



Oversight and Governance

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LICENSING COMMITTEE

Monday 2 February 2026

10.00 am

Council House

Members:

Councillor Hendy, Chair

Councillor Lawson, Vice Chair

Councillors Bannerman, Dann, Dingle, Finn, Krizanac, Lugger, McNamara, Ney, S.Nicholson, Simpson, M.Smith.

Members are invited to attend the above meeting to consider the items of business overleaf.
For further information on attending Council meetings and how to engage in the democratic process please follow this link - [Get Involved](#)

Tracey Lee

Chief Executive

Licensing Committee

1. Apologies

To receive apologies for non-attendance submitted by Committee Members.

2. Declarations of Interest

Members will be asked to make any declarations of interest in respect of items on this agenda.

3. Minutes

(Pages 1 - 4)

To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on 01 December 2025.

4. Chair's Urgent Business

To receive reports on business which, in the opinion of the Chair, should be brought forward for urgent consideration.

5. Licensing Activity Report (January 2025 to December 2025): **(Pages 5 - 24)**

6. Information regarding delegated decisions for applications for the grant / variation of premises licences: **(Pages 25 - 30)**

Licensing Committee

Monday 1 December 2025

PRESENT:

Councillor Hendy, in the Chair.

Councillor Lawson, Vice Chair.

Councillors Bannerman, Dingle, Krizanac, Lugger, McNamara, S.Nicholson, Simpson, M.Smith and Taylor.

Apologies for absence: Councillors Finn and Ney.

Also in attendance: Emily Bullimore (Street Operations and Trading Manager), Jake Metcalfe (Democratic Advisor) and Cathy Morley (Lawyer).

The meeting started at 10.00 am and finished at 10.17 am.

Note: At a future meeting, the committee will consider the accuracy of these draft minutes, so they may be subject to change. Please check the minutes of that meeting to confirm whether these minutes have been amended.

21. Declarations of Interest

Name	Minute Number	Reason	Interest
Councillor Lawson	24 – Annual Street Trading Report 2026/ 2027	Relative was a street trader.	Personal.

22. Minutes

The Licensing Committee minutes of the meeting that took place on 02 May 2025 were agreed as a true and accurate record.

The Licensing Sub Committee minutes of the meetings that took place on 29 April 2025, 27 August 2025 and 13 November 2025 were agreed as a true and accurate record.

23. Chair's Urgent Business

There were no items of Chairs Urgent Business.

24. Annual Street Trading Report 2026 / 2027

Emily Bullimore (Street Operations and Trading Manager) presented the report to the Committee and in response to questions raised it was reported that:

- a) Work was undertaken by the team and partners such as the Police and Events team to tackle illegal traders pitching around events. The majority of which were dealt with by speaking to the trader;

- b) There were a number of applications submitted but due to the public realm works that were underway, the number of sites were not sufficient until those works were completed;
- c) As a result of the public realm works completing, it was expected to see the number of full time street traders increase by six with four to five pop up street traders doing seasonal work;
- d) The feedback from traders in relation to moving pitches had been a hugely positive example of how traders wanted to stay in Plymouth in which they had been working through difficult conditions due to the work;
- e) Traders were optimistic with the realm works and looked forward to their completion.

The Committee agreed to:

1. The Consent dates for 2026/2027 are approved as 1 April 2026 – 31 March 2027;
2. The Consent fees for 2026/2027 as set out in Appendix A, are approved;
3. The Service Director for Economic Development has delegated authority to approve, within Committee policy, the issuing of Consents to existing city centre traders seeking to continue trading;
4. The Service Director for Economic Development has delegated authority to approve within Committee policy the issuing of Consents to new traders or contested sites for city centre sites in consultation with the Chair of the Licensing Committee and Lead Opposition member;
5. The Service Director for Economic Development has delegated authority to approve within Committee policy short-term street trading Consents in association with other city centre events and commercial activity;
6. The Service Director for Economic Development has delegated authority to approve and set fees for ad hoc street trading applications, within Committee policy;
7. The Service Director for Economic Development has delegated authority to approve within Committee policy the issuing of Consents to existing ice cream traders seeking to continue trading;
8. The Service Director for Economic Development has delegated authority to approve within Committee policy the issuing of Consents to new traders or contested sites for vacant ice cream sites in consultation with the Chair of the Licensing Committee and Lead Opposition member;
9. The Service Director for Economic Development has delegated authority to approve within Committee policy the issuing of Consents to existing Hoe and Madeira Road Waterfront trading sites seeking to continue trading;

10. The Service Director for Economic Development has delegated authority to approve within Committee policy the issuing of Consents to new traders of contested sites for vacant Waterfront trading sites in consultation with the Chair of the Licencing Committee and Lead Opposition member;

11. Grant the ability to move traders to new/ temporary sites to facilitate the continuation of trading amidst the ongoing public realm works in the city centre.

25. **Exempt Business**

The Panel did not enter into exempt business.

26. **Confidential Minutes**

The confidential minutes of the meeting that took place on 13 November 2025 were agreed as a true and accurate record.

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Licensing Committee

Annual Licensing Activity Report 2025



Date of meeting: 02 February 2026

Licensing Activity Report (January 2025 to December 2025)

Lead Member: Councillor Sally Haydon (Cabinet Member for Community Safety, Libraries, Events, Cemeteries & Crematoria)

Lead Strategic Director: Professor Steve Maddern (Director of Public Health)

Author: Graham Hooper

Contact Email: graham.hooper@plymouth.gov.uk

Your Reference: GHO/LIC/LAR/2026

Key Decision: No

Confidentiality: Part I - Official

Purpose of Report

This report provides Members with oversight on how the Licensing Service has delivered its statutory responsibilities over the last calendar year and how enforcement activity has contributed to the achievement of the licensing objectives.

It summarises licensing activity, enforcement interventions, partnership working and policy development between 1st January 2025 and 31st December 2025, highlighting key outcomes, emerging trends and areas of risk. The report also outlines planned priorities for 2026 to support effective governance and future decision-making by the Licensing Committee.

Recommendations and Reasons

Members are asked to note the contents of this report, which demonstrates how licensing enforcement activity has been targeted to reduce crime and disorder, protect public safety, minimise nuisance, and safeguard children and vulnerable persons.

The report provides evidence of effective partnership working, proportionate enforcement, and continuous improvement in regulatory practice, enabling Members to assess service performance and identify priorities for the coming year.

