

### 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.

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.