

## SOUTH HOLLAND COUNCIL

**Report of:** The Assistant Director of Commissioning

**To:** Committee of the Licensing Authority – 22 April 2014

**Author:** Rowland W Wilson – Licensing Manager

**Subject:** The Introduction of a code of practice for Off Licences in South Holland

**Purpose:** The Licensing Committee are asked to note the contents of the proposed document entitled Safer Spalding, Code of Good Practice For Off Licensed Retailers.

### **Recommendation:**

The Licensing Committee are asked to approve the use of the proposed document entitled Safer Spalding, Code Of Good Practice For Off Licensed Retailers.

### **1.0 BACKGROUND**

- 1.1 The background to this proposed new code of practice for off licences arose as a result of discussions into the introduction of a Cumulative Impact area in Spalding which for varying reasons did not proceed.
- 1.2 The Safer Spalding Project is a partnership between South Holland District Council Licensing and Community Safety, Lincolnshire Police Community and County Licensing team, Lincolnshire Trading Standards, and the Spalding branch of Lincolnshire Chamber of Commerce. It has been a group formulated to assist with the issues around street drinking and underage sales initially within the town centre of Spalding.
- 1.3 The proposed initial plan is to introduce this document as a voluntary code of good practice for all off licences within the current DPPO which covers Spalding town centre (map included within the code). A DPPO (Designated Public Place Order ) gives Police officers discretionary powers to require a person to stop drinking and confiscate alcohol or containers of alcohol in public places.
- 1.4 Should this initiative prove to be a valuable tool to support the licensing objectives, ie, Crime and disorder, public nuisance, public safety, and protection of children from harm, then this would be a good reason for it to be then expanded to all off licences within Spalding with a view to eventually including this to all off licences within South Holland District Council.
- 1.5 A number of the aspects within the proposed code, are currently being used effectively in other Authorities, and if we can gain widespread acceptance within the DPPO it will be a valuable guide should any off licence within the area fall foul of the principles, the relevant parts may legitimately be added as conditions to an offending premises by way of either a minor variation or following a review of a premises licence.

### **2.0 OPTIONS**

- 2.1 The Committee of the Licensing Authority are asked to approve the document to be used as a working document for future use with South Holland District Council.

### 3.0 REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION

The code is intended as a voluntary sign up to assist licensees rather than to act as a stick, with the added aim of improving the retail skills and operation levels of some of the lesser efficient retailers, the main aim being educational rather than legislative.

### 4.0 EXPECTED BENEFITS

4.1 N/A

### 5.0 IMPLICATIONS

#### 5.1 Carbon Footprint / Environmental Issues

5.1.1 It is the opinion of the Report Author that there are no implications

#### 5.2 Constitution & Legal

5.2.1 It is the opinion of the Report Author that there are no implications.

#### 5.3 Contracts

5.3.1 It is the opinion of the Report Author that there are no implications.

#### 5.4 Corporate Priorities

5.4.1 It is the opinion of the Report Author that there are no implications.

#### 5.5 Crime and Disorder

5.5.1 It is the opinion of the Report Author that there are no implications.

#### 5.6 Equality and Diversity / Human Rights

5.6.1 It is the opinion of the Report Author that there are no implications.

#### 5.7 Financial

5.7.1 It is the opinion of the Report Author that there are no current implications.

#### 5.8 Risk Management

5.8.1 It is the opinion of the Report Author that there are no implications.

#### 5.9 Staffing

5.9.1 It is the opinion of the Report Author that there are no implications.

#### 5.10 Stakeholders / Consultation / Timescales

5.10.1 It is the opinion of the Report Author that there are no implications.

### 6.0 WARDS/COMMUNITIES AFFECTED

6.1 All

## 7.0 **ACRONYMS**

### 7.1 DPPO – Designated Public Place Order

#### **Lead Contact Officer**

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#### **Director / Officer who will be attending the Meeting**

Name and Post: Rowland W Wilson – Licensing Manager

**Key Decision:** No

**Exempt Decision:** No

#### **Appendices attached to this report:**

Appendix A – Safer Spalding – Code of good practice for off licensed retailers.