Alternative options considered and rejected

None identified

Relevance to the Corporate Plan and/or the Plymouth Plan

This report aligns with the delivery of the Council's priorities, particularly in the following areas:

I. Working with the Police to Tackle Crime and Anti-Social Behaviour:

The activities of the Licensing Team contribute to the framework through which the Licensing Authority and the Police collaborate to promote and ensure the achievement of the licensing objectives, with a focus on reducing alcohol-related crime. The licensing objectives are as follows:

- Prevention of Crime and Disorder
- Promotion of Public Safety
- Prevention of Nuisance
- Protection of Children from Harm

2. Keeping Children, Adults, and Communities Safe:

The work of the Licensing Team supports the regulatory framework governing the sale of alcohol, the provision of certain entertainment, and late-night refreshment. This ensures that Plymouth remains a friendly and welcoming city, where individuals feel safe. It also plays a crucial role in protecting children, young people, and adults from harm.

Implications for the Medium-Term Financial Plan and Resource Implications:

Compliance with statutory duties as part of the licensing function is delivered within existing budgets. Licence fees and charges are reviewed annually with the Licensing Service and are set in line with national guidance. The council aims to recover all costs associated with criminal investigations and successfully defended appeals in the Magistrates' Court..

Financial Risks

None, as above

Legal Implications

(Provided by IW)

No legal implications identified

Carbon Footprint (Environmental) Implications:

None identified

Other Implications: e.g. Health and Safety, Risk Management, Child Poverty:

* When considering these proposals members have a responsibility to ensure they give due regard to the Council's duty to promote equality of opportunity, eliminate unlawful discrimination and promote good relations between people who share protected characteristics under the Equalities Act and those who do not.

[Click here to enter text.](#)

Appendices

*Add rows as required to box below

Ref.	Title of Appendix	Exemption Paragraph Number (if applicable) <i>If some/all of the information is confidential, you must indicate why it is not for publication by virtue of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 by ticking the relevant box.</i>						
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7
A	Enforcement Activity Report							
B	Equalities Impact Assessment (Not applicable)							
C	Climate Impact Assessment (Not applicable)							

Background papers:

*Add rows as required to box below

Please list all unpublished, background papers relevant to the decision in the table below. Background papers are unpublished works, relied on to a material extent in preparing the report, which disclose facts or matters on which the report or an important part of the work is based.

Title of any background paper(s)	Exemption Paragraph Number (if applicable)														
	<p><i>If some/all of the information is confidential, you must indicate why it is not for publication by virtue of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 by ticking the relevant box.</i></p> <table border="1" data-bbox="740 274 1325 303"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="747 276 814 285">1</th><th data-bbox="814 276 882 285">2</th><th data-bbox="882 276 949 285">3</th><th data-bbox="949 276 1017 285">4</th><th data-bbox="1017 276 1084 285">5</th><th data-bbox="1084 276 1152 285">6</th><th data-bbox="1152 276 1219 285">7</th></tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="747 285 814 303"></td><td data-bbox="814 285 882 303"></td><td data-bbox="882 285 949 303"></td><td data-bbox="949 285 1017 303"></td><td data-bbox="1017 285 1084 303"></td><td data-bbox="1084 285 1152 303"></td><td data-bbox="1152 285 1219 303"></td></tr> </tbody> </table>	1	2	3	4	5	6	7							
1	2	3	4	5	6	7									

Sign off:

Appendix A

Enforcement Activity Report

1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 This report has been prepared to provide Members of the Licensing Committee with a comprehensive overview of the activities undertaken by agencies responsible for regulating licensable activities. Particular focus is given to the management of the Evening and Night Time Economy (ENTE). The report also details the work carried out by the Licensing Team during the period from 1 January 2025 to 31 December 2025.
- 1.2 The Miscellaneous Team is a small but highly dedicated team. The structure can be seen in Figure 1 below:

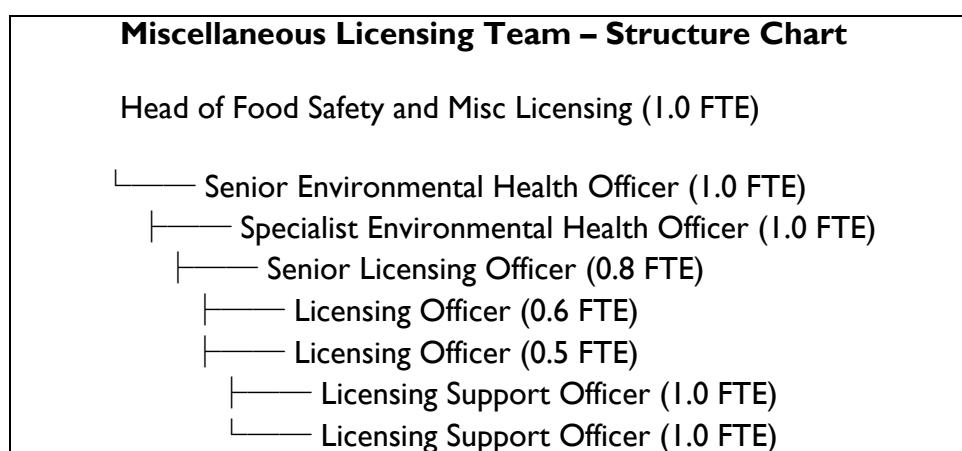


Figure 1:

- 1.3 Between 1 January 2025 and 31 December 2025, a total of 1,355 applications were received and processed.

- 1.4 Applications received cover the following areas:

- Alcohol and entertainment
- Gambling
- Sex Establishments
- Petroleum
- Explosives
- Animal welfare
- Charitable collections
- Scrap metal
- Caravan licensing
- Body and Beauty Art

2.0 Licensing Act 2003

- 2.1 Licensing Officers, supported by administrative staff, are responsible for delivering all aspects of the licensing function as prescribed by the Licensing Act 2003. This includes the receipt, validation, processing and determination of a wide range of applications, as well as providing advice to applicants, responsible authorities and other stakeholders.

Officers also ensure that statutory timescales are met, that consultation requirements are complied with, and that decisions are made in accordance with the Council's Statement of

Licensing Policy and relevant guidance. The number of applications processed by Officers during the 2025 calendar year and the four preceding years is set out in Table I below.

