2024.</p>

## Appendix A

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<p>Review the City of London's Al Fresco Eating and Drinking Policy following permanency of the pavement licence regime.</p>	<p>This workstream was carried forward into 2024/25.</p> <p>On 31 March 2024, the government commenced the pavement licensing provisions laid out in the Levelling Up and Regeneration Act 2023. The provisions introduce a permanent pavement licensing regime in England to replace the temporary provisions introduced by the Business and Planning Act 2020. This permanent regime retains the key features of the 2020 regime, intended to streamline processing and reduce costs, but also incorporates some changes to ensure the long-term sustainability of the model.</p> <p>The new Al-Fresco Policy, fees and conditions necessary to implement the permanent provisions are being developed during Spring 2024 and will be presented to committee in July 2024.</p>
<p>Ensure that Destination City Team integrates the City's licensed trade into its events.</p>	<p>The Destination City and Licensing teams meet monthly. Reciprocal presentations have been given on the work of both teams to aid understanding and facilitate opportunities for collaboration.</p> <p>The Destination City Team has launched the first destination brand, visitor facing website with a hospitality promotion offer. They have revitalised digital channels giving the opportunity to promote the City's cultural attractions, heritage, hotels and food and drink offer.</p> <p>In addition to regular person contact with premises, the Licensing Team sends a monthly events list to the trade to ensure all venues and are aware of upcoming events, enabling them to plan.</p>
<p>Review the Licensing pages of the City of London website to ensure up-to-date and accurate information is available to users.</p>	<p>The City of London's Licensing webpages were refreshed as key information has changed. However, a more detailed review and update has been included in the work programme for 2024/25.</p>
<p>Deliver on the implementation of the Idox/Uniform licensing module. Idox is the back-office software that underpins the management of the Licensing Service.</p>	<p>Officers worked extremely hard on the implementation of the Idox system which has gone live despite a number of challenges.</p> <p>Several workstreams have been taken into the 2024/25 work programme, including the integration of the Public Access function and the use of Forms to replace 'GOV'.</p>

## Appendix A

<b>Licensing Service Priorities 2023/24</b>	<b>Summary of progress during 2023/24</b>
Relaunch the Safety Thirst accreditation scheme, realigned with the new Licensing Code of Good Practice.	The Safety Thirst Scheme has been refreshed, updated and aligned with the new Code of Practice. The scheme was formally relaunched in February 2024 with a media release. Applications were open until the end of May 2024, following which, assessments were carried out and scoring and moderation completed. The awards ceremony is scheduled for July 2024.
Determine the financial implications for licensing income generally and determine annual fees for each of the licensing categories.	Annual fees determinations were carried out for Sexual Entertainment Venues; Gambling; Massage and Special Treatment Premises; and Pavement Licences. These were reported to the relevant Committees for decision.