

## **Woking Borough Council Licensing Policy Cumulative Impact Zone**

### 7.7 Woking Town Centre

7.7.1 Woking Town Centre is recognised by the Council as the principal entertainment area for the Borough and in its licensing decisions seeks to support the vibrancy of the area and the night time economy, whilst not unreasonably affecting the town centre users/occupiers and residents living on routes leading out of the town centre.

7.7.2 Within the secondary shopping areas of the town centre, as defined in the Council's Local Plan for Development (i.e. Chertsey Road, High Street, Broadway and the north side of Commercial Way), there is a significant concentration of licensed premises selling/serving alcohol and providing public entertainment and late night refreshment. In the Goldsworth Road and Guildford Road areas immediately to the west of the town centre, there is a further concentration of licensed premises.

7.7.3 The Council recognises that there is a disproportionate level of violent crime associated with the town centre area and evidence from the police is that much of this is alcohol-related. Applicants will be expected to specifically address this issue in their operating schedules in relation to any matters within their control.

7.7.4 In 2007 the Council received evidence from the police that the number of alcohol related crimes had been increasing in the town centre. In addition, although offences committed inside licensed premises had fallen since 2004, the number of public order offences had increased significantly.

7.7.5 Following a police representation and the prescribed consultation, Woking Borough Council adopted a Saturation Policy (also commonly known as a Cumulative Impact Zone). The Saturation Policy encompasses the area and premises bounded by and including the following roads: · Victoria Arch, Victoria Way to the Victoria Way junction of Lockfield Drive · Victoria Way junction of Lockfield Drive to Victoria Way junction of Chertsey Road · Chertsey Road to the junction of Stanley Road · Stanley Road to the junction of The Broadway · The Broadway to the junction of the High Street · High Street to Victoria Arch

7.7.6 Following concerns from local residents and support from Environmental Health (WBC); the need to expand the Cumulative Impact Zone due to risk of saturation in other areas close to the town centre, was put before WBC's Executive. The Licensing Team were granted authority to consult on a proposed expansion which it duly undertook and the proposal moved to full Council where it was adopted on 23 February 2009.

7.7.7 The extended zone is in addition to the first zone put place and encompasses the area and premises bounded by and including the following roads: · Woking Station inc. Station Approach; · from the start of residential properties in Oriental Road (No. 13) to the Junction with Victoria Road and Station Approach; · Victoria Road to junction with Goldsworth Road; · Goldsworth Road to junction with Vale Farm Road but including

supermarket site; · Church Street West from junction with Goldsworth Road to Victoria Way; and · Victoria Arch through current market site to CawseyWay.

7.7.8 Where a street or area is named above (7.7.5 and 7.7.7) or shown on the maps provided (Appendices 3 and 3a) as being included, the policy will apply to both sides of the street. Any premises or business encompassed or dissected by a line or shaded area on the maps (Appendices 3 and 3a) will be deemed included.

7.7.9 Within the zone, there will be a presumption that all applications for new premises licences, new club premises certificates or variations to existing licences of these type (that are likely to add to the cumulative impact zone) will be refused, following a relevant representation. In making applications for new or varied licences, it will be for the applicant to demonstrate in their operating schedule how they will not add to the cumulative impact of the area in one or all of the licensing objectives. Whilst there is a presumption against the granting of consent, each application will be dealt with individually on its merits and the Council recognises that there may be special circumstances which warrant making an exception. For example, different styles of outlet and manner of operation will impact on the licensing objectives in differing degrees. For the Saturation Policy to apply a relevant representation must be made and if no such objections are received, an application must be granted consistent with the operating schedule submitted.

7.7.10 This Policy will not be used to determine or respond to the 'need' for the facility. This is a matter for the market and planning to determine and not the licensing authority.

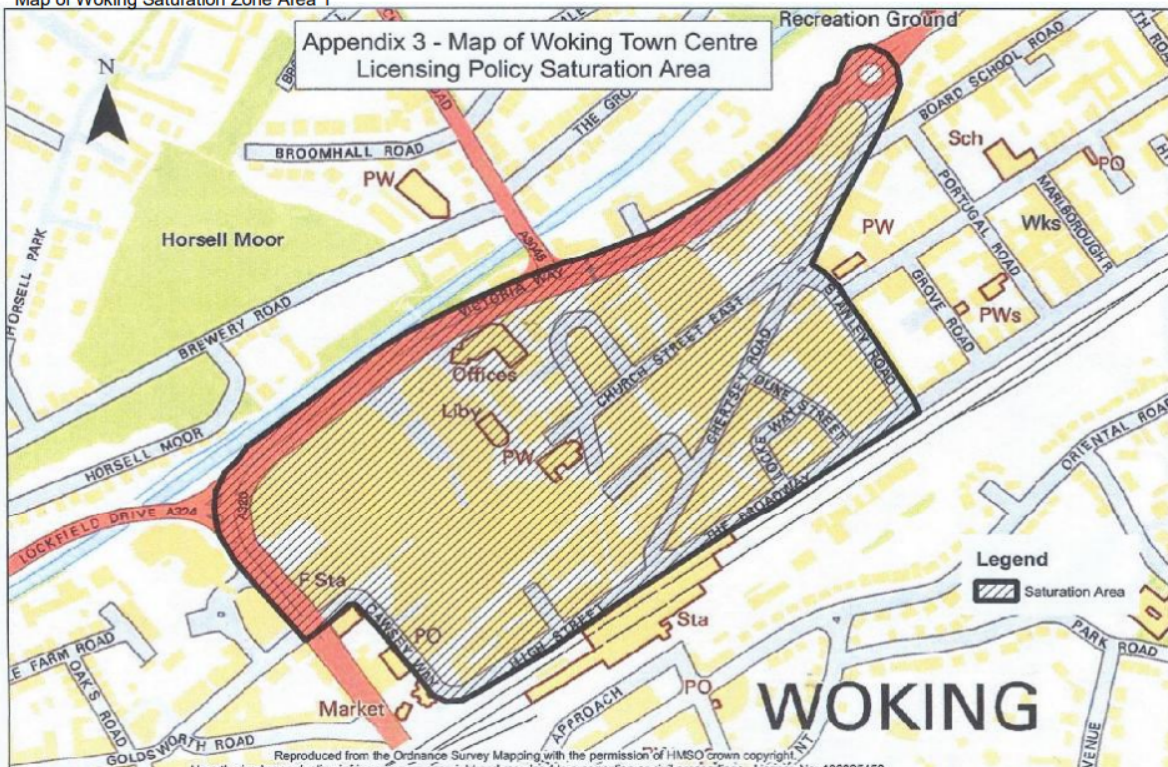
7.7.11 The Saturation Policy and the need to retain it is reviewed at Woking Borough Council's Joint Licensing Meetings (minimum 8 per year) and at the time of the current Licensing Policy review was still deemed valid and necessary.

7.7.12. It is to be noted that the premises licences mentioned in

7.7.9. include licences dealing with Late Night Refreshment and so takeaways and restaurants within the Cumulative Impact Zone should also be aware of the Council Licensing Policy.

**Appendix 3**

Map of Woking Saturation Zone Area 1



**Appendix 3a**

Map of Woking Saturation Zone Area 2