Licence Type	21/22	22/23	23/24	24/25	25/26
Applications, Transfers, Variations and Suspensions etc.	613 (+ 204 suspensions)	523 (+ 244 suspensions)	691 (+ 166 suspensions)	636 (+ 121 suspensions)	703 (+ 126 suspensions)
New Personal licences	145 + 111 Change of address apps	154 + 91 Change of address apps	79 + 99 Change of address apps	85 + 82 Change of address apps	95 + 95 Change of address apps
TEN's	217	398	444	355	345

Table I: Application Numbers by Years

2.2 Responsible authorities continue to make formal representations in relation to licensing applications. In many cases, applicants accept the advice provided, which supports effective mediation. Committee Members are kept informed of all applications resolved through mediation via an annual Committee report. During the reporting period, Environmental Health submitted representations on 10 applications, all of which required negotiation. Police representation figures are detailed separately within the Police Report.

2.3 Figure 2 below illustrates the number of premises inspections undertaken by the Licensing Team during the most recent calendar year and the previous three-year period, excluding complaint-led and enforcement visits. As shown, the number of inspections has more than doubled over the four-year period following the Covid-19 pandemic. This increase reflects the reinstatement of proactive inspection activity after the lifting of pandemic restrictions, alongside changes to staffing and working practices that have enabled Officers to deliver a higher volume of planned, risk-based inspections in support of the licensing objectives.

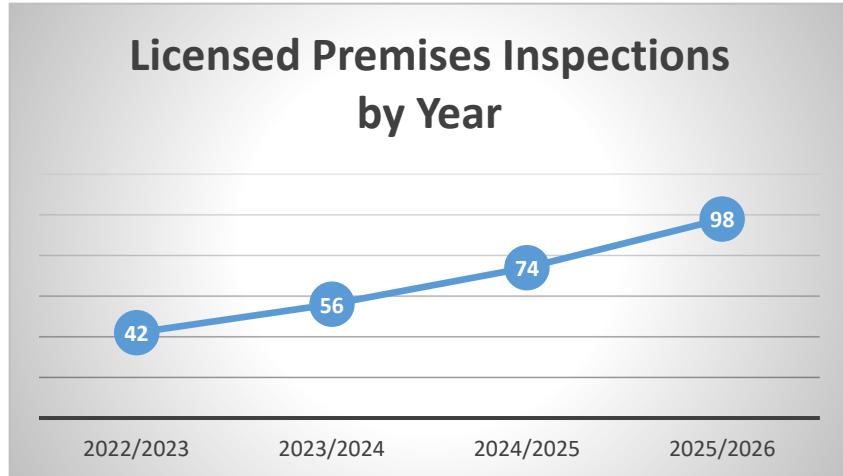


Figure 2: Premises inspections undertaken by PCC's Licensing Team

2.4 Table 3 below shows the number of applications, variations or reviews that went before Licensing Sub-Committee.

	20/21	21/22	22/23	23/24	24/25	25/26
Apps or Variations	2	8	3	7	4	3
Premise Licence Review	3	0	1	1	3	1
Expedited Reviews	1	0	0	1	0	0

Table 3

3.0 Licensing Policy

3.0 The Licensing Act 2003 requires the Authority to prepare and publish a Statement of Licensing Policy every five years. The adopted policy provides the statutory framework for determining applications made under the Act and informs how the Authority discharges its functions in relation to the legislation. The policy also serves as guidance for all parties involved in the licensing process, including applicants, licence holders, responsible authorities, and members of the public who wish to make representations.

3.1 The current Statement of Licensing Policy was adopted by Full Council on 29 January 2024 following a period of public consultation. The policy took effect on 1 April 2024 and will remain in force until 31 March 2029. The policy can be accessed via the following link: [Licensing Policy](#)

4.0 Cumulative Impact Areas

The Cumulative Impact Assessment (CIA) is reviewed on a three-year cycle, with the most recent review completed in December 2024. While no immediate changes were made to the existing CIA areas at that time, the available evidence does not support the continued long-term designation of Stoke as a CIA area. Following consultation with the Police and other statutory stakeholders, it was therefore agreed that the Stoke CIA would be retained on a transitional basis and formally reviewed with a view to revocation at the next scheduled assessment, due by December 2027. Unless future evidence demonstrates a material change in circumstances, the intention is to remove the Stoke CIA.

5.0 Public Safety and Public Nuisance

5.1 The number of noise complaints relating to licensed premises increased from 92 in 2024 to 130 in 2025. This rise is primarily attributable to the change from financial-year to calendar-year reporting. A further contributory factor is a modest increase in complaints associated with a higher number of events held during the year, particularly at Central Park Event Space (20 complaints) and the Ruckfest event at Plymouth Albion (11 complaints).

5.2 Where noise complaints are received, Environmental Health Officers continue to follow an escalation process, engaging with the responsible individual at the earliest opportunity to allow for prompt resolution without the need for formal action. In most cases, the complaint is resolved through an action plan or minor variation, with the agreement of the licensee. Officers coordinate out-of-hours

visits as necessary to address any noise or public nuisance originating from licensed premises, ensuring prompt resolution.

4.4 Officers continue to work in partnership with licensed premises to develop and implement action plans designed to mitigate adverse impacts on residents. This remains a key area of focus four years on from the post-Covid-19 reopening period, particularly considering the increased use of outdoor areas, with many establishments having expanded these spaces and continuing to apply for pavement licences.

5.0 Protection of Children from harm

5.1 The Police, Trading Standards, and the Licensing Team continue to collaborate in efforts to reduce young people's access to alcohol, both from on-licences and off-licences, through neighbourhood interventions and providing guidance to retailers.

5.2 The Licensing Team and Police Licensing meet with Devon Trading Standards to coordinate test purchases, based on intelligence and complaints received.

5.3 Businesses are supported in minimising the potential for underage sales and are encouraged to adopt a Challenge 25 policy. All licensed premises in Plymouth are provided with free access to the regional underage sales web-based toolkit, "No Proof of Age No Sale (NPOANS)," for staff training, and all are regularly reminded of this valuable resource.

6.0 Prevention of Crime and Disorder

6.1 A review of the premises licence for Union Street Food and Wine was submitted on the grounds of the prevention of crime and disorder. The application was considered by the Licensing Sub-Committee on 13 November 2025, at which point the Sub-Committee resolved to revoke the premises licence. An appeal against this decision has since been lodged with Plymouth Magistrates' Court, and an initial hearing to consider the appeal has been listed for 12 March 2026.

Committee members are referred to the police report covering the 2025 calendar year, attached at Appendix B. The report has been compiled by the Police Alcohol Licensing Team and provides relevant information in relation to the crime and disorder licensing objective over the last two financial years. An officer from the team has been invited to attend the meeting to present the report and respond to any questions from the Committee.

