

Proposed changes to the current Licensing Policy Statement

There are some changes that the Council is proposing to make to the current Licensing Policy Statement.



Below are details of:

- The section of the Policy we are proposing changes.
- An explanation of what the old Policy said.
- A summary of what the new policy will say.

Paragraph 1.8 of the main document.

This will be updated with the latest Census figures. The Census tells us details of Sefton's population.



Paragraph 1.11 of the main document.

What the old policy said.



There have been a number of studies in recent times relating to the night-time economy, particularly in relation to the “classic” resort status of Southport, these have helped shape Sefton’s vision for developing a sustainable pattern of licensing, as expressed in 1.14 below.

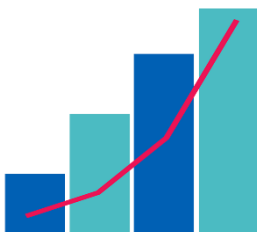


(The night-time economy is where people may socialise on an evening, perhaps going to the theatre, or a restaurant or pub.)

What the new policy says.



Sefton’s profile is reflected by statistics that show over 75% of the jobs in the borough are in the service sector and an adaptable and skilled workforce, that have an acknowledged excellent labour relations record.



(Statistics are numbers and facts about something.)

Paragraph 1.13 of the main document.

What the old policy said.



Southport Business Improvement District funds two regulated Taxi Marshalls every Friday and Saturday and selected Bank Holidays and special events from midnight to 4am. The Marshalls being located at the Lord Street taxi rank.

What the new policy says.



To remove the sentence above.

Paragraphs 1.14 to 1.19 of the main document.

What the old Policy said:



1.14 - Councils in Cheshire and Merseyside are planning to use licensing laws to reduce crime, anti-social behaviour and poor health caused by alcohol.



1.15 - The drive aims to promote a 'healthier relationship' with alcohol in communities and improved wellbeing through the powers available in the Act.



1.16 - Evidence shows the easy availability and affordability of cheap, strong alcohol contributes to the harm experienced by those most vulnerable. We aim to support the wellbeing of these local residents and communities by using the powers of the Act to limit access to this type of alcohol.



1.17 - Nine areas in Cheshire and Merseyside are working together to support local communities to identify ways of reducing alcohol-related harm, while at the same time ensuring night time economies remain safe, vibrant and popular.



1.18 To achieve this we will employ a number of practical approaches and will help both the public and industry professionals gain access to the skills necessary to participate effectively in their part of the licensing process. We will:



- Work with national bodies to identify the latest advice and guidance and agree a consistent approach across Cheshire and Merseyside.



- Identify best practice in licensing and look to extend successful local initiatives more widely where there is good evidence for reducing harm to vulnerable residents.
- Engage and involve local retailers and communities.
- Signpost the availability of evidence and provide guidance on using it in the licensing process.

1.19 - This approach will be co-produced by the nine Local Authorities in Cheshire and Merseyside and will ensure local alcohol strategies are taken into account.



What the new Policy says.

To delete paragraphs 1.14 – 1.19 above.

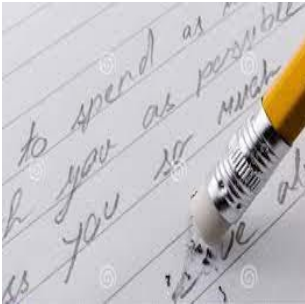
Paragraph 2.2 of the main document.

What the old Policy said.

The policy covers new applications, renewals, transfers, variations, and minor variations of Licences and also includes the review of Licences and Certificates, which could lead to revocation.



(Variations means changes and revocation means cancellation.)



What the new Policy says:

To keep the paragraph but to remove the word “renewals”.

Paragraph 2.11 in the main document.

What the old Policy said.

Unless requested by the applicant, the Licence / Certificate will not be time limited. However, any Premise Licence issued in respect of an application made on or after 6 April 2017 (and including the sale of alcohol and/or late-night refreshment) will become invalid if the individual holder ceases to be entitled to work in the United Kingdom.



What the new Policy says.

To keep most of the information above but to change the following: **....if the Premise Licence holder is in an individual’s name and ceases to be entitled to work in the United Kingdom.**



Paragraph 4.5 of the main document.

What the old Policy said.



with the Sefton Cultural Strategy Group, the Authority will seek to monitor the impact of licensing on the provision of regulated entertainment, particularly live music, dance and theatre.



What the new Policy says.

To remove the sentence above.

Paragraph 4.6 of the main document.

What the old Policy said.



In this context the Authority commends the use of the following: "Home Office: Selling Alcohol Responsibly: Good Practice Examples from the Alcohol Retail and Hospitality Industries" and "Portman Group Code of Practice on Naming, Packaging and Promotion of Alcoholic Drinks".



What the new Policy says.

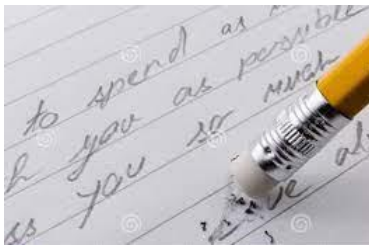
To remove the sentence above.

Paragraph 5.5 of the main document.

What the old Policy said.



The Planning Committee will be kept regularly apprised (told) of the situation regarding licensed premises within the Borough to enable the Committee to have regard to such matters when taking decisions to avoid any unnecessary overlap.



What the new Policy say's.

To remove the sentence above.