

Institute of  
Licensing



# Link

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ISSUE NO.13 SPRING 2022

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about drink spiking?**

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# IoL Regions

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# Foreword



Words by  
Daniel Davies

Welcome to the latest edition of the LINK magazine. It is a pleasure as always to bring you a variety of articles of interest. This edition starts with a detailed look at a project to address drink spiking, an issue which has gained considerable media attentions in recent months, particularly following allegations of needle spiking in Nottingham and other areas before Christmas. Police Sergeant Dave Moore joined us at the National Training Conference in Stratford-upon-Avon in November to share the work which he has been involved in as part of the initiative to tackle spiking in Devon & Cornwall.

CYP First have provided a thought-provoking article on safeguarding in the eventing and night-time economy, while a further article explores the reality of information sharing on taxi and private hire drivers under the DBS and Common Law Police Disclosure arrangements. Most licensed drivers are eminently suitable, professional individuals, but the licensing function is necessary to ensure that unscrupulous individuals are excluded – unfortunately this article highlights how easily non-conviction information can be missed.

IoL Vice Chairman John Garforth brings us his thoughts on how to avoid criticism and challenge for licensing committee hearings, while our Scotland regional Director Stephen McGowan has provided an insight into the legislative provisions in Scotland which allow remote hearings (a disputed subject in England), and the intentions in Scotland to enable this provision to continue.

We are grateful for the article from the Events Industry Forum, highlighting the need for consistency in the licensing and regulation of large events and festivals which have been derailed during the pandemic, and are now striving to re-establish themselves in a post pandemic world. These events along with other social activities within the tourism, leisure and hospitality industry are essential to family and social lives and are more important and precious than ever now that we have all experienced restrictions on our previously unfettered freedom to congregate for any reason. We are planning a 'Large Events' conference in the Autumn which we hope to hold in the Manchester area. We will invite EIF alongside others with a view to discussing the key considerations on licensing, including the Protect duty, counter security, crowd management and more.

The relief of being able to come together again, has been tangible and it was wonderful to experience this first-hand with many of you at the IoL's National Training Conference last November. It was a privilege as well to be able to recognise some outstanding licensing practitioners at the Gala Dinner Awards, including Andy Parsons who was awarded the 10th Jeremy Allen Award, alongside the IoL's own Gary Grant and Sarah Clover who were presented with long overdue Fellowships. In addition, I was delighted to present the first of the Chairman's Special Recognitions which were awarded to Margaret O'Donnell, Joanne Moran and Kate Roberts who have worked tirelessly in New Brighton with me and have been pivotal in enabling the regeneration and reimagination of Victoria Quarter.

Enjoy this edition of LINK, and please consider writing for us. Your experiences, projects or simply your thoughts on licensing related subjects would be very welcome. Alternatively let us have any suggestions of future articles and content.

# What are you doing about drink spiking?



Words by **PS Dave Moore**, Devon & Cornwall Constabulary

Since the great re-opening of hospitality and licensed premises in July 2021 after lockdown, we have seen a great number of changes in the landscape of the industry. New hospitality staff, door supervisors, police officers and an abundance of new customers with little experience of the Evening and Night-time Economy (ENTE) have created a different 'feel' within the ENTE community.

One of the most prevalent developments after re-opening was the significant increase in reported incidents of drink spiking allegations within the ENTE. The question raised by the public, media and some within official organisations gives the title to this piece - 'What are you doing about drink spiking'?

Reports of drink spiking have been around for hundreds of years, with an initial intent to steal working men's money in the 1800s. Reports into drink spiking in the 1990s tended to show more of a motive around sexual assaults, rather than theft or robbery, and so the term 'date rape drugs' was introduced then with females being seen as the target rather than males. Male victims in more recent times are seen as being targeted for a 'prank' or for vengeance (Donovan, 2016). Research has shown for some time that drink spiking is a complex issue within society which is clouded by poor evidence and very little research (Fyfe and Newell, 2002). This poor evidence base causes a real problem when trying to address the issue of drink spiking. Without knowing basic facts such as numbers of cases, locations, types of drugs used, method of delivery and any associated crime or motives, it becomes very difficult to answer the question in the title.

The fear of crime for this type of offence is very real. When Freedom of Information Act requests were made by Sky News into drink spiking, many police forces came back with some statistics but were inconsistent in nature due to the different ways in which they are recorded by forces as well as the variable ways in which police forces dealt with allegations at the point of reporting. The lack of consistent statistics can have an effect on the official reporting of this type of crime to police (Young-Powell, 2014). Therefore, in today's society, people have taken to both media and social media to 'warn' others about their experiences. This creates a more personally linked 'fear of crime' where people reading social media posts now 'know' someone who has been spiked, making this type of crime far more real to them.

In order to answer the question of the article much more needs to be understood about the issue before action can be taken effectively to both prevent it happening and to bring possible offenders to justice.

One of the largest barriers to understanding the issue is the way in which initial allegations were handled. Some alleged victims were told that they were drunk, others sent up to hospital and some had their allegation officially recorded. This lack of consistency meant that a realistic picture of the issue was not obtained.

In 2019, Devon and Cornwall Police set up a trial in the city of Plymouth to look at these issues. A working practice was set up for police officers and venues to follow which created a consistent approach when dealing with allegations

of drink spiking, removing one of the most impactful variables. Venue staff tested drinks and police officers undertook urine tests of individuals who believed that they were feeling the effects of spiking. These tests looked for an indication of whether something was in their system/drink which they did not know about. Positive initial results assisted in facilitating a more effective initial investigation which could be commenced immediately at the scene. Overwhelming feedback showed that negative results immediately reassured alleged victims that nothing untoward had happened to them. This had the added bonus of discouraging them from going onto social media, thereby preventing the potential increase in fear of this type of crime.

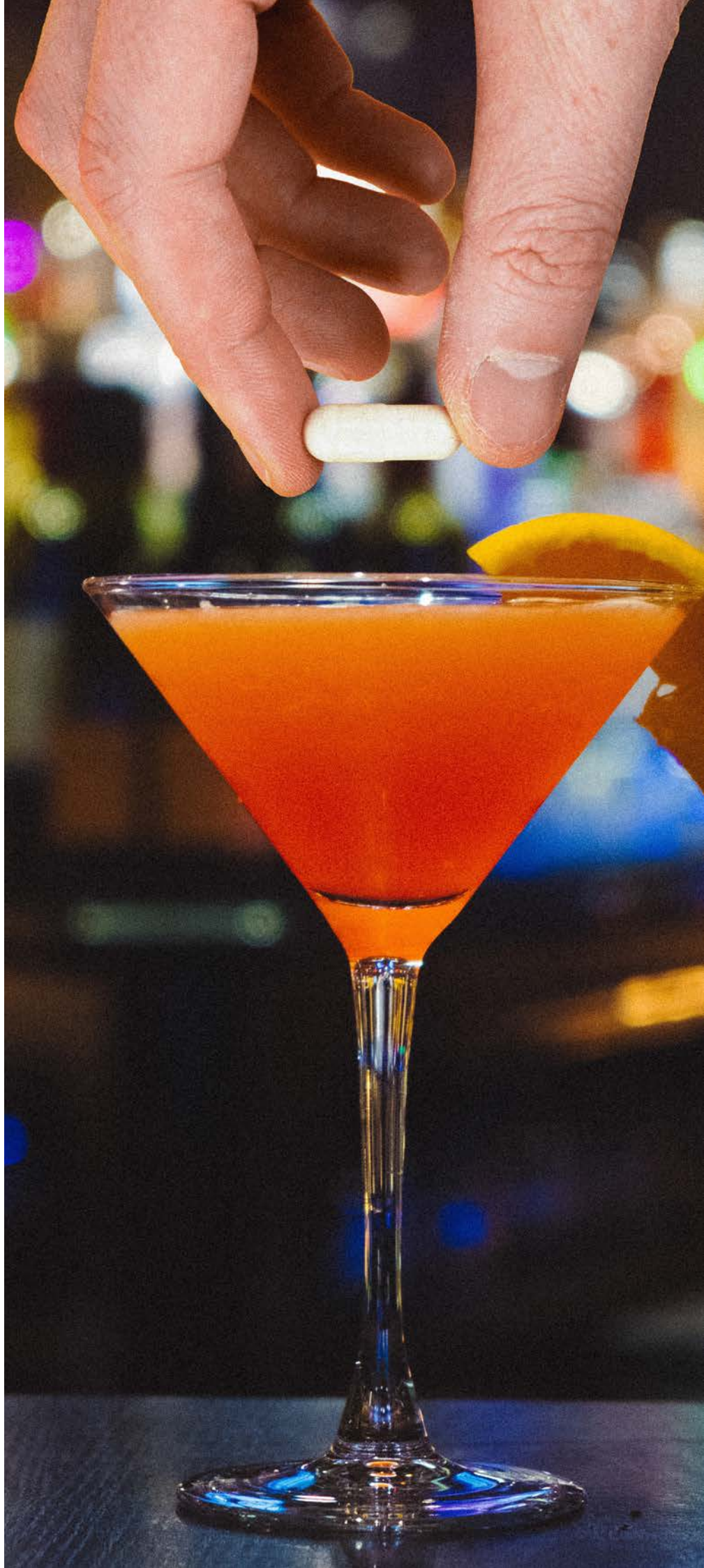
Over 3 months, around 300,000 entries were made into 38 late-night venues in the city. Less than 5% of allegations made were confirmed as full positive results with one person being arrested thanks to the immediate initial investigation. As a result of this trial, Devon and Cornwall Police extended this scheme force-wide starting on 1st August 2021. This scheme has allowed a much more consistent way of reporting and recording allegations and also undertaking investigations where there is some evidence to support drink spiking. The statistics from the first three months of the scheme, again show a very low level of full positive tests. Over 85% of all reports throughout the force occurred in October, after the main national and local media stories about drink spiking came out, which would indicate that the power of the media in this area is significant. As many of the media reports included interviews with alleged victims around the country but