7.0 Gambling Policy

8.1 Licensing Officers, supported by administrative staff, are responsible for overseeing gambling premises such as casinos, betting shops, adult gaming centres, and bingo halls, in line with the Gambling Act 2005. These premises are inspected annually to make sure they are operating in accordance with legal and licensing requirements.

8.2 The Gambling Act 2005 requires the Council to review its Statement of Gambling Policy every three years. The next review would normally set the policy for the period January 2025 to January 2028. However, in late 2023 the Gambling Commission and HM Government ran public consultations on proposed changes to gambling regulation. Some of these proposals could affect how local authorities carry out their licensing duties. At the time of writing, the Government has not yet confirmed the outcome of these consultations, and new statutory guidance has not been published.

8.3 As updated statutory guidance is not yet available, the Council carried out a review of the existing Statement of Gambling Policy. This confirmed that the current policy remains up to date and compliant with existing legislation and guidance. As a result, and with the agreement of the Gambling Commission and approval at the January Full Council meeting, it was agreed that the current policy will continue to apply from January 2025. The policy will be reviewed again once the Government publishes the new statutory guidance.

9.0 Sex Establishments

9.1 Currently, Plymouth City Council licenses one lap dancing club and one sex shop. During the forthcoming year the Licensing Team will review, consult and update the Council's Sex Establishments Licensing Policy which prescribes the Authorities controls on the legitimate operation of sex establishments and that such businesses that are a legitimate part of the retail and leisure industry.

10.0 Partnership Working

10.1 The Licensing Team is actively involved in several multi-agency groups that support the promotion of the licensing objectives. By working in partnership with various stakeholders, the team aims to achieve these objectives. These groups include:

10.2 Responsible Authorities Meetings

The responsible authorities convene regularly to discuss enforcement options and develop strategies for addressing 'problem premises.' Establishments operating within the Evening and Night-Time Economy (ENTE) continue to receive proactive guidance from enforcement agencies, including Licensing, Environmental Health, Fire Service, Trading Standards, and the Police, with the aim of fostering a responsible ENTE. Interventions involve both unannounced and scheduled visits to evaluate licensed premises' adherence to licensing conditions and other relevant workplace regulations. Officers from all enforcement agencies conduct joint inspections, where appropriate, to ensure a coordinated approach to enforcement is maintained. This collaborative effort demonstrates to licensees and designated premises supervisors that the agencies work together. Additionally, enforcement agencies carry out night-time inspections to assess the compliance of licensed premises with their regulatory obligations.

10.3 Multi-Agency Groups

The Licensing Team is an active member of Safer Plymouth, as well as the Evening and Night-Time Economy Group (ENTE), the Alcohol Harm Reduction Subgroup, the Predatory Males in the ENTE Group and the Destination Plymouth Group.

10.4 Plymouth Pubwatch

The Licensing Team and the Police continue to support the Plymouth Pubwatch scheme. Pubwatch schemes are local, independent groups composed of individuals working in licensed premises, with the primary objectives of tackling and preventing anti-social behaviour and criminal activity, promoting a safe drinking environment for customers, ensuring secure working conditions for staff, and enhancing communication and information-sharing among licensees. Plymouth's Pub watch scheme is highly active, organising various safety and awareness campaigns and supporting initiatives aimed at improving safety within licensed premises. Pubwatch meets monthly, with ongoing support from the Licensing Team, which provides updates and advice.

10.5 Purple Flag

The Licensing Team continues to actively support the Purple Flag accreditation, which recognises excellence in safety, partnership working, and diversity within the night-time economy. The award brings clear benefits to a range of Council services, partner organisations, and the wider community. In 2025, Plymouth successfully retained its Purple Flag status following an interim assessment, securing the award for the ninth consecutive year. Work has now commenced with partners and stakeholders to prepare for the full application and assessment due later this year.

As part of the assessment process, Plymouth was evaluated against a range of criteria that contribute to creating a safe and welcoming city for residents and visitors. These included the availability of emergency help points, the Safe Bus service, ongoing work to tackle Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG), and the night bus service that operated during the previous year. Purple Flag areas are recognised for offering a vibrant, diverse, and well-managed evening and night-time economy, with a strong focus on safety and wellbeing.

Plymouth's Purple Flag status is supported through close collaboration between a wide range of partners. These include the Council, Devon and Cornwall Police, licensed premises such as pubs, restaurants, and entertainment venues, as well as retail and transport operators. Additional support is provided by voluntary and operational services, including street pastors and taxi marshals, all of whom contribute to making Plymouth a safe, welcoming, and successful city at night.

10.6 Devon Licensing Officers Group (DLOG)

Plymouth Licensing Officers attend and actively participate in the Devon Licensing Officers Group (DLOG) and other regional licensing forums. These groups provide a valuable platform for information-sharing, peer support, and joint problem-solving on licensing matters of mutual interest. Engagement with DLOG supports a consistent and coordinated approach to licensing across Devon and Cornwall, helping to align local policies and practices, respond collectively to emerging issues, and promote best practice across the region.

10.7 Safety Advisory Groups

The Council collaborates with event organisers to maintain reasonable standards of public safety at events and to promote the wellbeing of the public, officials, event organisers, and performers. The Plymouth Sports Advisory Group (SAG) and the Plymouth Event Safety Advisory Group (PESAG) serve as platforms for organisers to share their event plans and receive feedback from relevant agencies. The Environmental Health and Licensing Team currently chairs the PESAG and is a core member of the SAG.

10.8 Institute of Licensing

The professional body for licensing matters has played a crucial role in providing access to case law, legislative updates, training, and facilitating information sharing. The Licensing Team is a member of the Institute of Licensing (IOL) and participates in regular training sessions and legislative updates, offering a local authority perspective on several key legislative changes.

10.9 Community Alcohol Partnership

The Licensing Authority supports the alcohol industry in demonstrating its commitment to promoting responsible drinking by ensuring that the sector does not encourage young people to consume alcohol. A Community Alcohol Partnership (CAP) is a Community Interest Company (CiC) that brings together and supports local partnerships, including councils, police, retailers, schools, health providers, and community groups, with the aim of reducing alcohol-related harm among young people, improving their health and wellbeing, and enhancing their communities. As a member of the Plymouth CAP, the Licensing Authority actively supports the vital work of preventing underage drinking and mitigating alcohol-related harm to young people.

