

Request

The Local Government Association offer guidance on good practice for licensing authorities in response to spiking. Our inquiries relate to the extent to which your licensing authority implements these recommendations – specifically:-

- 1) Do you explicitly reference spiking prevention in your statement of licensing policy?
- 2) Have you run a communications campaign to clearly demonstrate that your council takes a zero-tolerance approach to spiking.
- 3) Which of the following partnership schemes are training packages are referenced in your statement of licensing policy?
 - Pub Watch / Best Bar None
 - Purple Flag
 - Community Alcohol Partnerships
 - Street Pastors
 - The Welfare and Vulnerability Engagement (WAVE) initiative
 - 'Ask for Angela'
- 4) Has your licensing authority followed the recommendation of the Home Affairs Select Committee to consider the prevalence, prevention and reporting of sexual harassment and misconduct and gender-based violence in statements of licensing policy.
- 5) For the previous 5 calendar years please provide the number of venues which have had their licence suspended, revoked, or/and had conditions added to the licence, as a result of spiking incidents within the venue. Please could you provide this data broken down by year.
 - a) 2018
 - b) 2019
 - c) 2020
 - d) 2021
 - e) 2022
 - f) 2023 (including latest available data)
- 6) How many incidents of alleged spiking have been recorded by the licensing authority in the past five years. Please break down by year
 - a) 2018
 - b) 2019
 - c) 2020
 - d) 2021
 - e) 2022
 - f) 2023 (including latest available data)
- 7) Please provide details of the three most recent cases where a venue has had its licence suspended, revoked or/and had conditions added, as a result of spiking incidents.

Response

- 1) Yes, reference is made within statement of licensing policy – see [statement of licensing policy](#)
- 2) Campaigns have been run in respect of safety at night – WAVE Training, provide those working in the licensed industry with an awareness of vulnerability, their responsibilities and how to deal with it and LSAVI Accreditation which enables licenced premises to identify and prioritise improvements to further raise safety and security standards in their venue.

After receiving funding from the Home Office in November 2021 the busy venues within the Town were provided with anti-spiking posters, bottle stops and glass covers.

- 3) All of the partnership schemes / training packages are referenced in our [statement of licensing policy](#).
- 4) Yes
- 5) The information required is as follows:
 - a) 2018 – None
 - b) 2019 - None
 - c) 2020 - None
 - d) 2021 - None
 - e) 2022 - None
 - f) 2023 – None

- 6) Generally, incidents of alleged spiking are reported to GM Police and any information is related to the Licensing Team should it require any further investigation.

We cannot report specifically on recorded incidents and would need to run reports on all complaints received by the Licensing Team over the last 5½ years which means the time taken to collect the information would be well in excess of the 18 hour officer time stipulated in the Act.

- 7) No venue licences have been suspended / revoked and / or had conditions added as a result of spiking incidents.