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with little evidence to confirm or refute these allegations, a significant national increase in fear of crime occurred. It was noted that the majority of people testing negative for unknown substances did not report that they were spiked on social media. This in turn has helped to reduce that 'personal' fear of crime. Feedback from the first three months indicated those people reporting incidents were extremely relieved when their test is negative and very happy that their allegation has been taken seriously. This helps to give people the confidence to report this type of incident to police and ENTE staff, which in turn helps to give a clearer picture as to what is happening in the ENTE.

The role of the licensing trade in this scheme is crucial. Awareness of ENTE staff around the issue allows them to respond more effectively to any allegations of spiking and offer the right support and make the calls to the police when required. This in turn helps to increase confidence in the general public that the ENTE is a safer place to go out as there is a 'capable guardian' there in the form of bar staff, door supervisors, glass collectors, etc. This capable guardian helps to 'target harden' the ENTE venues, making it more difficult for a perpetrator to successfully get away with drink spiking.

Through the use of posters and social media posts, venues can demonstrate that they are aware what to do as soon as an allegation is made, thereby increasing the confidence that the hospitality industry is a safe place to socialise. The use of hospitality staff as a first point of reporting can help instigate an early investigation, increasing the likelihood of identifying



and catching perpetrators. With this risk involved, potential perpetrators are likely to be dissuaded from undertaking this type of crime or being displaced to other locations who are not running the scheme or private parties where no capable guardian generally exists. Rather than putting the onus on the victims, this scheme targets the perpetrator, making it more difficult to carry out their crime and also increasing the risk of getting caught.

The testing kits currently available check for the majority of the substances known to be used in drink spiking, but they are not the 'silver bullet' yet. Continued development to make them more effective in picking up more types of drug will always be welcomed.

National support from the licensing trade and a national agreement from the police on a consistent way to address allegations of drink spiking will help to create a more substantial

database to evaluate offending patterns and offer more of a deterrent to possible offenders. It will also support the licensing trade, make this type of offence harder to commit, utilise emergency service time more effectively and reduce the fear of crime, increasing the confidence in the public to go out into the ENTE to have a good and safe night out.



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Safety toolkit → DBS background  
check → PIN verification → Real  
time driver ID check → Driver  
face covering verification →  
Door to door safety standard →  
Covid-19 checklist →  
**Safety never stops**

# Outdoor events – seeking greater consistency



Words by Jim Winship, Secretary, The Events Industry Forum

One good thing to have come out of the pandemic is recognition that there needs to be greater understanding and consistency of approach between regulators and the outdoor events industry.

Outdoor events play an important role in bringing communities together and providing much needed revenue and employment to local economies. Indeed, research by Bournemouth University published in 2019 recognised this, finding that the industry generated over £36 billion in revenue and supported over half a million jobs. The researchers also concluded from public interviews: “Outdoor events were seen as providing entertainment and an opportunity for all to engage with the particular form of activity at the event (e.g. music, art, physical activity or nature) as well as being important for the local economy.”

While the pandemic brought the events industry to its knees, it also led to much

closer contact and understanding between industry leaders and government as both came together to get the industry restarted.

The outcome is that there is now general agreement that a more consistent approach to outdoor events is needed both from government and the industry. As a result, the focus is increasingly on the Purple Guide as being the standard for outdoor events, both for organisers and government.

The Purple Guide was first produced in print by the Health & Safety Executive in consultation with the industry in the early 1990s and quickly became established as a reference source for outdoor events nationally. However, it was never updated and over the following decade became increasingly irrelevant as good practice as the industry moved on.

About 10 years ago, the HSE agreed to work with the industry to update the guide and working parties were reformed to achieve this. However,

while the industry wanted a comprehensive guide for organising outdoor events, the HSE was limited in terms of what it could publish and eventually it was agreed that the industry should take over publication but in collaboration, and with the support of, the HSE.

The organisation tasked with managing the project was the Events Industry Forum (EIF), a loose group of outdoor event industry bodies that met informally to discuss issues of common concern. To take on such a major project, the Forum created a special entity, EIF Limited, as a not-for-profit enterprise and agreed that all the revenue generated from sales must be used in support of the outdoor event industry.

The Guide has now evolved into a comprehensive source of guidance for outdoor events, comprising 34 chapters covering everything from crowd management to working with Safety Advisory Groups. It is also a living document, with all the chapters





regularly reviewed and updated by specialist working groups, including enforcement agencies. Furthermore, the HSE continues to review all the chapters and support the guidance.

During the pandemic, the Events Industry Forum worked closely with the Department of Digital, Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS) to produce specific guidance for outdoor events to restart as we emerged from the pandemic. That guidance has now been condensed into a specific chapter in the Purple Guide as advice for use should future pandemics occur.

What the pandemic also highlighted was the disparity of approach by some event organisers and local authorities and the need for greater consistency and understanding.

While recognising that there will always be local circumstances to take into account, the differences of approach between one area and another have long been a source of

complaint by organisers, often resulting in considerable unnecessary costs and undermining of relations with local authorities. Equally, the industry has major concerns about organisers taking advantage of those differences and sometimes putting public safety at greater risk to the detriment of the industry.

As a result of conversations during the pandemic between industry leaders and representatives of government at all levels, it has become clear that everyone is of the same opinion that there is a need for greater consistency of approach nationally and the general consensus is that the Purple Guide is the one factor that could provide that.

As a result, the Forum is now in discussions with the Institute of Licensing, the Local Government Association, DCMS, BEIS and others about how this can be achieved with the possibility that the Guide could be brought within the Primary Authority scheme.

The adoption of one guide nationally would be a major step forward in achieving greater consistency as it would mean that organisers would have no excuse for diverging from standard practices and could expect the same rules to apply to their events wherever they were held.

Of course, it is recognised that there will always be local circumstances to take into account but at least the core standard would be the same for everyone.

These things are never easy to achieve but at least everyone is talking and there is general agreement that the ultimate goal is greater consistency of approach by all those involved in making outdoor events happen.

