
**LICENSING ACT 2003
DIAMOND JUBILEE LICENSING HOURS**

Purpose of Report

1. The purpose of this report is to inform Members of the Licensing Act 2003 (Diamond Jubilee Licensing Hours) Order 2012 which was announced on 16 March 2012.

Background

2. Section 172 of the Licensing Act 2003 provides that where the Secretary of State considers that a period (“the celebration period”) marks an occasion of exceptional international, national or local significance he may make a licensing hours order.
3. A Licensing Hours Order extends the hours of premises licences and club premises certificates during a specified relaxation period unless the premises are licensed for the period of such relaxation. Such an order can be made to apply generally, that is to all licensed premises in England and Wales or limited to premises in one or more specified areas. It can also specify different hours for different days during the relaxation period and also different hours for different licensable activities.
4. A “specified relaxation period” means the hours specified for the duration of a celebration period if that period does not exceed 4 days or any part of that period not exceeding four days.
5. Before such an order can be made the Secretary of State must consult with such persons as he considers appropriate.

Information and Analysis

6. Between 12 October 2011 and 01 December 2011 a 7 week consultation exercise was undertaken by the Home Office, proposing that licensed premises be permitted to stay open from 11 pm on Friday 01 June 2012 to 01.00 am on Sunday 03 June 2012 to sell alcohol for consumption **on** the premises; to provide regulated entertainment; and to sell hot food and drink in those venues where alcohol is sold for consumption **on** the premises. This is in respect of the celebratory period of the Queen’s Diamond Jubilee.

7. The outcome of the consultation was that in excess of 80% of respondents supported the proposals.
8. Only licensable activities already on the licence or certificate may be extended. The Order does not add any regulated entertainment or late night refreshment where this is not permitted up to 11 pm by the licence or certificate.
9. The measure will have no permanent effect on licensing hours and will result in venues opening one or two hours later at most on the specified days.
10. Should all relevant licensees in Darlington elect to make use of the extension to hours this Order will affect 27 Club Premises and 141 Premises all of which have licences which currently finish before 01.00 am.

Recommendations

11. Members are invited to note the contents of this report

Richard Alty
Director of Place

Background Papers

- (i) The Licensing Act 2003
- (ii) The Licensing Act (Diamond Jubilee Licensing Hours) Order 2012

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