

Evidence to support the Public Health proposition of a Cumulative Impact Zone for Lower Wheatley

Background

Public Health responded to the Statement of Licensing Policy suggesting a Cumulative Impact Zone in Lower Wheatley. Consumption in the home has been a key driver for the increases in alcohol harm (National Alcohol Strategy, 2012) and this new zone would seek to minimise harm from further increases in off-license density.

There is evidence demonstrating a link between off-license density and rates of alcohol-related harm including violence, antisocial behaviour and underage consumption;

- Theall, K.P. et al (2009). The neighbourhood alcohol environment and alcohol-related morbidity. *Alcohol and Alcoholism*, **44**(5), pp.491-499.
- Livingston, M (2011). A longitudinal analysis of alcohol outlet density and domestic violence. *Addiction*, **106**(5), pp.919-925.
- Osterberg, E (2009). *Availability of Alcohol*, a chapter within *Alcohol in the European Union; Consumption, Harm and Policy Approaches*. WHO Regional Office for Europe, pp83-88.
- Alcohol Concern (2011). *One on every corner – The relationship between off-license density and alcohol harms in young people*. Report by the Alcohol Concern Youth Policy Project.

Current density of premises

Lower Wheatley already has a high density of licensed premises - 33 premises equating to 6 per 1,000 population. Along with Belle Vue, this is the highest density in the Borough, if we exclude the Town Centre and Bawtry with their evening economies. Of these premises, 16 are takeaways or corner shops selling alcohol for consumption off site and 8 of these are located on Nether Hall Road, Copley Road, Broxholme Lane and Christchurch Road.

Current issues relating to the 4 licensing objectives

The population of Lower Wheatley already experiences issues high levels of harm relevant to the 4 licensing objectives. The 2014 Community Profile for Lower Wheatley highlights that the area has; http://www.teamdoncaster.org.uk/Images/Lower%20Wheatley_tcm33-109709.pdf

- The highest rate of violence against the person in the Borough; from 2009-2013 there were 147 crimes per 1,000 population, more than double the Borough average of 63 per 1,000.
- One of the highest rates of criminal damage in the Borough; from 2009-2013 there were 147 crimes per 1,000 population, double the Borough average of 76 per 1,000.
- One of the highest rates of antisocial behaviour in the Borough; from 2009-2013 there were 845 incidents per 1,000 population, more than double the Borough average of 355 per 1,000.

Recommendation

Public Health recommends a Cumulative Impact Policy for all licensed premises covering Netherhall Road, Copley Road, Christ Church Road, Broxholme Lane, plus Highfield Road to counter displacement. Appropriate restaurants and cafes should easily meet the requirements of the Cumulative Impact Policy, so a scope covering all licensed premises will not harm the wider economy of the area.