*For further information please contact Jim Winship, Secretary of the Events Industry Forum – [jim@eventsindustryforum.co.uk](mailto:jim@eventsindustryforum.co.uk)*

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# Exploitation in Hotels: Preventative Campaigns

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Words by Andy Thompson and Helen Matthews, CYP First

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CYP First work with local councils, providing training to hackney carriage and private hire drivers, operators and vehicle owners as well as those working in the hospitality sector, to raise awareness about CSE and Child Exploitation (County Lines), how to identify potential issues and to address them effectively.

Across the country hotel owners, operators and staff are increasingly aware of the growing and urgent need to ensure a safeguarding and child protection response for children and young people who are resident in their premises or who have been brought to their premises for exploitation purposes.

Children and young people entering hospitality premises is a very normal everyday occurrence, as a result of family activities, short breaks and holidays, meals out or simply family social time. It is a positive activity and one which most of us are very familiar with – days out with our loved ones.

For victims of exploitation, it is a very different story. They are not with family and friends – far from it. They are brought to hospitality premises under threat or coercion, and for purposes such as drug dealing in the hotel or transporting drugs from the hotel to be dealt in the local area (county lines) or for the purposes of child sexual exploitation (CSE).

The night-time economy is the fifth biggest industry in the UK, accounting for at least 8% of the UK's employment and 6% of the UK's total revenue per year. That encompasses a huge number of people who could potentially identify and help to disrupt this horrendous exploitation. Imagine if, collectively, as a community, we all knew about child abuse and exploitation... how many eyes and ears could be working together to spot, report and safeguard children?

More and more local authority licensing and police teams are stepping up their activities to promote awareness among licence holders and other professionals who are in a position to identify children and young people who may be potentially vulnerable to, or victims of exploitation. CYP First are proud to be actively involved with many local authorities and police to assist in this essential area of work.

Hotels have a general duty to protect guests and those brought onto the premises an arguably where staff have direct knowledge of the age of a young person who is obviously in the hotel for the purpose of abuse, the hotelier will be liable. The means of reducing this risk must focus on recruitment, training and partnership working with local authorities and police.

In our experience and from feedback during training, it is clear that hotel staff are keen to help and want to know what signs to look for and how to respond to potential issues. There is a 'lightbulb' moment for staff where they realise the importance of their role and the fact that they may well be the last safe person to see that child before they go into a significant, life changing event. They may also be the first safe person when that child comes out. They need to know what to do to help. The training is a chance to increase their knowledge, discuss their concerns and build their confidence in with a very easy reporting structure.

These staff are a crucial (sometimes missing) piece of the puzzle, they could have vital information which once shared will make a significant difference. CYP First are involved in a number of partnerships (Operation Makesafe – Bedfordshire, See the Signs Campaign – Southend, Every Contact Counts – Essex), which include the provision of training, and the benefits are clear: more intelligence and information being provided to the police giving more intervention opportunities and a clearer picture / better intelligence on potential issues.

We are able to provide tangible examples of instances where hotel staff have pro-actively helped to disrupt activities as a result of training, examples such as the hotel cleaner (trained in exploitation) who entered a room and found drug paraphernalia. She closed off the room and asked her manager to phone the police, which led to a police response police investigation.

# CHILD SEXUAL EXPLOITATION

A person wearing a blue hoodie is shown from the chest up. Their face is completely obscured by a large, semi-transparent red rectangle. The background is a plain, light-colored wall.

**SAY SOMETHING IF  
YOU SEE SOMETHING**

## **What is Child Sexual Exploitation?**

Young people under the age of 18 who are encouraged, trapped, forced or coerced into a sexual relationship or situation by an adult.

It often involves the young person being offered something in return for performing sexual acts, such as alcohol, cigarettes, gifts, money, drugs and affection.

**DON'T IGNORE YOUR GUT FEELING THAT SOMETHING IS NOT RIGHT.**

# Sanctions

Child sexual exploitation and child criminal exploitation are serious forms of child abuse. Ignorance is no excuse, and there are sanctions for hotel premises which could include the following as set out in the Home Office Child Exploitation Disruption Toolkit:

## Sec 116-118 Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014

- In addition to considering other disruption options, a police officer of at least the rank of inspector may issue a written notice to the owner, operator or manager of a hotel or a similar establishment which they reasonably believe has been, or will be used for CSE or related activities.
- The notice must specify the date on which the notice comes into effect and the expiry date which may not be more than 6 months after it comes into effect.
- The hotel operator is required, upon request to provide information to the police such as guest's name and address, and other information, as specified in regulations, about guests which could be readily obtained from guests themselves.
- Failure to provide requested information, or giving false information, is a criminal offence and could result in a fine

## Section 51 Licensing Act 2003

- Partners can request a license review for a licensed premise where there are concerns that they are acting otherwise than in accordance with licensing conditions and the Licensing Act 2003.
- Licensed premises have a duty to protect children on their premises from harm, including CSE (revised guidance was added to the act in 2015).

Most hotels will want to work in partnership and to be acknowledged as active partners in disrupting exploitation. They will welcome training for their staff.

Training by CYP First will raise connect staff to the subject. Victims are always somebody's son or daughter – what if it was theirs? Awareness raising will focus on:

- How to spot the signs of grooming and exploitation within hotels
- Delay tactics that could be used
- Preserving evidence
- How to give the child the response they need and deserve
- Hotel Safeguarding procedures – what support is available?
- The confidence to not turn a blind eye
- Purchase tests – what are these? They are happening in your area. How confident are you that your hotels would pass that test?

We've included below some feedback from campaign leads in different authorities:

*"Working with Helen & Andy in Bedfordshire has been paramount in our response to Child Exploitation, the training they offer is excellent; great presentation style with opportunities to ask questions with real life examples & situations, the feedback always exceeds expectations from multi agency practitioners. Their professionalism, knowledge and passion is relevant, meaningful & inspirational"*

**Lisa Robertson**  
Exploitation Lead,  
Bedford Violence Reduction Unit

*"We have had Andy and Helen undertake our See The Signs training over the last 3 years, the training has been brilliant, it has captivated audiences and not only delivered the key messages but has been emotive too which is really important when your engaging partners. The training has had incredible feedback and has led to a lot of conversations and information from partner organisations on how they can spot and report exploitation. They have been a joy to work with and even undertake the registers and collate the feedback which has been super helpful"*

**Alex Bridge**  
Service Manager  
Southend on Sea





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# Events - What's Online?

We are delighted to offer the following training courses which will be delivered remotely via video conferencing/webinar. Book Online or email the team via [events@instituteoflicensing.org](mailto:events@instituteoflicensing.org)  
<https://www.instituteoflicensing.org/events>

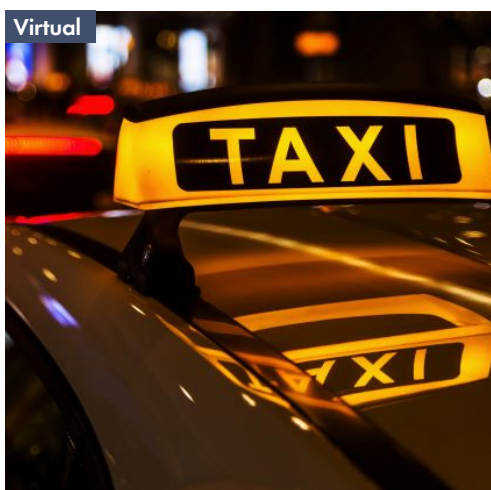


## Councillor Training

8<sup>th</sup> June 2022  
14<sup>th</sup> July 2022

This training course is aimed at all councillors who are involved in the decision making process for licensing applications.

The course will cover the general principles of licensing, including hearings under the Licensing Act 2003 and committee decisions relating to the hackney carriage and private hire regime.



## Taxi Conference

27<sup>th</sup> April 2022

This one day conference will provide a valuable learning and discussion opportunity for everyone involved within the taxi and private hire licensing field, with the aim to increase understanding and promote discussion in relation to the subject areas and the impact of forthcoming changes and recent case law.



## Taxi Licensing

**Basic** 10<sup>th</sup> May (Welsh specific), 1<sup>st</sup> July 2022

This course will give new/inexperienced delegates working in the field of taxi and private hire licensing a broad understanding of the licensing regime from a practical and operational perspective to support their day to day role.

