



LICENSING ACT 2003 CONSULTATION: **BABERGH DISTRICT COUNCIL - STATEMENT OF LICENSING POLICY**

Babergh District Council has produced a fully revised draft 'Statement of Licensing Policy' - which will now be subject to a period of consultation. The first local Policy was published in January 2005. In line with the current statutory 3-yearly review requirements, the third version of the policy will, once adopted, be effective from January 2011.

What is the 'Statement of Licensing Policy'?:

The Council is required to produce a Statement of Licensing Policy under the Licensing Act 2003 and the purpose of the Statement of Licensing Policy is to:

- ❑ inform the elected Members serving on the Licensing Committee of the parameters within which licensing decisions can be made;
- ❑ inform applicants, residents and businesses of the parameters within which the Council will make licensing decisions;
- ❑ inform residents and businesses about how the Council will make licensing decisions;
- ❑ provide a basis for decisions made by the Council if these decisions are challenged in a court of law.

This revised draft takes into account relevant amendments to the legislation and the Central Government Guidance issued under section 182 of the 2003 Act as re-published in March 2010.

How do I comment and what should I consider?

The revised draft of the Statement of Licensing Policy is available to view via the Council website at www.babergh.gov.uk (follow the links through 'Business', 'Licensing and Registration', and then 'Licensing Act 2003 – Information and Guidance'). If you would prefer a hard copy then please contact the Licensing Team directly.

Please feel free to make any comments or suggestions regarding any aspect of the policy. It would also be helpful if you could make reference to the particular section(s) of the policy that relate to your response.

Please ensure that any response you make clearly includes your full name, address and any persons/organisation/business name you are responding on behalf of (if applicable).

Your response should be submitted in writing either by post or e-mail, and contact details are to be found at the foot of this notice. You may wish to consider how specific parts of the policy could impact on you or your business/organisation directly, or how the policy may impact in more general terms.

When can I comment?

The twelve week period during which the draft policy document is open to stakeholder and full public consultation commences **Monday 02 August 2010** and written representations should be received no later than **Monday 25 October 2010**. All responses received during this period will be considered by elected members of the Council and the policy may be revised accordingly.

Statutory consultees and persons previously registering an interest in being part of the consultation process will be receiving a copy of the draft policy shortly. If you are aware of any person you think may be interested in receiving a copy of the draft policy, then please advise them to contact the Licensing Team (Tel: 01473 826664 or 826658) or view the Council website. If any interested person has any special requirements in accessing the policy then we will do our utmost to assist them upon request.

Contact details for response:

Your written response should be directed by post to:

**Licensing Team, Natural & Built Environment Division, Babergh District Council,
Corks Lane, Hadleigh, IPSWICH, Suffolk IP7 6SJ**

Alternatively if you would prefer to respond electronically then please direct your e-mail to:

licensingsection@babergh.gov.uk

The Government department responsible for Licensing Act 2003 matters is the Department for Culture, Media & Sport (DCMS), although recently the new coalition government has outlined plans for this to change to the Home Office, and they have information on licensing available on their website www.culture.gov.uk. Some general advice on the licensing laws is also available on the Council website.

Details of the consultation period will be sent to all parish and town Councils in the district and public libraries.

Please note we will not be able to consider any responses received after the closing date of the consultation period.

Thank you for your attention.



Licensing Team
Babergh District Council

