

APPENDIX B – CONSULTATION RESPONSES

Responses
Chief Inspector 1797 Ian Lombardo, Operational Support, Cambs 01.09.2025 Constabulary has made the following comment: “I’m happy that in the training section it makes reference to the Businesses Against Abuse scheme.
Sgt Rob Streater – NPT St Neots 02.09.2025 All looks good
St Ives Town Council 14/08/2025 Our Planning Committee discussed the Licensing Policy Consultation in their meeting yesterday. We would like to thank the District Council for including our views on the matter and wish to express no objections to the draft policy as set out by your Licensing Department.
Louise Gratton – Trading Standards 27.08.2025 I can confirm that we have received the below email regarding the review of Huntingdonshire District Council’s Statement of Licensing Policy. We have no comments to make in relation to this review
Home Office 29.07.2025 Thank you for informing us of your Licensing Policy review. We do not currently have a response
Public Health 03.09.2025

Date: 03/09/2025

Our Ref: DO / KP

Email:

HealthinAllPolicies@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

Huntingdonshire District Council Licensing
Authority

By email: licensing@huntingdonshire.gov.uk

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Dear Licensing Authority

**Licensing Act 2003 – Huntingdonshire District Council Draft Statement of Licensing
Policy 7 January 2026 – Consultation response**

Thank you for your recent communication regarding the consultation on the statement of licensing Policy for Huntingdonshire District Council. As you will be aware, since April 2013 Directors of Public Health (DPH) have been included as Responsible Authorities under the Licensing Act 2003. The role of the DPH is to help promote the health and wellbeing of the local populations they serve. Promotion of the licencing objectives, which collectively seek to protect the quality of life for those who live and work in the vicinity of licensed premises and those who socialise in licensed premises, is an important contribution to this.

Please find below our comments on the draft policy for your consideration. These comments have been formulated in part by public health guidance.

3. Other Legislation, Strategies and Guidance

Public health recommends that this section also reference health and wellbeing strategies that align with the licensing objectives. These include the Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy, which prioritises reducing health inequalities. Licensing decisions can support these aims by promoting responsible alcohol retailing and creating safer environments. We also suggest referencing the Public Health Strategi Plan and the NHS Long Term Plan, which includes commitments to reduce alcohol-related hospital admissions and improve access to treatment. Licensing policy can contribute to these goals through evidence-based decision making and partnership working.

7. Women's safety and wider vulnerability (Page 6)

We welcome this section with a specific focus on staff training and would recommend trauma-informed approaches to customer care. The public health team strongly supports the inclusion of schemes such as "Ask for Angela" as part of a wider strategy to reduce vulnerability and promote safety in licensed premises. These initiatives contribute to the prevention of violence against women and girls and support mental wellbeing by offering

reassurance and practical help in potential harmful situations.

Drink spiking is a serious public health concern with both physical and psychological consequences. We welcome the Government's announcement in November 2024 that drink spiking will become a criminal offence and recommend this is referenced in the policy. [Crime and Policing Bill: spiking factsheet \(MoJ\) - GOV.UK](#) . We support the implementation of proactive measures such as drink covers, bottle stoppers and visible signage to raise awareness. These steps help reduce the risk and promote a culture of safety and responsibility.

We encourage the development of a local protocol for reporting and sharing data on drink spiking incidents between licensed premises, police and public health teams, to support targeted prevention efforts.

8. Cumulative Impact and Special Policies (Page 8)

Paragraphs 8.3-8.5 demonstrate good practice enabling CIZs to be imposed as a separate policy, if required and based on evidence. However, we recommend that if a special policy is developed the policy explicitly encourages the use of multi-source public health data including Local Alcohol Profiles for England, ambulance call-outs, A&E attendances and alcohol treatment service data, to inform decisions on Cumulative Impact Zones.

Section 8.7-8.8 We support the acknowledgement of 'Other mechanisms for controlling cumulative impact' stated in this section.

Section 8.16 We support the inclusion of the Public Spaces Protection Order (PSPOs) and that the current PSPOs in Huntingdonshire are listed. We suggest clarifying whether the entire area of Eynesbury is covered by the PSPO and recommend including a map or link to the PSPO boundaries for transparency.

15. Licensing Objectives (Page 14)

Whilst the licensing objectives are addressed in the Sections 16-19 we would suggest that they are explicitly referenced in Section 15 so it is clearer to applicants to address these areas.

E.g. The following sections set out the Licensing Authority's Policy relating specifically to the four licensing objectives

- The prevention of crime and disorder (Section 16)
- Public Safety (Section 17)
- The prevention of public nuisance (Section 18)
- The protection of children from harm (Section 19)

We have seen examples of other policies where additional guidance is included in this section for applicants and would recommend that the policy either includes this guidance or a supplementary guidance document is provided for applicants highlighting effective operational procedures that address the licensing objectives. Some examples of this are laid out in the sections below.

16. Prevention of crime and disorder (page 15)

When addressing the issue of crime and disorder, the applicant should demonstrate that those factors that impact on crime and disorder have been considered and could include:

- Underage drinking
- Drunkenness on premises
- Public drunkenness
- Drugs
- Violent behaviour
- Anti-social behaviour
- Alcohol pricing and marketing

The following are good examples of management practices to assist applicants:

- Training and supervision of staff.
- Best practice guidance e.g. licensing trade voluntary codes of practice, including those related to drink promotions.
- Acceptance of “proof of age” cards e.g. PASS, UK Driving licences.
- Provision of effective CCTV in and around premises.
- Employment of security and licensed door supervisors.
- Provision of toughened or plastic drinking vessels.
- Membership of local “Pubwatch” schemes or similar organisations.

17. Public Safety (page 15)

The following are examples of good management practice to assist applicants when preparing their operational schedules. Similar to the above with the following additions:

- Suitable risk assessments.
- Provision of sufficient number of employees or security staff.
- Proof of regular testing and measures to protect against spiking.

19. The protection of children from harm (page 16)

The following are examples of good management practices to assist applicants when preparing their operational schedules:

- Appropriate training and supervision of those employed to secure and protect children from harm.
- Adoption of best practice guidance e.g. Licensing trade voluntary codes of practice

- and responsible drinks promotions avoiding binge drinking.
- Avoid alcohol branding that is targeted at young people such as alcopops.
- Limitations to the hours that children may be present.
- Acceptance of Proof of Age card schemes.
- Measures that children do not purchase, acquire or consume alcohol.

22. Conditions (page 19)

Section 22.1 We support the inclusion of mandatory conditions as an appendix to improve accessibility and understanding for applicants and enforcement officers.

<https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukdsi/2014/9780111116906>

Appendix A – Responsible Authorities

Please can you update the Public Health contact email in Appendix A to:

HealthinAllPolicies@cambridgeshire.gvo.uk.

Conclusion

Public Health welcomes the opportunity to contribute to this consultation and commends the Licensing Authority for producing a comprehensive and forward-thinking policy. We look forward to continued collaboration to ensure that licensing decisions support the health and wellbeing of our communities.

Yours sincerely



Dallas Owen (Senior Public Health Manager – Health in All Policies)

**On behalf of,
Sally Cartwright, Director of Public Health**