**Advanced** 9<sup>th</sup> May, 8<sup>th</sup> July, 26<sup>th</sup> September (Welsh specific)

The course looks in detail at the hackney carriage and private hire licensing regime and the role and functions of the licensing authority.

## Contact the IoL team

Email: [events@instituteoflicensing.org](mailto:events@instituteoflicensing.org)  
or telephone us on 01749 987 333

Face to Face



## Summer Training Conference

### Crowne Plaza Hotel Nottingham

15<sup>th</sup> June 2022

Join us for our Face to Face Summer Training Conference in Nottingham!

Join us to hear from our expert speakers, including:

- Gary Grant, Francis Taylor Building
- James Button, James Button & Co.
- Nick Arron, Poppleston Allen

We will be discussing the issues around vulnerability in the evening and night-time economy, potential impact of the Government's Levelling Up White Paper, the latest developments on the review of the Gambling Act 2005, and other current issues.

### Sponsorship opportunities available.

Contact [sponsorship@instituteoflicensing.org](mailto:sponsorship@instituteoflicensing.org) for more details.



# Getting it right in Licensing Hearings



Words by John Garforth JP, Licensing Manager for Oldham MBC and IoL Vice Chairman

*John has been a licensing manager for 17 years during which he has observed and participated in countless hearings both within his Oldham role and acting as an observer / advisor for other authorities. In this article John shares his observations on good practice for licensing hearings.*

## The Brief

Licensing hearings – should be occasions where all parties feel listened to and regardless of the decision, leave at the end feeling that they've had a fair hearing. There are many examples of excellent hearings and well-versed licensing committees, but of course it doesn't always work out that way and there are too many examples of hearings which have failed this simple test.

This article sets out my thoughts on good principles / practices for premises hearings, but the majority of these principles apply equally to other licensing hearings, including taxi hearings.

## The role of elected Members

The role of elected Members in licensing is hugely important. They are called on when parties disagree about the likely impact of the application on the licensing objectives, or in the case of taxis, where there are potential concerns about public safety (normally as a result of questions about the applicant's suitability). Either way, the decision arising from the hearing will at the very least impact on the way a business functions, and quite possibly may be key to protecting the safety (perhaps even the lives) of members of the public.

Most licensing practitioners would agree that it is essential that elected Members undergo training on the relevant licensing law sitting on hearings to determine licence applications. Such training should in my view be mandated by the licensing authority, and regular refresher training should also be provided. This is essential to equip members with an understanding of the law and of the role of the licensing authority, including the decision-making process and relevant considerations. Licensing practitioners will be aware that there have been numerous occasions where questions asked by Members during the course of a hearing have shown a lack of this basic knowledge and understanding.





## Pre-hearing

The process starts well before the meeting, when the agenda and reports are issued to the Members of the sub-committee, the committee's legal advisor, and all parties to the hearing (applicant, responsible authorities and anyone who has made a relevant representation).

In Oldham, the legal advisor reviews the application and covering report and may have added legal comments within that report. Either way, the council's legal advisor should be aware of the application, and the concerns which have led to its referral to the licensing sub-committee. They should be prepared to advise licensing committee members accordingly.

Once the papers are issued, it is

imperative that Members sitting on the committee have read and understood the reports ahead of the meeting. In some cases, Members may opt to undertake a pre-meeting site visit, similar to the site visits that the licensing justices undertook under the 1964 Licensing Act. This gives them an opportunity to acquaint themselves with the premises and its surroundings rather than relying on the plan provided by the applicant and the narrative within the report.

It is essential that Members take care not to discuss the application with the applicant or any interested parties before the hearing. The *Mu Mu case* (*Mu Mu Enterprises (Weston) Limited v North Somerset District Council [2004]*) is illustrative of this, as it involved a case where a councillor sitting on the Licensing Sub-Committee had made comments in public which indicated that they had made up their

mind about the application before the hearing, and the appeal was lost as a result.

Members **must** declare any interests in the application when they read their papers, or as soon as they are aware that they have an interest. This seems obvious, but there are very public examples of major mistakes when it comes to personal or pecuniary interests, including some set out in the report by the House of Lords Select Committee responsible for the post legislative scrutiny of the Licensing Act, including the observation from Gerald Gouriet QC:

*"I was involved in a case where the only representation against was from the chairman's wife. He would not stand down and indulged in what I would call a pantomime of asking his wife questions as though she were at arm's length. That*

*should not happen.”*

Interest could include involvement in community discussions opposing the premises proposals, professional or personal relationships with any interested party, including the applicant etc. It could also include previous involvement and voting against a planning application for the premises, as clear opposition to the proposed premises operation may be perceived as a result. It is important to remember that perceived bias is as damaging as actual bias, so it is better to avoid any suggestion of bias altogether wherever possible.

## The Proceedings

Then there's the order of proceedings (the hearings procedure). Licensing Authorities should have an agreed procedure (bearing in mind the Hearings Regulations), which should be published and followed. Ideally, the procedure should be shared along with the notice of hearing to ensure that all parties know the running order and what to expect ahead of the start of the meeting.

Be very careful about perception of bias or unfair practice. I previously observed a hearing where the objectors were invited to comment before the application was even outlined to the committee. Unsurprisingly, there was a subsequent complaint about how the hearing was conducted.

Perception is crucial. Members and officers (including the legal advisor) should be on time, ready to go and well versed in what the application is all about. Members should generally sit together, not split off depending on political make up and be accompanied by their legal advisor and committee clerk. The Chair of the hearing should welcome all those present, explain the order of proceedings and ask everyone to introduce themselves.

Members and the presenting licensing

officer should not be observed pre-hearing by the parties stood in a huddle or engaged in any kind of pre-meeting discussion, and the presenting licensing officer must not be the same officer acting as Responsible Authority and making representations on the application. Officers should sit independently and certainly not next to the Chair.

During the hearing, elected members should take care to ensure that they do not give the impression that they have already made up their mind on the application. Members on the panel should ensure that they remain neutral and take care to ask open questions and avoid making statements or saying anything which might give others the impression they have made up their minds either in favour or against an application. It is essential that Members remain in the meeting for the duration of the application consideration, if they leave then they cannot subsequently return to take part in the decision. A sub-committee of three members will be inquorate if a member leaves rendering them unable to determine the application before them. Finally, all parties should also remain alert during the hearing, not nod off, be checking a phone or in a recent zoom meeting I heard of, be knitting.

## Questions

Questions from Members should be focused on the application they are considering and must be relevant to the licensing objectives and any representations before them. Sweeping statements should be avoided and lawyers and committee clerks should interject if the hearing loses focus.

## Time Limits

Time limits on representations is a contentious area. Remember the need for a fair hearing? Can anyone really argue that it is fair to give 8 objectors 5 minutes each, and then

afford the applicant just 5 minutes to answer the points raised over the course of 40 minutes from those opposing the application (there are far worse examples than this) – surely we can do better? Avoid duplication of representations – the Chair should invite parties to speak but ask them not to simply repeat what others have said. If one party asks for an extension of time to speak, other parties should be afforded the same opportunity.

## Decision time

Once all the parties have been heard, the time has come to make a decision based on the facts and merits of that particular case.

Members will generally either leave the room, ask the parties to leave the room or advise parties a decision will follow in accordance with the Hearings Regulations. Licensing Officers should leave also with just the lawyer and committee clerk remaining. During that private session, should Members want to go for a drink, or a comfort break they should not interact with the parties or Licensing Officer. If further questions or clarifications are sought, then all parties should re-enter the committee room and issues raised in front of them all.

When giving a decision the Chair should be careful not to add any additional comments to the written reasons they are presenting, and Members should then leave the room and again not interact with parties after the hearing.

If all the above advice is followed, you'll have a perfect and perceived fair hearing. Good luck!

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# Common Law Police Disclosure and restrictions on information sharing

Article prepared in collaboration with Stephen Turner, Hull City Council

In March 2015, the Institute of Licensing wrote to the Home Office putting on record its concerns about the (then) forthcoming changes to rely on 'Common Law Police Disclosure' (CLPD) with its 'pressing social need' test in place of the Notifiable Occupations Scheme (NOS) and Home Office Circular 006/2006 which provided guidance to police forces about the disclosure of convictions and other information in relation to people in professions or occupations which carry additional trust or responsibility (notifiable occupations).

