

Commenting on Licence Applications

Making a representation

1. Should you wish to comment on the licence application, either in support or against, you must refer to one or more of the following four licensing objectives:
 - The prevention of crime and disorder
 - The prevention of public nuisance
 - Public safety
 - The protection of children from harm
2. The sorts of issues you may have concerns about could relate to disorder in the street at closing time, outside drinkers blocking the pavement, noise from customers leaving or drinking in outside areas, suitability of the premises or problems with underage drinking.
3. If you would like to make a comment, you may wish to use the attached pro-forma as a guide to assist you. Please note that you must clearly state your **name and address** so we can contact you.
4. Your representation will be forwarded to the applicant and will form part of the report sent to the Licensing Sub Committee who will make the decision whether or not to grant the licence. Representations are not treated as confidential and your name and address will be included in the public report and be given to the applicant, however your personal details will be removed from the on-line version of the report.
5. We will treat representations as anonymous where there is a genuine reason to do so; if you wish your name and address details to be withheld then please explain the reason when making your representation.
6. As an alternative to making a representation yourself, you may wish to consider making a joint representation, for example as a Tenants and Residents Association or Neighbourhood Watch group. You could also consider asking a local Ward Councillor or MP to make a representation on your behalf. If you decide to submit a petition, please ensure that each page clearly specifies the purpose of the petition; names and address are clearly written and the person organising the petition is identified so we can write to that person about the progress of the application.
7. Applicants are expected to explain what measures they will adopt to promote the licensing objectives on their application form. These measures will become conditions of the licence if the application is granted. Copies of the application form are available for inspection and it is good idea to ask the Licensing Team to see this document as the applicants may have already addressed your concerns. You may also wish to suggest additional measures in your representation that the applicant could undertake to address your concerns.

Licensing Committee Hearings

8. If an application receives representations the decision to grant the application will be made at a public hearing by the Council's Licensing Sub Committee. If you have made a representation you will be invited to attend the hearing and you will have the opportunity to speak and ask questions. We will write to you at least 10 working days before the hearing to let you know where and when it will take place. You do not have to attend the hearing and the Licensing Sub Committee will still consider your written representation before making a decision.

9. Sometimes an applicant may wish to contact you to discuss your representation before the hearing and where possible we encourage this to be done via the Licensing Team.

Licensing Policy

10. The Council has a Licensing Policy which sets Islington's approach to licensing in Islington. Copies of the policy are available via the Council's website [Alcohol and entertainment licensing policy | Islington Council](#)
11. If you are unable to access a copy of the policy from our website please contact the Licensing Service on 020 7527 3031

Cumulative Impact Policy

12. In January 2013 Islington Council designated areas of Islington as Cumulative Impact Areas. These are areas which already have a high number of licensed premises, which collectively lead to problems related to the licensing objectives. This means Islington will generally not allow any new licences or extension of hours to existing licences in these areas, unless the applicant can demonstrate that they will not further contribute to the problems. It is important to note that the policy will only apply if valid objections are made to the application; if no representations are made then the licence will automatically be granted. More information about cumulative impact can be found in our Licensing Policy.

Music and Dancing

13. Under the licensing laws certain types of entertainment need a licence. Recent changes to these laws have relaxed the need to have licences for entertainment in some cases. For example, live and/or recorded music played through an amplifier is no longer needed in alcohol licensed premises such as pubs, and work places between 8am and 11pm (if no more than 500 people present). Live unamplified music, regardless where it takes place between 8am and 11pm, no longer requires a licence. Dance facilities, such as a dance floor in a nightclub, and "facilities for making music", such as a piano for customers to use for in a pub, also no longer need a licence.

Late Night Refreshment

14. Late night refreshment refers to hot food or drink supplied between 11pm and 5am, which generally must be licensed.

Submitting Representations

15. Representations should be submitted using the online form which can be found on webpage [How to comment or complain about licensed premises | Islington Council](#)

Alternatively, a copy of this form can be requested emailing us licensing@islington.gov.uk