

**Manchester City Council  
Report for Resolution**

**Report to:** Licensing Committee – 7 March 2022

**Subject:** Licensing Update

**Report of:** Director of Planning, Building Control & Licensing

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**Summary**

This report presents the Committee with a topical update on matters relevant to the licensing functions of the Council.

**Recommendations**

Members are asked to note the contents of the report

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**Wards Affected:** All

<b>Environmental Impact Assessment</b> - the impact of the decisions proposed in this report on achieving the zero-carbon target for the city
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None
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<b>Our Manchester Strategy Outcomes</b>	<b>Summary of how this report aligns to the OMS</b>
A thriving and sustainable City: supporting a diverse and distinctive economy that creates jobs and opportunities	
A highly skilled city: world class and home grown talent sustaining the city's economic success	
A progressive and equitable city: making a positive contribution by unlocking the potential of our communities	
A liveable and low carbon city: a destination of choice to live, visit and work.	

A connected city: world class infrastructure and connectivity to drive growth	
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**Full details are in the body of the report, along with any implications for:**

- Equal Opportunities Policy
- Risk Management
- Legal Considerations

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**Financial Consequences – Revenue:** None

**Financial Consequences – Capital:** None

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**Background documents (available for public inspection):**

The following documents disclose important facts on which the report is based and have been relied upon in preparing the report. Copies of the background documents are available up to 4 years after the date of the meeting. If you would like a copy, please contact one of the contact officers above.

## 1. **Introduction**

- 1.1. This report provides the Licensing Committee with a topical update on matters relevant to the licensing functions of the Council.

## 2. **COVID-19**

- 2.1. The Health Protection (Coronavirus, Restrictions) (Entry to Venues and Events) (England) Regulations 2021; and The Health Protection (Coronavirus, Wearing of Face Coverings) (England) Regulations 2021 will expire at the end of 26th January 2022.
- 2.2. Therefore, from Thursday 27 January, the mandatory use of COVID passes and the wearing of face masks will no longer be legally required in England.
- 2.3. Organisations can, of course, choose to use the NHS Covid Pass and the Government will continue to suggest the use of face coverings in enclosed or crowded places, particularly where persons come into contact with people they don't normally meet.

## 3. **Relaxation of licensing hours for Her Majesty the Queen's platinum jubilee**

- 3.1. The Government has consulted on a licensing hours order under section 172 of the Licensing Act 2003 which would extend opening hours from 11 pm to 1.00 am on Thursday 2 June, Friday 3 June and Saturday 4 June 2022 ending on Sunday 5 June 2022 for the sale of alcohol for consumption on the premises and the provision of regulated entertainment in licensed premises in England and Wales.
- 3.2. Any extension of licensing hours will only apply to sales of alcohol for consumption on the premises and the provision of late-night refreshments in on-trade licensed premises. The Government believes that the on-trade provision of late-night refreshment in licensed premises would be appropriate to accompany any relaxation of alcohol licensing hours to mark the Queen's Platinum Jubilee, not least to support people to drink responsibly.
- 3.3. The Government considers that any national relaxation of licensing hours should not apply to the sale of alcohol for consumption off the premises (i.e. in supermarkets and off-licences) as anyone wishing to mark the occasion at home will be able to buy alcohol during normal shopping hours. Late-night refreshment venues, by definition, are already licensed to open late at night and would not benefit from a relaxation in licensing hours. Unlicensed premises would also not benefit from a relaxation in licensing hours and would still need to use a Temporary Event Notice (TEN) to undertake licensable activities.

3.4. The purpose of any national relaxation of licensing hours to mark the Her Majesty the Queen's Platinum Jubilee would be to enable pubs and other on-trade premises to sell alcohol and late-night refreshment to those wishing to extend their celebrations of the Queen's Platinum Jubilee beyond their normal licensing hours over the extended bank holiday period.

#### 4. **ACT Training**

4.1. As part of our work in supporting the Martyn's Law licensing conditions requiring businesses to attend in-person counter terrorism training, we have been working with Counter Terrorism Policing, Cityco and Figen Murray to deliver ACT Awareness training sessions for licensed operators.

4.2. A pilot session was held at Impossible on Peter Street on 19 October 2021, and the training was formally launched in November at an event held at the Frog and Bucket comedy club in the Northern Quarter, which was featured on BBC regional evening news, the Manchester Evening News and Hits Radio.

4.3. Events have been well attended and there continues to be great demand. Feedback has been overwhelmingly positive although the course material is continually refined and has been updated to include new first aid guidance by Counter Terrorism Policing.

4.4. Examples of feedback include:

*"Very good information on the course. Good range of theoretical advice, and physical response advice"*

*"Incredibly relevant for large organizations and entire teams. Very useful!"*

*"Info for hospitality needs to be more specific, especially in LGBTQ areas."*

4.5. March's training event will be at Bar Pop in the Gay Village and April's session at Vue cinema in the Printworks will shortly be made available for booking.