Indications at the time were that the Home Office Circular 006/2006 had been deemed "disproportionate" and that many constabularies were no longer complying with its provisions as a result. Home Office Circular 006/2006 stated:

*The general position is that the police should maintain the confidentiality of personal information, but legal opinion supports the view that in cases invoking substantial public interest considerations a presumption to disclose convictions and other information to relevant parties, unless there are exceptional reasons not to do so, is considered lawful. Areas in which it is considered there are likely to be substantial public interest considerations include:*

- protection of the vulnerable, including children
- national security
- probity in the administration of justice

## Pressing social need

In contrast, CLPD relies on a pressing social need to share information. The justification for disclosing personal

information to a third party under common law is considered to be equivalent to that required for disclosing non-conviction information in accordance with the provisions of Part V of the Police Act 1997. See R (on application of L) (FC) (Appellant) v Commissioner of Police for the Metropolis (2009) UKSC 3.

NPCC guidance sets out disclosure considerations, including the following extracts (emphasis added):

*Chief Officers are requested to consider disclosing relevant information to a third party when, in the course of an investigation or other policing activity, a significant risk is identified which there is an **urgent pressing social need** to address. The primary trigger for consideration of the need to make such a disclosure will be the arrest (or voluntary interview as a suspect) of an individual for an alleged recordable offence; or if no consideration had been made at that stage, upon the subject being charged with a recordable offence. The CPLD provisions do not provide for the proactive disclosure of convictions as:*

- *It is unlikely that the urgent*

*pressing social need requirement will then be fulfilled due to the elapse of time, and*

- *Employers and regulators can be made aware of convictions via the statutory disclosure route provided by Part V of the Police Act 1997 and use of the DBS Update Service.*

Further information within the – 'National Policing Guidelines on Charging for Police Services' indicates that information will not be shared on request (emphasis added):

*Under the Common Law Police Disclosure (CLPD) provisions that have superseded the Notifiable Occupations Scheme chief officers will consider making a proactive disclosure upon arrest (or exceptionally upon charge) to an employer, volunteering organisation, regulatory body and/or licensing authority **with which it is evident that the detainee is associated**. That disclosure will contain adequate information to allow the recipient to determine the extent of any mitigation that may need implementing in respect of the risk the detainee may consequently pose to vulnerable groups (primarily children and/or vulnerable adults). 'Supply Push'*



*disclosures made under the CLPD provisions will not result in a financial charge being made to the recipient(s). The decision to disclose information under the CLPD regime rests solely with the chief officer or his/her delegate based on consideration of the relevancy and proportionality of any proposed disclosure.*

**Potential recipients cannot solicit or suggest that a disclosure should be made under the CLPD provisions as clearly that would indicate they are already aware of the issue that would otherwise be the subject of the disclosure.**

The reference to sharing information with organisations with which it is evidence that the detainee is associated is also relevant, as the

police are not entitled to ask a person's job when arresting them or charging them. This means that unless they have prior knowledge that the individual is a hackney carriage / private hire driver, a CLPD to licensing authorities will not be triggered even if they would otherwise have considered there to be a pressing and social need to share information.

So, in summary the arrangements under CLPD:

- Allows the immediate sharing of information on arrest or (exceptionally) on charging an individual where a significant risk is identified which there is an urgent pressing social need to address.
- Precludes information sharing on

request, on the principle that there is prior knowledge of the position / issues.

- In practice, information sharing under CLPD arrangements will only be made where the police are aware (or are made aware) that the individual is a licensed hackney carriage or private hire driver.

This leaves the licensing function largely dependent on disclosure and barring arrangements. The difficulties here are well known with a number of individuals currently unable to sign up to the update service due to 'technological issues', leaving licensing authorities in a position of having to require regular checks to ensure the same scrutiny as those on the update service.

## DBS Disclosures

Information which has not been disclosed under CLPD arrangements for any reason, may still be disclosed on an enhanced DBS, either as a subsequent conviction or under the provisions which allow Chief Officers of Police to disclose additional information under section 113B(4A) of the Police Act 1997 (the Act), which came into force on 10 September 2012, and states:

*“Before issuing an enhanced criminal records certificate the DBS must request any relevant Chief Officer to provide any information which:*

- a. *the Chief Officer reasonably believes to be relevant for the purpose described in the statement under subsection (2); and*
- b. *in the Chief Officer’s opinion, ought to be included in the certificate.”*

The requirements above are subjective, and there have been challenges to information disclosed by the police in the past which may result in a level of caution being applied. The requirements are that the police make a judgement about the **relevance** of information for the purpose of the disclosure and which means deciding whether information which might for example relate to violence in a domestic setting, is considered relevant to the individual’s application to drive a licensed vehicle. Most local authority licensing officers would argue that any indication of violence would be relevant and ought to be disclosed, but whether this is viewed shared by the police will be down to the individual making the decision on whether or not to disclose the information.

## Filtering

Filtering rules were first introduced on 29 May 2013 amending the

legislation that affected both what an employer can ask an individual in relation to convictions and cautions (for example a self-declaration on an application form of ‘do you have any convictions’), and what is disclosed on a Standard or Enhanced DBS certificate.

The rules were subsequently updated 28th November 2020 as follows:

- warnings, reprimands and youth cautions will no longer be automatically disclosed on a DBS certificate
- the multiple conviction rule has been removed, meaning that if an individual has more than one conviction, regardless of offence type or time passed, each conviction will be considered against the remaining rules individually, rather than all being automatically disclosed

There is a list of offences that will always be disclosed on a Standard or Enhanced DBS certificate (unless they relate to a youth caution). These are known as ‘specified offences’ and are usually of a serious violent or sexual nature or are relevant for safeguarding children and vulnerable adults.

All convictions resulting in a custodial sentence, whether or not suspended, will always be disclosed, while youth cautions, warnings and reprimands will not be disclosed automatically on a Standard or Enhanced DBS certificate.

## Conclusion

Disclosure is not straightforward. CLPD allows information sharing but is arguably very restricted and requires that the police are aware that the individual is a licensed driver and inform the licensing authority at the time of the arrest, or possibly when charging the individual. If that doesn’t happen then it is down to the DBS disclosure, either as part of the additional information (subject

to the decisions on relevance and whether the information ‘ought’ to be disclosed), or the information remains undisclosed until conviction which might take months or even years given the current court backlogs.

## IoL Register

Given the above challenges, it is no surprise that potentially serious issues arising where licensing authorities have not been given prompt and/or relevant information about hackney carriage and private hire licence applicants and holders meaning individuals retain or gain licences which may otherwise have been refused or revoked if the licensing authority had been aware of the information at the appropriate time. These issues appear to arise either as a result of the application of Common Law Police Disclosure (CLPD) principles or following filtering of DBS disclosures.

In order to get a better idea of the scale of the issues, the IoL are asking licensing authorities to log instances using our online survey tool (link below), while we continue dialogue with the NPCC, DBS and the Home Office to establish the extent of the problem and potential solutions.

<https://www.instituteoflicensing.org/resources/links/>



# National Training Conference

16<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup> & 18<sup>th</sup> November 2022

We are delighted to be planning our signature three-day National Training Conference for 2022 to be held in Stratford-upon-Avon.

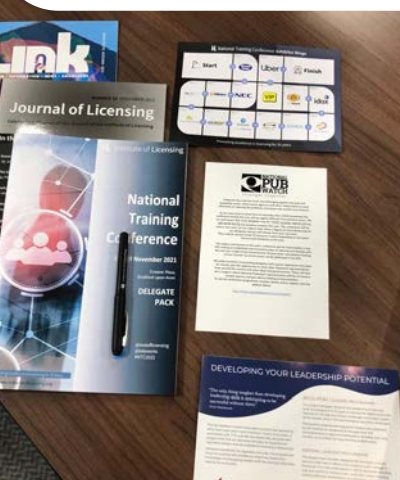
The programme will include the range of topic areas our regular delegates have come to expect, with well over 50 sessions across the three days delivered by expert speakers and panellists.

