

**Jan Smallacombe**

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**From:** SW-Licensing <licensing@swdevon.gov.uk>  
**Sent:** 24 July 2025 11:02  
**To:** SW-Licensing  
**Subject:** CONSULTATION - West Devon Draft Statement of Licensing Policy - Have your Say

Good Morning

**Overview**

West Devon Borough Council is now undertaking a consultation process to review its Statement of Licensing Policy.

As such, we would like to hear your views.

**Background to the Consultation**

Under the Licensing Act 2003, we, as the licensing authority, are responsible for licensing premises within the borough for:

- The sale of alcohol, for consumption both on and off the premises
- The provision of regulated entertainment
- The sale of hot food and hot (non-alcoholic) drink late at night

Premises such as pubs, clubs, restaurants, hotels and grocers/newsagents selling alcohol require a licence under this legislation, as do late night takeaways (selling hot food and drinks between 11pm – 5am).

We are required to produce a Statement of Licensing Policy which sets out our approach to licensing in the borough. The policy gives clear guidance of our policies and expectations to licence holders, applicants, and people who may comment on premises licence applications or seek reviews of licences. Legally, we are obliged to consider our Statement of Licensing Policy when deciding opposed licence applications or applications for review. If any of our decisions are appealed to a Magistrates Court, the court must also consider the policy when deciding whether the original decision was correct.

There are four Licensing Objectives under the Licensing Act 2003, which are:

- Prevention of crime and disorder
- Public safety
- Prevention of public nuisance
- Protection of children from harm

The Licensing Authority can only have regard to matters that relate to one or more of the Licensing Objectives listed above when determining its Statement of Licensing Policy.

**How to respond**

The consultation provides our existing policy and our draft policy showing our amendments along with an opportunity to give us your views. Please see the link below.

<https://statementoflicensingpolicy.commonplace.is/>

Alternatively, you can e-mail your comments to [licensing@swdevon.gov.uk](mailto:licensing@swdevon.gov.uk).

The consultation runs until Tuesday 30 September 2025.

### **Next steps**

We will consider all the responses and amend the proposed policy as appropriate. The updated policy will then be considered by the Licensing Committee and by full Council.

Many Thanks

Karen

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South Hams District Council | West Devon Borough Council



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