

Ward: All

Portfolio: Community Health Services

FROM: Jack Godley
Senior Licensing Officer **Date: 27th September 2021**

SUBJECT: Statement of Licensing Policy 2021 – 2026

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Report Sign off	Seen by:	Name	Date
	Legal	Lesley Dolan	10/08/2021
	Finance	Duncan Moss	11/08/2021
	Chief Executive Officer	Stuart Brown	13/08/2021
	Group Manager	Claire Malcolmson	11/08/2021
Summary:	Under the Licensing Act 2003 (the 2003 Act), Mendip District Council as Licensing Authority must determine a Statement of Licensing Policy that supports and guides our administration and enforcement of the provisions of that Act, for each five-yearly period.		
Recommendation:	Council is asked to: - 1. Approve the Council's Statement of Licensing Policy for the period 2021-2026, which has been endorsed by and recommended for approval by the Licensing Board.		
Direct and/or indirect impact on service delivery to our customers and communities	The Council is required to have a policy to carry out any function under the Licencing Act 2003.		
Financial Implications:	None. Fees for Licence applications are set by statute.		
Climate Change Risks and Opportunities:	Although licences should be determined in the context of the four licensing objectives, this policy has sought to maximise opportunities and introduce behavioural change. Organisers and businesses are now encouraged to be conscious of the Council's Climate and Ecological Commitment and demonstrate they are taking steps to ensure sustainable event management. Additionally, the Statement of Licensing Policy now includes links to the 'Guide to running a sustainable festival'.		
Legal Implications:	The Council must publish a Statement of Licensing Policy under the 2003 Act for each five-year period.		

Crime and Disorder Implications:	The prevention of crime and disorder is one of the four licensing objectives under the 2003 Act
Equalities Implications:	None
Risk Assessment and Adverse Impact on Corporate Actions:	None

INTRODUCTION

Mendip District Council is a Licensing Authority for the purposes of Section 3 of the 2003 Act. It must publish a valid policy to carry out any function under the 2003 Act, during each relevant period. During the five-year period, the policy must be kept under review and the Licensing Authority may make such revisions to it as it considers appropriate.

In producing this Policy the Council has had to have had regard to the Statutory Guidance, issued under Section 182 of the 2003 Act. The Statement of Licensing Policy sets out the matters the Council will consider in ensuring the promotion of the four licensing objectives when making decisions on applications made under the 2003 Act. It clarifies to applicants, Other Persons, and Responsible Authorities how this Council will determine applications and process notifications under the 2003 Act.

The Authority has consulted the statutory consultees as set out in section 5(3) of the 2003 Act, namely -

- (a) the Chief Officer of Police for the area
- (b) the Fire Authority for the area
- (c) persons/bodies representative of local holders of premises licences
- (d) persons/bodies representative of local holders of club premises certificates
- (e) persons/bodies representative of local holders of personal licences and
- (f) persons/bodies representative of businesses and residents in its area

The consultation took place over a 4-week period, from the 2nd to 30th June 2021.

BACKGROUND

The results of the consultation were presented to the Licensing Board, Wednesday 21st July 2021.

The draft Policy can be found at Annex 1 and responses to the consultation on the Statement of Licensing Policy including Licensing Board decisions can be found at Annex 2.

The Policy as presented in Annex 3 has been amended to reflect the Licensing Board decision.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Approve the Council's Statement of Licensing Policy for the period 2021-2026, which has been endorsed by and recommended for approval by the Licensing Board.

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

It is a legal requirement that each Licensing Authority has in place a Statement of Licensing Policy.

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Background Papers