See the agenda tab for confirmed speakers. This will be updated as they are confirmed. A draft agenda will follow later in the year. We look forward to welcoming new and seasoned

delegates to the NTC along with our expert speakers and our event sponsors.

Early booking is always advised, and bookings will be confirmed on a first come first served basis.

The Gala Dinner (Thursday evening) is a black tie event, and will have a set theme (theme tbc).



# Reimagining New Brighton



Words by Daniel Davies

Not many people get an opportunity to reimagine their hometown. I couldn't have anticipated it back in 1991 when I started CPL Training with Paul Chase – then a small training company based in New Brighton a forgotten seaside town on the Wirral peninsular where I was born and grew up.

Over a period of nearly 30 years, we grew CPL into the biggest provider of training to the licensed retail sector, and it was as CEO of CPL Training that I became Chairman of the Institute of Licensing (IoL) and joined the advisory council of ALMR (now UK Hospitality). I eventually sold CPL in 2018.

As Chairman of the IoL I gave evidence to the House of Lords Select Committee convened to undertake post-legislative scrutiny of the Licensing Act 2003. Hard on the heels of that came another House of Lords review into the future

of seaside towns. At this point, I had begun what would turn out to be the biggest challenge I have ever faced – regenerating New Brighton.

New Brighton used to be called Rockpoint in 1830 when it was just 170 acres of sand dunes. James Atherton came over from his home in Liverpool and bought the entire area. His vision was to create a 'Brighton of the North' – New Brighton. The hub of this new area was Victoria Road, which has now become the hub of my regeneration programme.

In New Brighton we've got something unique to offer, our proximity to Liverpool, the history of it, the fact that it had been a top destination and could be again. Before its decline, Victoria Road had an opticians, a post office, a pharmacy, a greengrocer (that had been there for 45 years), a hairdresser, a convenience store, a dilapidated supermarket, a barbers,

some pubs and cafes. It also had shops on both sides of the road, the Embassy Club and the Rialto, and a milk bar. Everything was provided by independent retailers and small businesses that thrived off the seaside town that fronted the River Mersey.

Fast forward to 2018 and many of these businesses had closed down and the buildings that housed them compulsory purchased and turned into housing. So, the first priority was to save and retain what remained and to improve the state of the general environment and street furniture, and then to embark on an investment programme to open new businesses.

New Brighton is at the end of the Wirral peninsular – you don't pass through; you have to travel to it. And years ago there were reasons to do so. It had the world's largest open-air bathing pool (which is now a Morrisons), Europe's largest ballroom





in which the Beatles and Rolling stones played numerous times, and the UK's tallest tower – taller than Blackpool's – as well as 11 theatres, two piers and the longest promenade in the country. All compelling reasons to visit, and all destroyed by the mismanagement and municipal vandalism of successive local councils.

My plan was to put New Brighton back on the map and in order to do that we needed to recreate significant

reasons for people to visit New Brighton once again. My approach involved creating a cluster-effect of new independent businesses and in particular focussing on art, music and hospitality venues. One aim was to create the largest free, open air street art gallery in the UK – which we are well on the way to achieving, with works by local artist Brez to more recent pieces from French artists Nerone and Adele Renault. Notable other murals include viral works from Australian artist SMUG, Northern duo 'The Nomad Clan', Ben

Eine's vibrant 'I See the Sea' and a range of pieces from Dotmasters. The mix of street pieces is a neat blend of local, national and international artists, with stories to tell, tributes to make (RNLI and Guide Dogs), or just simply for the love of art.

Along with a London/New York quality art gallery on a small high street, we're looking to create a

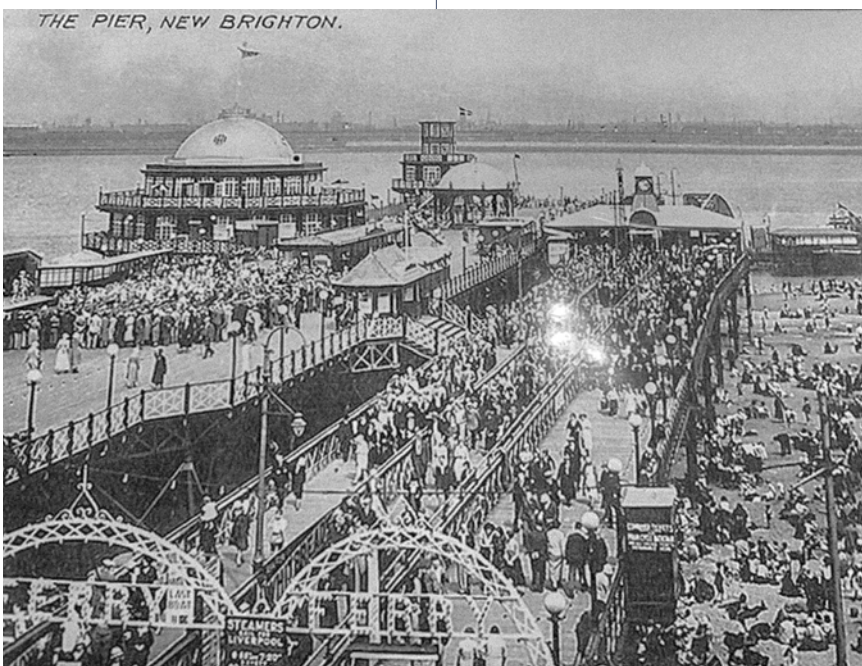
variety of food offerings – from street food vendors clustered around our Hope supermarket and Habibi's, a quality restaurant with a middle eastern theme.

The heart of the redevelopment is a traditional pub named after the town's founder, The James Atherton. Opened in partnership with Punch Taverns, its previous name was The Railway, which regularly had its windows put through and had the clientele of the bar in the Star Wars movie, with the first question in the pub quiz being "who the f\$%k are you lookin' at?"!

We've also opened the iconic Rockpoint records, which in one building houses a vinyl record store, a live music bar, a gin distillery, two tattoo parlours, a barber shop and three art studios. This is already established as a regular haunt for well-established bands, such as The Coral, and other up-and-coming groups. Two of our bar staff founded a band called the Mysterines and having signed a record deal are about to embark on a major US tour.

The New Brighton story is not an isolated one. It is replicated around the UK where there are forgotten towns that are under-invested and have suffered from urban blight and bad planning and licensing decisions. This short-termism has resulted in large tracts of once vibrant local centres being turned into urban dormitories because that is all unimaginative councils could think to do with them.

In the House of Lords report into seaside towns, our regeneration project was featured as a model that could be used to regenerate other towns that have fallen on hard times. To differentiate from a bland, big brand dominated past and to go right back to the basics of what a high street should provide to the residents and community it serves. We've made huge strides forward, but it's a work in progress. I will keep you updated.



# Coronavirus (Recovery and Reform) (Scotland) Bill – Licensing Implications

Words by Stephen McGowan, Scotland Region Director and Partner at TLT LLP

The Scottish Parliament introduced the Coronavirus (Recovery and Reform) (Scotland) Bill (“the Bill”) on 25 January 2022. The wider ambit of the Bill is to create permanent powers to respond to public health emergencies. It is therefore an extremely important piece of proposed legislation. It has already attracted detractors, concerned that a permanent footing for remarkable emergency powers introduced in response to the Covid-19 pandemic should not be legislated for in this way. In that regard, the Bill proposes to give Parliament the power to introduce such restrictions (which the Bill calls “protections”) by way of secondary legislation and therefore, it will be argued by some, without the fuller scrutiny that such measures should attract in a time of emergency.

This article, however, is to focus on the licensing provisions of the Bill. These are, to be fair, pretty technical and in short are designed to allow the possibility of remote hearings, which are legislated for under the temporary

arrangements at the moment, to be offered on a permanent basis going forward.

