

Hertford Town Council (03/06/2021):

Good afternoon,

Thank you for the giving the Town Council an opportunity to comment on this document.

The Councils Planning Sub Committee considered the draft Policy in 1 June 2021 and made the following comments:

It was noted that the policy **encourages** applicants to engage early with a variety of bodies and individuals. Committee felt this consultation should be mandatory and that **it be a requirement to consult early**, along with a minimum period of notice specified for bodies to consult.

Committee noted the roads included in Hertford Town Centre as a Sensitive Licensing Area. There was concern that it excludes the areas around public house on Folly Island; West Street, Castle Street and Port Vale and felt that these should be included. Furthermore late night alcohol licences have been issued to Sainsburys and Tescos Supermarkets which currently fall outside this area.

Kind regards

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Licensing Authority Response:

We appreciate Hertford Town Council taking the time to respond to the consultation. We will try to address your points in order.

1. Mandatory consultation. The requirements concerning consultation and time scales have been set by central Government. As such we are unable

to place additional mandatory requirements on applicants above and beyond the statutory requirements.

2. With regards to the extent of the Hertford Town Centre, which is the area covered by the proposed Sensitive Licensing Area, we have reviewed your comments with regards to the four additional locations suggested. In considering the proposal to include these areas we have taken into account not just the physical distance from the centre of Hertford but also the types and number of licensed premises in these areas. As such we propose to add Castle Street and The Folly to what is considered to be Hertford Town centre under in the draft Statement of Licensing Policy.
3. Inclusion of Sainsbury's, Hartham Lane and Tesco, Ware Road. Again using similar criteria to point 2 above we would not consider these to be Town Centre locations.

Your suggestions will be put in front of the Members of the Licensing Committee along with this response, which in no way fetters their discretion to depart from the officer observations above. If you have any additional information to support your reasoning for the inclusion of the areas suggested within the definition of Hertford Town centre then please feel free to supply this to us for consideration.

Proposed amendments to draft policy:

That Castle Street and The Folly be added to the area considered Hertford Town Centre, and subsequently the Sensitive Licensing Area, contained within section 7 of the draft Statement of Licensing Policy.