

C25-074 GBC's LICENSING ACT POLICY

To consider if the Council wish to offer a response to the Guildford Borough Council Consultation on Statement of Licensing Policy 2026 – 2031; Licensing Act 2003 section 5

Guildford Borough Council, the Licensing Authority for the purposes of the Licensing Act 2003 is consulting on revisions to its Statement of Licensing Policy which is due for review by 7 January 2026.

The current Statement of Policy is available at: <https://www.guildford.gov.uk/article/17581/Find-out-about-alcohol-entertainment-and-late-night-refreshment-licences>

On the 23 July the Council's Licensing Committee approved a 3-month consultation on the updated Licensing Act Statement of Policy. The Council is consulting on the following proposed changes:

Section 2	Minor changes to the background of Guildford and Policy
Section 3	Removal of reference to licensing committee having previously provided strategic direction for the current policy
Section 4	Additional clarification on the purpose of promoting the licensing objectives
Section 6	Clarification on the deregulation of entertainment under the Live Music and Deregulation Acts
	Clarification of the importance of the operating schedule
	Clarification regarding guests at a Members Club holding a Club Premises Certificate
Section 9	Clarification that the addition of 'off sales' to a premises licence authorising 'on sales' will
Section 12	Inclusion of figures about alcohol linked to violent crime
	Additional information of expected steps suggested to promote the licensing objectives
	Inclusion of information about drink spiking
	Inclusion of information about violence against women and girls
	Inclusion of further information about Martyns Law
	Additional information of expectations around preventing public nuisance
	Additional information of expectations around protecting children from harm
Section 13	Renamed to include High Capacity Venues as well as Large Events
Section 15	Updated information related to safeguarding
Section 20	Updated information related to reviews

The draft Policy for consultation is available at: [Licensing Act Policy 2026 - 2031 - Guildford Borough Council](#)

Comments can be made in writing to: Licensing
Regulatory Services

Guilford Borough Council
Millmead
Guildford
GU2 4BB

Comments can also be provided by email to regulatoryservices@guildford.gov.uk

The consultation runs until Sunday 2 November. Any responses received will be published by the Council and will be considered by the Council's Licensing Committee on 19 November.