## Civic Licensing

The Bill seeks to amend the Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982 on a permanent basis to allow for the possibility of remote/hybrid hearings. A new Paragraph 18B(1) is proposed to be added to Schedule 1 to the 1982 Act. It says:

How hearings may be held  
18B (1) A licensing authority may determine that a hearing is to be held—

- (a) in person,
  - (b) wholly through the use of remote facilities, or
  - (c) partly in person and partly through the use of remote facilities.
- (2) In sub-paragraph (1), “remote facilities” means any equipment or facility which—
- (a) enables persons who are not

in the same place to participate in the hearing, and  
(b) enables those persons to speak to and be heard by each other (whether or not it enables those persons to see and be seen by each other).”.

An equivalent provision is proposed for Schedule 2, to cover applications for Sex Shops and Sexual Entertainment Venues.

This new paragraph essentially puts on a permanent statutory footing the ability to hold hearings remotely, and to hold a hybrid hearing which is partly remote and partly in person. The “hybrid hearing” may become the overarching model of the future where a committee is in person in local authority chambers, but with IT facilities and screens set up in the room to people to also join remotely. This arrangement is already in place in certain licensing authority areas, such as Inverclyde.

The Bill also contains an amendment to relax some

notice requirements to allow certain applications to be listed on the local authority website. This is of course currently allowed via the temporary arrangements under the Coronavirus (Scotland) Act 2020 (see s.17(1) and Schedule 6 Paragraph 1(7)(a)) of the 2020 Act).

## Alcohol Licensing

The Bill proposes to amend the Licensing (Scotland) Act 2005 to create a new s133A which, in short, introduces equivalent wording to that above for the 1982 Act, allowing remote and hybrid hearings to take place on a permanent basis. This can be seen as a continuation (although not in exact terms) of the current arrangements which exist under s133(3A through 3D) which were inserted into the 2005 Act by the Coronavirus (Scotland) Act 2020 (see s.17(1) and Schedule 5 Paragraph 1(2) of the 2020 Act).

Again the purpose here is to allow licensing boards to hold remote or partly remote hearings on a permanent basis and as with civic licensing business, it is to be anticipated that the hybrid hearing may become the common hearing of the future, with boards sitting in person in public, but with some participants joining remotely via a screen within the hearing facility.

## Analysis

In broad terms, I expect licensing practitioners to welcome these changes to the 1982 Act and 2005 Act. Most people who are at the coal face will, like me, very much welcome a return to face to face hearings whilst retaining the option, it is hoped, for remote participation if that is suitable for the individual. There are certainly cases I have acted in across the last two years that I would have much preferred to be in the room and there are multiple reasons why this might be so.

Firstly, a large part of advocacy is in reading the room, reading body language, and – in some cases – taking the hint when you may be off on a frolic. It is also far easier to interact with your client when you are in the room with them. I have had plenty of situations where I have had to ask the board/committee to pause proceedings whilst I take instructions via Whatsapp or even to take a call, whilst hopefully remembering to put myself on mute.

In this context it is also difficult for an agent to help steer the client as to how they should best answer certain questions when you are not there to give them the metaphorical kick under the table!

Similarly, I find that the councillors I see and hear from in these hearings miss seeing the applicants in the flesh so that they can better gauge the person and their attitude. Having hearings conducted remotely has allowed business to continue during the pandemic and thank goodness for that. What it has also done, to some small extent, is to erode the formality of the quasi judicial nature of the hearing itself. I have witnessed scenarios where applicants or other parties such as objectors interact with the board members or officers as if they were in a “zoom drinks” with their pals on a Friday night.

Whilst this might be a slightly frivolous point, there is a deeper issue to ponder about natural justice. I have heard a number of remarks from solicitors worried about the appearance (in the wider sense) of cases where a party applicant may be, for example, virtually attending a hearing, whilst holding a phone up walking around their house or outside somewhere, perhaps about to learn that they have lost their licence. In one case a colleague of mine witnessed, a private hire driver took part in a hearing whilst behind the wheel of his car, and had to be told by the committee chairman to pull over.



There is always a place for the well-aided point that ensuring access to justice (and even quasi-justice) can sometimes be hampered by the formality of a hearing, but where hearings are formal and serious, it is because serious matters are being discussed which may have significant implications for the parties involved such as the livelihood of a licence holder, or the quality of life of an objector, and so on.

Lastly, on a more personal note, the re-introduction of in person hearings cannot come soon enough to simply let us see one another again and interact as human beings do. Licensing is a small and collegiate area of legal practise and having a good old natter with other agents, officers and so on is a much-missed aspect.

# ipl Awards

The Iol's National Training Conference also plays host to our Annual Gala Dinner and Awards Night. The presentations in 2022 including the 10th Jeremy Allen Award, along with Fellowships and the first of our Chairman's Special Recognitions.

## Jeremy Allen Award 2022

We were delighted to present the 10th Jeremy Allen Award to Andy Parsons in recognition of his outstanding contribution to licensing through his long term public service within the Home Office.

Andy Grimsey, Partner at Poppleston Allen, presented the Award to Andy Parsons during the Iol's National Training Conference, saying:

*"This is a thoroughly deserved award win for a man who has dedicated almost 36 years of his*

*life to being a civil servant. From coordinating the implementation of local alcohol action areas back in 2014, reviewing and amending Licensing Act training modules for an initiative by the Institute and the Home Office, and, of course, his involvement in relaxing the rules for Off-Sales under the Business and Planning Act, he has always been proactive and receptive."*

Given that the Jeremy Allen Award recognises excellence in licensing, and particularly partnership working, Andy Parsons is a truly deserving award winner."

In his acceptance speech, Andy said:

*"A career highlight for me was the two phases of the local alcohol action areas program in which I helped to support many local areas across England and Wales in tackling alcohol harms. I see this award as recognition of the work I did with people at the sharp end*

*and would like to thank everyone who wrote very kind words in support of my nomination. Thank you"*

2022 will see the 11th Jeremy Allen Award, and nominations will be accepted from 1st June – 1st September 2022. We will remind everyone once nominations are open and would urge you all to consider nominating a colleague or acquaintance who you feel deserves recognition due to exceptional commitment, energy, passion and achievements.

## Fellowship Awards

It was a pleasure and a privilege for the Institute of Licensing to be able to recognise the unique contributions to licensing and to the Institute of Licensing for two of its prominent Board members. Gary Grant and Sarah Clover were both awarded Fellowship at the Institute's Gala dinner on Thursday 18th November 2021.

Institute Director Susanna FitzGerald QC presented the award. Susanna said:

*"It was an enormous pleasure to be able to present the Fellowship awards to both Gary and Sarah, two people for I have the highest regard. They are both fine licensing barristers, who have done, and are doing so much for licensing, and who have contributed so much of their talent, time, energy, and*



care both to that and to the IOL. The Fellowship awards are richly deserved."

Gary was sadly unable to be with us at the National Training Conference this year due to court commitments, but his recorded acceptance speech was played during the awards presentations. He said:

"I am so honoured and grateful to the Institute for the award of Fellowship. Licensing has been a labour of love for me for many years because, at its core, is human enjoyment. Whether we are trade, licensing or environmental health officers, police, lawyers, Councillors or consultants, when we are at our best we are enablers of human fun. When we get it right we increase the sum of human happiness. So the pursuit of excellence in licensing is an honourable journey. The Institute is the standard bearer and hand-maiden of that task. So I feel privileged to have been able to make my own small contribution to the work of the Institute and the practise of licensing in the UK."

Sarah Clover said:

"It is a great honour to be named as a Fellow of the Institute of Licensing. Licensing is a unique area that seem to draw the most committed and passionate of practitioners. The members of the Institute share those qualities and come together as a family, particularly at the much-loved Annual Conference. It was lovely



to see everyone back together again in Stratford this year. The levels of cooperation and dedication shown by the IOL Board, team and members throughout the COVID pandemic have been really impressive. It is a great privilege to be able to contribute to such a professional and respected organisation".

## Chairman's Special Recognition

IoL Chairman Daniel Davies presented special recognitions to Margaret O'Donnell and Joanne Moran from Wirral Council and Kate Roberts from Merseyside Police at the IoL's National Training Conference on 18th November 2021 in recognition of their contribution to licensing and partnership work following their efforts in New Brighton which have contributed to the regeneration and reimagination of Victoria Quarter.

