This Statement of Licensing Policy is the third that has been approved by the Licensing Authority in accordance with the Licensing Act 2003.

The second revision took place following 10 months operation of the new licensing system and was prompted by a judicial review that particularly criticised the prescriptive nature of some policies.

In reviewing this Statement of Licensing Policy, the Licensing Authority took account of the revised Guidance issued by the Secretary of State for the Department of Culture, Media & Sport under section 182 of the Licensing Act 2003 approved on 28 June 2007. This resulted in new sections being added dealing with Interested Parties; the role of Designated Premises Supervisors and Personal Licence-holders; making applications for new or varied licences or certificates and applying for Reviews.

The revised policy was offered for consultation between 1 July 2007 and 30 September 2007 to which there was one formal response.

It should be noted that at the time of drafting the policy upon which the consultation process was carried out, the revised Guidance had not been approved by Parliament.

As envisaged at that time, there were some changes in the approved Guidance that resulted in changes to the policy that were not specifically consulted upon. This included a new section dealing with Responsible Authorities being inserted and amendments being made to the section dealing with Interested Parties. A new section was also added to reflect changes to the Licensing Act 2003 brought about by implementation of further sections of the Violent Crime Reduction Act 2006.

This policy was approved by the Licensing Authority on 20 December 2007 and has effect from 7 January 2008 to 6 January 2011, unless reviewed and revised during that period.