Further information on C.A.P initiatives can be found at: [Community Alcohol Partnerships](#)

10.10 Miscellaneous Groups

The Licensing Team continues to engage in multi-agency collaboration on safeguarding initiatives, as well as projects addressing:

- Modern slavery
- Child sexual exploitation,
- Organised Crime
- Hate Crime
- Predatory Behaviour in the ENTE

11.0 **Work Initiatives for 2025-2026**

11.1 The work initiatives for 2025–2026 will support the promotion of the licensing objectives as set out in the Licensing Act 2003, as follows:

11.2 Prevention of Crime and Disorder

- Continued joint working between responsible authorities to share intelligence, agree enforcement strategies and target high-risk premises and activities within the ENTE.
- Delivery of risk-based inspection programmes across licensed premises, gambling premises and other licensed activities to identify and address non-compliance at an early stage.
- Delivery of alcohol and gambling test purchasing operations to deter underage sales and unlawful activity.
- Ongoing partnership work to detect, deter and disrupt modern slavery, child sexual exploitation, predatory behaviour and organised crime linked to licensed premises.
- Support for Best Bar None, Pubwatch and Purple Flag initiatives to promote high standards of management, crime prevention and good practice within the ENTE.

11.3 Public Safety

- Chairing and coordinating the Event Safety Advisory Group (ESAG) to ensure that events are appropriately planned, managed and delivered safely.
- Supporting licensed businesses and event organisers to meet public safety requirements, including through advice, inspections and multi-agency oversight.
- Working with partners and businesses to support the implementation of the Protect Duty (Martyn's Law), enhancing preparedness and proportionate security arrangements. (See 11.1 below).

- Undertaking inspections of caravan sites, mobile homes, petroleum storage, fireworks retailers and other licensed activities to ensure public safety standards are met.

11.4 Prevention of Public Nuisance

- Targeted enforcement and compliance activity at premises identified as contributing to noise, disorder or nuisance within the ENTE.
- Regular multi-agency meetings to review patterns of complaints, incidents and intelligence and to coordinate proportionate responses.
- Supporting Purple Flag accreditation and partnership initiatives that promote a well-managed city centre and reduce late-night nuisance impacts on residents.
- Ongoing monitoring of licensed premises through inspections and complaint investigation to address nuisance issues promptly.

11.5 Protection of Children from Harm

- Delivery of alcohol and gambling test purchasing operations to prevent underage sales and access.
- Enforcement activity and intelligence-led operations to identify and disrupt child sexual exploitation and other safeguarding risks associated with the ENTE.
- Continued engagement with the Community Alcohol Partnership and other safeguarding forums to promote responsible retailing and awareness.
- Review of relevant licensing policies, including sex establishment licensing and gambling policy considerations, to ensure appropriate safeguards for children and young people.

12.0 Potential Future Licensing Administration and Regulation Impacts

Several emerging and proposed national regulatory changes have the potential to place additional statutory and administrative responsibilities on the Licensing and Environmental Health functions. These developments may have implications for service capacity, resources, and future work planning, subject to the introduction of enabling legislation and statutory guidance.

12.1 Protect Duty 'Martyn's Law'

The Terrorism (Protection of Premises) Act 2025, also known as Martyn's Law, received Royal Assent on Thursday 3 April 2025. The legislation seeks to enhance national security and reduce the risk to the public from terrorism by improving the protection of publicly accessible premises and venues. Martyn's Law will require those responsible for qualifying premises to assess the risk of terrorism and implement appropriate and proportionate mitigation measures. The legislation is intended to ensure that organisations are better prepared, capable of responding effectively, and clear on the actions required in the event of a terrorist incident. Enhanced protection is anticipated to be achieved through measures such as improved security arrangements, staff training, and clearer governance and reporting processes. The Licensing Team will work collaboratively with partner agencies and engage with licensed premises and other affected businesses throughout the implementation of the Protect Duty, supporting awareness, compliance and effective delivery of the new requirements.

12.2 Licensing of Tobacco, Vaping and Nicotine Products

The Government has indicated its intention to introduce a national licensing scheme for the retail sale of tobacco products, herbal smoking products, cigarette papers, vapes, and other nicotine-related products. The scheme is expected to be implemented through regulations and to apply to both online and in-person retailers. Once introduced, the sale of these products without

the appropriate licence, or in breach of licence conditions, may constitute a criminal offence or be subject to civil financial penalties. The introduction of such a scheme would be likely to place additional licensing, compliance and enforcement responsibilities on local authorities. Further details regarding the scope of the scheme and local authority duties are awaited from the Government.

12.3 Hairdressers and Barbers

The hairdressing and barbering industry in the UK are currently largely unregulated. There are no general licensing requirements and no statutory obligation for practitioners to hold prescribed qualifications. Although the Hairdressers Registration Act 1964 provides for a register of qualified hairdressers, registration remains voluntary. Should statutory regulation or a mandatory licensing or registration scheme be introduced in the future, the administration and enforcement of such arrangements would be likely to fall within the remit of the Environmental Health and Licensing Team, given its established role in business regulation, public health protection and compliance monitoring. Any such change would have implications for workload and resourcing.

12.4 Regulation of Funeral Directors

The funeral director industry remains unregulated in the UK. However, following recent high-profile cases involving malpractice and the improper handling of human remains, the Government is considering the introduction of statutory regulation of the sector. Should a regulatory framework is introduced, it is anticipated that responsibility for administration, inspection and enforcement would be assigned to local authorities, most likely through Environmental Health and Licensing services. This would represent a significant new regulatory responsibility for the service.

12.5 Regulation of Non-Surgical Cosmetic Procedures in England

The Government has indicated its intention to introduce statutory regulation of non-surgical cosmetic procedures in England, including treatments such as botulinum toxin injections, dermal fillers and other aesthetic procedures. The sector is currently subject to limited regulation, despite the potential risks to public health and safety. Proposals under consideration include licensing or registration requirements for practitioners and premises, minimum training and competency standards, and enhanced enforcement powers for local authorities. Should such a regulatory framework be introduced, it is anticipated that responsibility for licensing, compliance, inspection and enforcement would fall to Environmental Health and Licensing services. The introduction of regulation in this area would represent a significant new work stream for the service, with implications for staff capacity, training requirements and inter-agency working.

12.6 Monitoring of Legislative and Policy Developments

The Licensing Team will continue to monitor legislative and policy developments in these areas and will provide further updates to Committee Members as Government proposals are clarified and implementation arrangements are confirmed.

13.0 Conclusion

13.1 This report provides Committee Members with an overview of the range of initiatives, regulatory activity, and enforcement operations undertaken by the Licensing Team and the Police Alcohol Licensing Team in relation to the evening and night-time economy during 2025. The information

presented is intended to support Members in understanding current activity and to inform future decision-making.