Daniel paid tribute to Margaret, Joanne and Kate, and the partnership approach which has enabled the transformation of the area in New Brighton known as Victoria Quarter. The project had been the subject of a conference session during the National Training Conference, where delegates had heard from Joanne Moran about the state of the area prior to its transformation, including derelict buildings and high levels of crime and anti-social behaviour. Daniel said:

"Communication and partnership are central to the approach taken by Joanne and Margaret from Wirral's Licensing Team, and Kate through her role within Merseyside Police.



The work we have achieved in New Brighton has transformed the area and brought significant benefit to local residents and businesses. Victoria Quarter is now a hive of vibrant activity, where previously it had an abandoned and uncared for atmosphere. This would not have been possible without the dedication and 'can do' approach taken by Margaret, Joanne and Kate. It is my privilege to publically recognise their work and approach"

Kate was unable to join us at the NTC, but Margaret and Jo said:

"Working with partners to support businesses and protect the public through licensing is how we make a difference to the communities in Wirral. We work proactively with businesses through individual visits, and regular Premises Network meetings. We provide training, advice and guidance to staff of licensed premises with the aim of creating a safe and fair trading environment for all, so that businesses can thrive and the public can enjoy the hospitality of these venues. With the support of partners, we take innovative action and work creatively to bring about improvements where necessary. It is humbling to have this work recognised as we know Licensing Officers throughout the country work hard to make a difference and protect the safety of the public."

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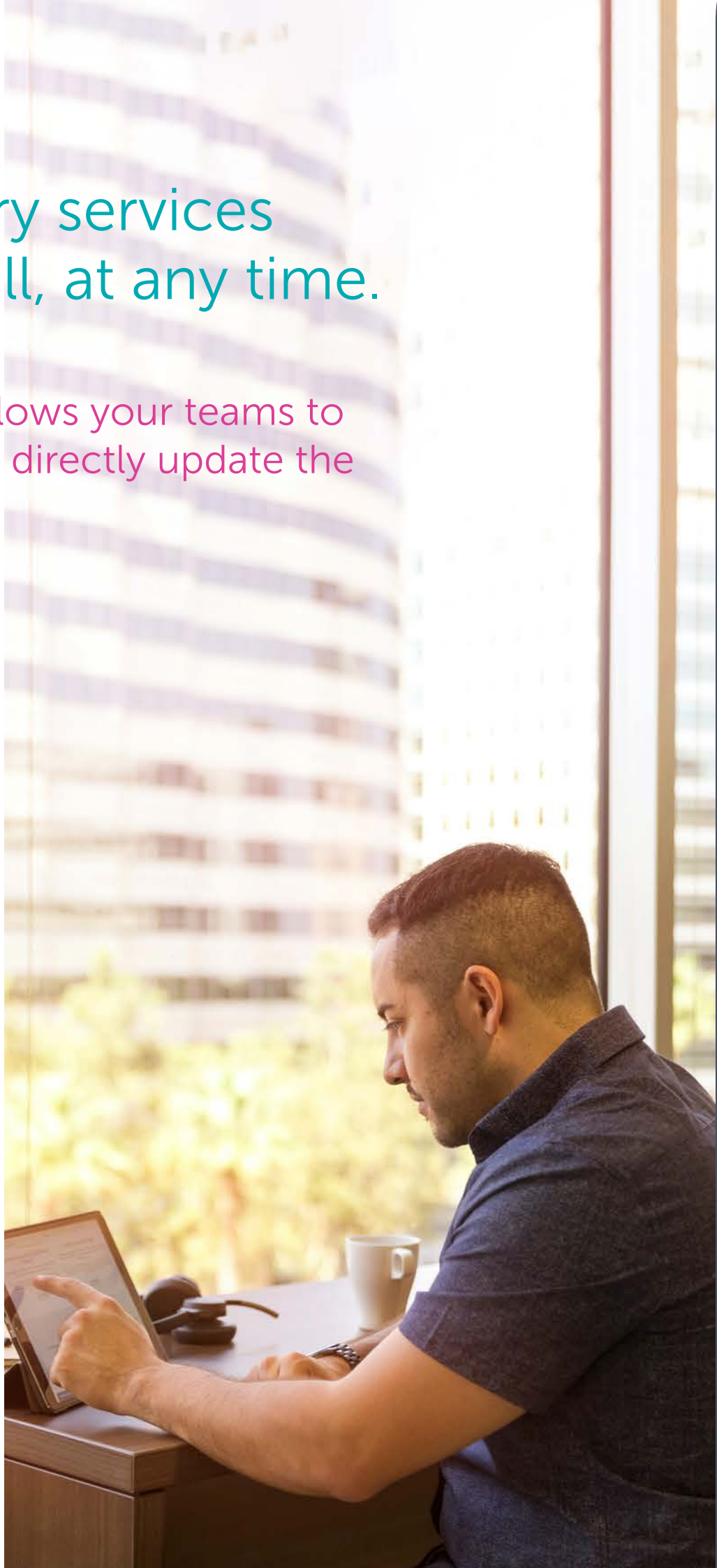
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# BTEC Level 3 Award in Animal Inspectors (SRF)

**COURSE DATES:**

GROUP 11 (148112): 9, 16 & 30 June & 6, 14 & 21 July 2022



The IoL is delighted to confirm that we are in the final stages of developing a level 3 qualification for animal inspectors. The qualification will be accredited by an OFQUAL provider and will meet Defra requirements outlined in the Regulations.

It will provide learners with all the knowledge and skills they require to be able to competently carry out their duties under The Animal Welfare (Licensing of Activities Involving Animals) (England) Regulations 2018.

The course is 5-days in duration and will include an assessed practical session, online exam and a portfolio to be submitted within a specified time period after the course.

## Course Modules

Course content includes:

- Legislative overview
- Dog breeding
- Premises that hire out horses
- Home Boarding
- Kennel Boarding
- Day care (dogs)
- Premises that sell animals as pets
- Premises keeping or training animals for exhibition and dangerous wild animals



For more information on course dates and to book a course please contact the team via [events@instituteoflicensing.org](mailto:events@instituteoflicensing.org) or call us on 01749 987 333

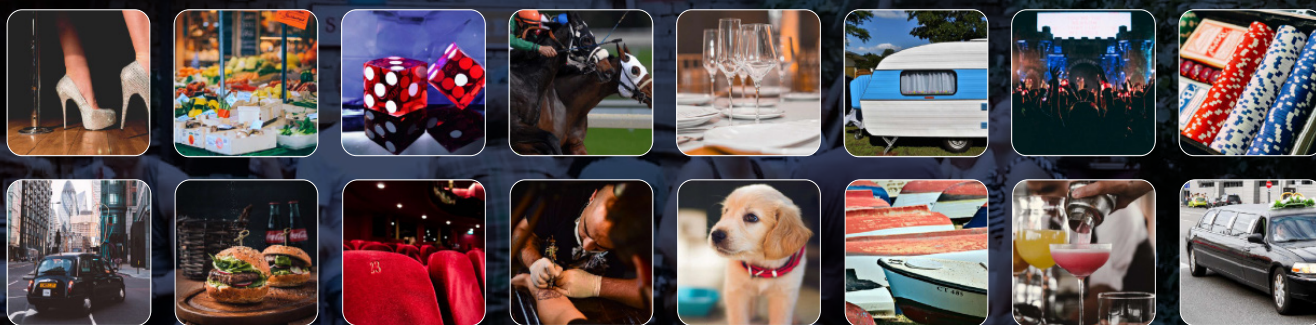
# Link



## NLW National Licensing Week

13th–17th June 2022

NLW celebrates the role and importance of licensing in the UK to keep people safe when enjoying a variety of hospitality and pleasure activities.



### Licensing is Everywhere

#NLW2022

@licensingweek

 Institute of  
Licensing

#### Membership renewals due

You will be able to renew your membership online from **1st April**.

Simply login, head to manage account, edit personal info and then hit the membership renewal button and follow the instructions.

#### Not a member?

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- Bespoke Training
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If you have any questions please email [membership@instituteoflicensing.org](mailto:membership@instituteoflicensing.org) and one of the team will be happy to assist.