4.6. The support for the trade in attending and supporting these sessions should be notes, as well as those businesses freely making their venues available to enable us to deliver the courses.

#### 5. **Changes to Temporary Event Notices**

5.1. For 2022 and 2023, the number of temporary event notices that can be given has increased from 15 to 20 and the maximum total number of days on which temporary events may be held has increased from 21 to 26 days.

5.2. Temporary Event Notices can be submitted online at Licensing - Temporary event notice (TEN) | Manchester City Council.

5.3. The provisions in the Business and Planning Act 2020 to allow sales of alcohol for consumption off the premises to licensed premises that did not have that permission have also been extended to 30 September 2022.

## 6. **Licensing Policy Review**

6.1. Work is ongoing on the review of the Council's Statement of Licensing Policy under the Licensing Act 2003. The review will include reconsideration of the special area policies in respect of Fallowfield, Withington and Ancoats.

6.2. It is intended to simplify and reduce the policy in size to promote its applicability and accessibility, as well as ensure that it addresses themes such as vulnerability (including spiking), counter terrorism, and publicly accessible trauma kits.

6.3. An update will be provided to a future committee regarding the draft revised policy.

## 7. **Gambling Harms update**

7.1. In 2020 the GMCA was successfully awarded £750,000 by the Gambling Commission from a regulatory settlement to fund a three-year programme to prevent and reduce gambling related harms in GM. This funding is partly used to fund a programme manager to lead this work and has been used to fund various interventions to reduce harm from gambling in GM. This is the first city-region approach to reducing gambling harms and sits within the GMCA's public service reform portfolio.

7.2. The GM gambling harm programme aims to: establish a firm evidence basis of the extent and impact of gambling harms across GM, building on the OHID review, understand and improve existing support for those already experiencing harms and develop work across the system to prevent harm from occurring, with a focus on younger residents

7.3. Representatives from public health teams in all 10 localities sit on the GM gambling harms board, which meets monthly to share learning, update on progress, oversee how the programme funding is used and provide a forum for focused discussion.

7.4. The programme has established GamHive, a group of individuals with lived experience of gambling related harm who provide invaluable insight and co-design the programme, ensuring it meets the needs of residents.

7.5. The group works to better integrate gambling harms reduction with the emerging substance misuse programme following recommendations of the

independent review of drug and alcohol services in GM, as well as embed it within other relevant work programmes, such as suicide prevention.

- 7.6. PHE (now OHID) have published a review of evidence (<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/gambling-related-harms-evidence-review>) reporting that the North West has one of the highest rates of people at risk of gambling disorder (4.4% of the population), however the review identified significant gaps in the research regarding gambling harms.
- 7.7. The programme board are working with the GMCA research team, local authority public health leads and leading academics to develop an evidence baseline to better describe the extent and impact of gambling in GM (by locality where possible). This will include an assessment of both quantitative and qualitative evidence, including insights from people with lived experience of gambling related harms and locally collected data. We aim to complete this work by the end of the year.
- 7.8. £300,000 of funding has been made available to 13 projects led by public, community and voluntary sector organisations across GM through the Communities Addressing Gambling Harms (CAGH) initiative (a summary is available on the GMCA website).
- 7.9. Specialist treatment and support for people affected by gambling related harm is available in GM from Beacon Counselling Trust and the NHS Northern Gambling Service (based in Salford), both services are commissioned nationally by GambleAware and NHS England. 90% of referrals are by self-referral; further work is required to embed specialist gambling services into the health and wellbeing system across all local authorities in GM and to continue to raise awareness of gambling harms amongst frontline practitioners.
- 7.10. Following a meeting with Change Grow Live (CGL) at their premises in Ancoats / 'New Islington' (Phoenix Mill) it has been agreed that Beacon Counselling Trust will offer a weekly face-to-face gambling clinic. This will be promoted and available to residents across GM. The next step is to review how we can use this as an opportunity to promote specialist gambling services and Manchester and GMCA will work together to develop messaging on this. There is also further scope to extend this offer to co-locate other gambling services (e.g. peer support) and we hope to grow this offer.
- 7.11. Working with the GM mental health commissioning team, we have partnered with the charity Gambling With Lives. Together we have successfully been awarded additional funding to develop training packages and embed provision of specialist gambling support services as part of an integrated treatment and care pathway in GM. This will provide a model for the rest of the country.
- 7.12. A communications and engagement lead is in the process of being appointed to work with GamHive to develop and deliver an engaging public-facing

campaign to: raise awareness of the risks of gambling harm, reduce the shame and stigma associated with a gambling disorder, and encourage people to access treatment and support.

- 7.13. Over the coming months our focus will be to progress our work within the criminal justice system and identify a lead (ideally a Public Health Registrar) to progress our work with GM universities given the vulnerability of new undergraduates to gambling addiction.

## 8. **Recommendation**

- 8.1. The Committee is asked to note the report.

## 9. **Key Policies and Considerations**

- 9.1. The proposals relate the Council's policies under the Licensing Act 2003 and Gambling Act 2005.