13.2 The report also outlines planned work for the forthcoming year and highlights how partner agencies will continue to work together to ensure that available resources are used effectively and targeted where they will have the greatest impact.

Appendix B

Police Report calendar year 2025

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POLICE LICENSING REPORT 2025

Sir/Madam,

In response to your request, the Devon and Cornwall Police Alcohol Licensing Department can provide you with the following details regarding our activities in Plymouth over the last Twelve months.

- 43 applications to grant Premises Licence and negotiated appropriate conditions with 25.
- 63 applications to transfer premises licenses.
- 8 variations of Premises Licences – and negotiated appropriate conditions with 4.
- 28 minor variations were received, 1 was objected too.
- 0 new club premises certificates
- 158 variations of DPS.
- 265 Temporary Event Notices.
- 80 Late Temporary Event Notices.
- 1 Application for Review to Licensing Sub Committee.

In addition to the above, during the reporting period Plymouth's police licensing officers have made 515 visits to licensed premises, 110 of those relate to an incident where further intervention or clarification was needed during this reporting period

for information, across Devon and Cornwall we process circa. 9,000 Temporary Event Notices per year.

All Police Licensing Officers throughout Devon and Cornwall are now accredited with a ProQual Level 4 Certificate for Police Alcohol Licensing Officers. This qualification has been created on behalf of and in consultation with the National Police Chiefs Council (NPCC) portfolio for alcohol licensing and harm reduction. This follows the designation by the NPCC of the Police Alcohol Licensing Officer role as being a professional policing role. The qualification will form part of an annual continuous professional development programme that underpins a licensing officer's competence and currency.



The Cumulative Impact Area has been used as an effective tool to ensure new licences are appropriately controlled. The re-gentrification of the city centre along with its change of use has required a more considered approach to the use of vacant units and in turn support the regeneration.

Also, we still need to have a control on the number of licensed venues retailing high-strength alcohol which directly contributes to the number of street drinking issues. The use of the CIA allows the authorities to insist on new applications to include measures to mitigate the risk of street drinking thereby minimising the impact of related anti-social behaviour. We have found that new businesses opening in these areas rarely need further visits once open as the standard of application is high.

Police have, continued to support the hospitality trade with the seizing of drugs at their venues.

In conjunction with Best Bar None and Plymouth Pubwatch, we have created a policy for those premises that do not need a drug safe with a clear stepped process for having drugs collected from the venue. This policy protects those venues where a safe is not appropriate and removes these substances from venues in a safe, approved manner.

We can submit the drugs we collect for testing should it look out of the ordinary. This has enabled trends to be observed, such as an increase in ketamine and identifying new strains of drugs. We are also able to message those venues and let them know the results. Predominantly though, we are picking up cocaine and ketamine, with ketamine being commonly found drug in the safes.

Police licensing has developed a tried and tested method in the collection of drugs along with sharing of information. In this reporting period, 630 items have been confiscated by Evening Nighttime Economy staff. This work feeds into building the intelligence picture around what type of drugs are circulating in the nighttime economy.

Ongoing Welfare and Vulnerability Engagement training continues to be delivered in conjunction with Best Bar None which includes the current picture around drink spiking and Project Nighteye. This is open to venues and door staff (delivered online and in person) and is very well received. The training is delivered at key points of the year to maximise coverage.

Police Licensing, alongside Local Authority and Best Bar None have undertaken training in the areas of vulnerability, Ask for Angela, and anti-drink spiking. This is even more important than ever due to the high turnover of staff in the ENTE venues. This training was well received and is beneficial to making the ENTE staff more effective in protecting the public during their work and this year Police Licensing did a drug awareness session which was well attended by venues.



Tackling Violence Against Women and Girls is a priority both nationally and for the force. Devon and Cornwall Police is a large and diverse force geographically and demographically, there is no “one size fits all” response to policing the Evening Nighttime Economy. ENTE patrols offer an opportunity to prevent and detect VAWG related offences and tackle harmful sexualised behaviour in the pre-offending stage.

Project Nighteye is the Police response involving Perpetrator Pursuit. To create safe spaces, the Police want Devon and Cornwall to be a hostile environment for perpetrators. The ENTE in Plymouth is, compared against national standards a safe place to be, there is a lot of good work that goes on through Community Safety Partnerships. We have found an increase in intelligence submissions from door staff who are a key part of the ENTE. This is partly due to a new app (SentrySIS) that was introduced this year.

Within Project Nighteye there is a facility for our partners to submit intelligence direct to the police, there have been some excellent submissions from venue staff and door staff, that have led to interventions e.g. spotting suspicious vehicles or individuals where predatory behaviour has been seen, allowing police to intervene where necessary.

Devon and Cornwall Police in conjunction with Best Bar None attended the student fresher's fayres and handed out information regarding staying safe on a night out. This was delivered as a joint approach this year using Devon and Cornwall police website and joint messaging.

Police licensing supported Devon and Cornwall Police “Lift Legend” campaign, and venues have been encouraged via Best Bar None and the Pubwatch scheme to sign up for this campaign which aims to encourage venues to promote free soft drinks to a designated driver.

There has been a bigger uptake in participation during this reporting period and work continues to explore different approaches that we as police can engage effectively with the hospitality trade.

Significant developments during this report period included the national concern over needle stick spiking incidents throughout the country. Our anti drink spiking policy is well established, having begun in Plymouth in 2019. Devon and Cornwall Police, led by the Alcohol Licensing Department adopted the same working practice and operation throughout the whole force area. Plymouth follows the national trend of less than 4.5% of positive samples.



As Devon and Cornwall Police had the scheme in place, the force licensing teams ran training and supplied written guidance along with testing kits to the larger city venues to test drinks and to advise businesses on our policy to ensure potential needle stick victims got the support and care they required.

The training of venues enabled businesses to show their clientele that they are working hard to support the reduction in spiking and that they want to support and keep customers safe.

The fact Devon and Cornwall Police could test reported victims' urine immediately and reassure people they had not been spiked or targeted was a great success and reduce the fear of crime. Nationally a lot of work is going into how to effectively reassure victims of crime that action will be taken. This year we have worked with Derriford Hospital to offer a testing service. This has been well received, and work continues in this area.

Plymouth's Alcohol Harm Reduction Group continues to meet regularly. This group has some of the major partners and stakeholders included such as Pubwatch, Best Bar None, and Street Pastors, it is centered around the licensing industry. The group can identify trends and take a collaborative approach to think of ways to reduce harm. This group feeds back into the Safer Communities Plymouth group for a wider inclusion of city-wide partners.

