

CUMULATIVE IMPACT POLICY

It is not proposed to set quotas for particular types of licences. Applications will be considered on their individual merit thus ensuring that the characteristics of the many different types of licensed activity are fully considered. If crime and disorder or general disturbance/nuisance does prove to be linked to the concentration of customers of licensed premises or activities in these or any other particular areas, then it may be necessary to seek controls over the issue of new licences through a 'Cumulative Impact Policy'.

It would first be necessary to establish that, because of the number and density of licensed premises in a particular area, there are exceptional problems of nuisance, disturbance and/or disorder outside or away from those licensed premises as a result of their combined effect. Where particular premises are identifiable as being responsible for the problems, action will be taken against them.

Before deciding whether to adopt a Cumulative Impact Policy, the Council must be sure that the imposition of individual conditions to particular premises would not solve the problem. The Council has a duty under Section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 to do all that it reasonably can to prevent crime and disorder.

In the Guidance issued under the Act there are four steps specified to be followed in considering whether to adopt a Cumulative Impact Policy:

- Identification of serious and chronic concern from a responsible Authority or representatives of residents about nuisance or disorder.
- Assessment of causes.
- Where it can be demonstrated that disorder and nuisance is arising as a result of customers of licensed premises, identifying the area from which problems are arising and the boundaries of that area.
- Adopting a policy about future licence applications from that area.

The Licensing Committee will keep any Cumulative Impact Policy under review and modify or remove it, as considered appropriate.

As detailed above the Council recognises that because of the number of and density of licensed premises selling alcohol and/or Late Night Refreshment in particular areas there might be exceptional problems of nuisance, disturbance and/or disorder outside or away from those licensed premises as a result of their combined effect. In these cases it may be necessary to seek controls over the issue of new licences through a 'Cumulative Impact Policy'.

The Licensing Authority is now of the view that in these areas this is causing cumulative impact and designates these areas as Cumulative Impact Zones. The details of the policy specific to each area are described below.

The effect of the Cumulative Impact Policy is to create a **rebuttable** presumption that applications in respect the licensable activities detailed below for new Premises Licences, Club Premises Certificates or Provisional Statements and applications for variations of existing Premises Licences, Club Premises Certificates (where the modifications are relevant to the issue of cumulative impact for example increases in hours or capacity) where the premises are situated in one of the Cumulative Impact Zones will be refused.

To rebut this presumption the applicant would be expected to show through the operating schedule and where appropriate with supporting evidence that the operation of the premises will not add to the cumulative impact already being experienced. This policy does not act as an absolute prohibition on granting new licences in the Cumulative Impact Zones.

The Cumulative Impact Policy will not be used to revoke an existing licence or certificate and will not be applicable to the review of existing licences.

Wednesfield CIZ