Police licensing has dealt with several premises where concerns have been raised and will always try to rectify and through intervention at an early stage. The insistence of a formulated action plan from the Designated Premises Supervisor (DPS) and Premises Licence Holders means that changes have been made to the venues, which have removed those concerns. This has on occasion required specific visits to premises by the team and required the DPS and/or area managers to attend Charles Cross Police station to discuss those issues.

We continue to be actively engaged and effectively working in partnership with Plymouth Pubwatch and Best Bar None. Through the different groups meeting on a regular basis, our partnership working with other authorities and agencies has strengthened and widened, making the partnership work much stronger.

Our excellent partnership has been clearly demonstrated through the retaining of the prestigious Purple Flag award for the city and highlighted as best practice. This identified Plymouth as having a safe, vibrant and diverse ENTE and is a great benefit to the city for marketing purposes, demonstrating that Plymouth is a safe city.



We regularly engage with door supervisor companies and have a well-established routine where we visit and check Security Industry Authority (SIA) door staff. No enforcement by the SIA has been needed this year. It is very important that regular checks are completed to ensure compliance. We have also offered conflict management awareness to security companies.

We continue to regularly review CCTV evidence of interactions with door staff where there has been a complaint made. Most of these incidents show good conflict management and resolution, often in difficult circumstances. We have seen a drop in incidents where inappropriate force has been used and has required intervention by the SIA. Having a good partnership with the SIA has led to an effective working arrangement whereby an early intervention can be used where the involved door supervisor can be educated and receive additional training, with support from their relevant companies.

There are times when this method is not appropriate and we have seen 5 SIA licences revoked during this report timeline, which sends a message that the high standards set by the SIA are always expected. There has been good support and engagement from the door supervisor companies in reviewing these actions.

Throughout the year we have seen a reduction in “glassing” incidents. 2 premises were issued letters, which did not need to be escalated further. Adopting a stepped approach is the accepted way of dealing with these incidents.

As part of our tools for dealing with premises we can utilise a Section 19 Notice of the Criminal Justice and Police Act 2001. These are used, where appropriate, when it is found that a premises may not be operating in accordance with the premises licence and once issued gives that premises time to rectify what they were not doing. During this report time 2 notices were issued, and the 2 premises engaged with the process and rectified the issues within the time frame given.

The low number of cases brought before the licensing committee demonstrates the pro-active work which the Police and Local Authority Licensing departments undertake in order to work with venues and licensees in creating a safer and more professional licensing and hospitality community. Guidance and advice were offered through many meetings and visits to venues which resulted in compliance, development of good working practices and higher standards being achieved. There will be occasions when we do have to apply for a review as no other enforcement action can be taken.

The NHS continue to support the safe bus, and it is now a permanent fixture in Plymouth’s ENTE. This includes 6 medical staff and an ambulance, as well as the provision for SIA security and taxi marshals for the nearby taxi rank. This is being supported by a variety of organisations including Victim support, Best Bar None, Street Pastors, and Plymouth Night Patrol team.



The safe bus is a multi-agency supported resource; it offers a safe haven for users of the ENTE. And has had some very positive interventions.

The Safe Bus provision has prevented over 80% of people treated there for minor injuries and welfare issues from needing further medical help, reducing the demand on the ambulance service, emergency departments, and police.

There has been extremely positive feedback from all partners and there has been an increased awareness of the service with customers using Plymouth's ENTE. The bus is in place every Saturday night as well as an extra 15 'red' nights throughout the year including Halloween, Fridays in December, Freshers' Week, and other large events in the city.

The Barbican also benefits from taxi marshals who are seen as a vital tool to help with the dispersal from this area, they have been equipped for CSAS powers to assist them in their role.

This year has also seen the introduction of a Night Bus run by Stagecoach and funded by the Police Crime Commissioner, Plymouth Waterfront Bid, Cornwall Council, Devon County Council and Cornwall Air Ambulance. The service has run every Saturday since the 31st May 2025, using the existing routes of the Number 1 service to Tavistock and the Number 2 service to Saltash, both departing from Royal Parade. We are pleased to report that the service will run again throughout 2026. For the reporting period the buses have carried 2,942 passengers. Over this period there has been an early indication that across the force drink driving figures are down.

Police licensing and Best Bar None have worked effectively with the Plymouth Night Patrol, a society set up within Plymouth University which provides medical first responder and welfare patrols on Wednesday, Friday and Saturday nights during term time. Again, over 80% of people dealt with needed no ongoing support. With the excellent continued work of the street pastors, Plymouth has an extra medical and welfare provision for three nights of the week. The Night Patrol has continued to grow and has a current team of over 70 members.

I submit this report for your information and consideration.

David Adams-Leach

Plymouth Licensing Team
Devon and Cornwall Police

MEDIATION REPORT

Licensing Committee



Date:	02 February 2026
Title of Report:	Information regarding delegated decisions for applications for the grant / variation of premises licences
Lead Member:	Councillor Sally Hayden (Cabinet Member for Community Safety, Libraries, Cemeteries and Crematoria)
Lead Strategic Director:	Professor Steve Maddern (Office of the Director of Public Health)
Author:	Marie Price (Senior Licensing Officer)
Contact Email:	Licensing@plymouth.gov.uk
Your Reference:	Mediation Report
Key Decision:	No
Confidentiality:	Part I - Official

Purpose of the report:

Applications have been received from various premises within Plymouth for the grant and/or variation of a premises licence under Sections 17 and 34 of the Licensing Act 2003.

Recommendations and Reasons:

That Members consider this report.

Alternative options considered and rejected:

None.

Relevance to the Corporate Plan and/or the Plymouth Plan:**Our Plan – A City to be proud of.**

This report links to the delivery of the City and Council objectives and outcomes within the plan.

A Growing City: The Licensing Policy and system aims to provide a balance between the need to protect residents and to enable legitimate businesses to operate within a necessary and proportionate regulatory framework. This in turn makes a safer, more vibrant Plymouth to allow economic growth and opportunities for increased levels of employment.

A Caring Council: The Licensing Policy has put in place an appropriate framework to allow the effective control of alcohol supply and regulated entertainment to keep all members of society protected and feeling safe by focusing on prevention and early intervention. The licensing system minimise the burdens on business and to allow communities the opportunity to influence decisions.

See [Our Plan](#)

Implications for Medium Term Financial Plan and Resource Implications:

Not applicable

Financial Risks

Not Applicable

Legal Implications:

(Provided by IW)

No legal implications

Carbon Footprint (Environmental) Implications:

None

Other Implications: e.g. Child Poverty, Community Safety, Health and Safety and Risk Management:

* When considering these proposals members have a responsibility to ensure they give due regard to the Council's duty to promote equality of opportunity, eliminate unlawful discrimination and promote good relations between people who share protected characteristics under the Equalities Act and those who do not.

Members should be aware that Section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 puts a statutory duty on every Local Authority to exercise its various functions with due regard to the need to do all that it reasonably can do to prevent crime and disorder in its area.

Published work / information:

For more information please see the below links.

Statement of Licensing Policy**Licensing Act 2003****Revised guidance issued under section 182 of the Licensing Act 2003 - November 2025****Appendices**

Ref.	Title of Appendix	Exemption Paragraph Number (if applicable) <i>If some/all of the information is confidential, you must indicate why it is not for publication by virtue of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 by ticking the relevant box.</i>						
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7
A	Briefing report (mandatory)							

Background papers:

Please list all unpublished, background papers relevant to the decision in the table below. Background papers are unpublished works, relied on to a material extent in preparing the report, which disclose facts or matters on which the report or an important part of the work is based.

Title of background paper(s)	Exemption Paragraph Number (if applicable) <i>If some/all of the information is confidential, you must indicate why it is not for publication by virtue of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 by ticking the relevant box.</i>						
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7

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Sign off:

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Originating Senior Leadership Team member: [Click here to enter text.](#)

Please confirm the Strategic Director(s) has agreed the report? Yes

Steve Maddern, Director of Public Health via e-mail

Date agreed: 14/01/2026

Cabinet Member signature of approval: Councillor Sally Hayden (Cabinet Member for Community Safety, Libraries, Cemeteries and Crematoria) only]

Date: 13/01/26

1.0 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 Since the Licensing Act 2003 came into effect in 2005, applications have been submitted for the grant and variation of premises licences. Some of these applications have attracted representations from responsible authorities or other parties. In many cases, these representations have been resolved through mediation, with agreements reached between the applicant and the relevant authority, avoiding the need for a committee hearing.
- 1.2 Paragraph 9.31 of the Guidance issued under Section 182 of the Licensing Act 2003, together with Section 18(3)(a) of the Act, confirms that a hearing is not required where representations are withdrawn following a written agreement between all parties. In such cases, the agreed conditions are incorporated into the operating schedule, and officers may determine the application.
- 1.3 This report provides details of premises applications that were resolved through mediation and written agreement during the period 1 November 2024 to 31 December 2025, and is submitted for the committee's information.

2.0 MEDIATED APPLICATIONS BY RESPONSIBLE AUTHORITY

2.1 Environmental Health

Premises	Address	Ward	App Type
Lounge	Unit 24 The Broadway	Plymstock Radford	Grant
The Hub at Foulston Park	80 Madden Road	Devonport	Grant
Black Cat Surf Club	31 The Broadway	Plymstock Radford	Grant
Jalwa Indian Bistro	42 Bretonside	St Peter & Waterfront	Grant
Theatre Royal	Royal Parade	St Peter & Waterfront	Variation
Plymouth City Centre	Various locations	St Peter & Waterfront	Variation
Plymouth Art Gallery	2 St Andrew Street	St Peter & Waterfront	Grant
Selekt Chicken	144-146 Vauxhall Street	St Peter & Waterfront	Grant
Walkabout	5 Union Street	St Peter & Waterfront	Grant

2.2 Devon & Cornwall Police

Premises	Address	Ward	App Type
Lounge	Unit 24 The Broadway	Plymstock Radford	Grant
The Hub at Foulston Park	80 Madden Road	Devonport	Grant
Black Cat Surf Club	31 The Broadway	Plymstock Radford	Grant
Jalwa Indian Bistro	42 Bretonside	St Peter & Waterfront	Grant
Theatre Royal	Royal Parade	St Peter & Waterfront	Variation
Plymouth City Centre	Various locations	St Peter & Waterfront	Variation
Jolly Jacks	Richmond Walk	Devonport	Variation
Hispania Tapas	Stall 149 Plymouth Market	St Peter & Waterfront	Grant
Chicking	72 Royal Parade	St Peter & Waterfront	Grant
Tim Hortons	Tavistock Road	Budshead	Grant
GDK	134-136 Armada Way	St Peter & Waterfront	Grant

Margo's The Sandwich Shop	I Citadel Ope	St Peter & Waterfront	Grant
Domino's Pizza	616 Wolseley Road	St Budeaux	Grant
Domino's Pizza	Unit 5 Chaddlewood Centre	Plympton Chaddlewood	Grant
Tinside Lido	Hoe Road	St Peter & Waterfront	Grant
People's Coffee	101 Lawrence Road	Plymstock Radford	Grant
Plymbridge Stores	48 Plymbridge Road	Plympton St Mary	Grant
Sonny's Coffee Shop	65 Hyde Park Road	Peverell	Grant
Shop 2 U	26 Manor Street	St Peter & Waterfront	Grant
The American	2 St Andrews Street	St Peter & Waterfront	Grant
Costcutter	Unit 2 Saltwater Place	St Peter & Waterfront	Grant
Fry's Grillhouse	Unit 3 Barbican Leisure Park	Sutton & Mount Gould	Grant
Vault72	72 Mutley Plain	Compton	Variation
City Centre Event Space	City Centre	St Peter & Waterfront	Grant
Minerva Café	29 Candlewick Lane	Sutton & Mount Gould	Grant
Coco Beauty and Aesthetics	162 Albert Road	Devonport	Grant
Basilico Blu	41/42 Southside Street	St Peter & Waterfront	Grant
Plymouth College	Ford Park	Compton	Grant
The Caddy Club	Unit 13 Burrington Industrial Estate	Ham	Grant

2.3 Licensing Authority

Premises	Address	Ward	App Type
Lounge	Unit 24 The Broadway	Plymstock Radford	Grant
Tinside Lido	Hoe Road	St Peter & Waterfront	Grant
Signature Strawberries Ltd	3 Discovery Wharf	St Peter & Waterfront	Grant

2.4 Devon & Somerset Fire & Rescue Service

N/A

2.5 Trading Standards

N/A

2.6 Planning Officer

N/A

2.7 Child Protection

N/A

2.8 Health & Safety Executive

N/A

2.9 Health Authority (ODPH)

N/A

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