



Buckinghamshire Council's Statement of Licensing Policy

Open date: 11 May 2026

Close date: 5 July 2026

Name: Commercial Licensing Team

Email: licensing@buckinghamshire.gov.uk

Overview

We want to hear your views on Buckinghamshire Council's Statement of Licensing Policy.

The Statement of Licensing Policy sets out how we carry out our licensing functions under the [Licensing Act 2003](#).

In simple terms the Council decides who can sell alcohol, provide entertainment, or serve late-night food and drinks, and under what conditions. This includes activities such as pubs and shops selling alcohol, venues providing live or recorded music, films or performances, and takeaways selling hot food late at night.

As a Licensing Authority, we are required by law to prepare and publish a Statement of Licensing Policy under the Licensing Act 2003. The policy explains how we approach decisions relating to premises licences, club premises certificates, temporary event notices and personal licences. Through this Policy, we demonstrate our commitment to promoting the four licensing objectives. These objectives are central to our licensing functions and guide all related decisions and actions:

- the prevention of crime and disorder
- public safety
- the prevention of public nuisance
- the protection of children from harm

Revised guidance under section 182

[Section 182 guidance](#) (under the Licensing Act 2003) is the statutory guidance issued by the Secretary of State that Licensing Authorities must have regard to when carrying out their licensing functions and when setting/reviewing their Statement of Licensing Policy.

National Framework

The Government also published their [National Licensing Policy Framework](#) for the hospitality and leisure sectors in November 2025. The framework applies to premises authorised to sell alcohol for consumption on the premises such as pubs, bars, restaurants, cafés, hotels, theatres, cinemas, music venues, festivals and late-night refreshment providers.

This framework is not statutory guidance, so it does not replace the Statutory Guidance issued under section 182 of the Licensing Act 2003. However, Licensing Authorities are expected to take it into consideration when reviewing their own Statements of Licensing Policy.

The framework emphasises that the four licensing objectives should continue to be used to safeguard the public, but policies should also reflect the evolving role of hospitality, leisure and entertainment in modern society, and support wider government ambitions around economic growth, public health, and cultural vitality.

[Our current policy](#) was implemented in March 2022, and we are now required to undertake a statutory review to ensure it remains up to date and fit for purpose.

We are not proposing any significant changes to our current policy at this stage but would like to give interested parties the opportunity to offer their views.

Related documents and links

Before you respond to this activity, please have a look at the following documents and links:

- [Our current Statement of Licensing Policy](#)
- [Statutory Guidance issued under section 182 of Licensing Act 2003](#)
- [National Licensing Policy Framework for the hospitality and leisure sectors \(web version\) - GOV.UK](#)

How to have your say

You can tell us your views in following ways:

- Complete the online survey using the link at the end of the page
- Complete and return a printed version of the survey
- Email us at licensing@buckinghamshire.gov.uk

If you have any questions about this activity, or require this information in another format or language, please email us at licensing@buckinghamshire.gov.uk

Please tell us your views by 11:59pm on Sunday 5 July 2026.

What happens next

Your feedback will help us update our policy. The revised policy will be presented to the Licensing Committee in the autumn for further consideration before being referred to Full Council for adoption.

Privacy

We will use the information you provide here only for this activity. We will store the information securely in line with data protection laws and will not share or publish any personal details. Survey responses will be analysed using Microsoft products including Copilot, Excel and Word. For more information about data and privacy, please see our [Privacy Policy](#).

If you have questions about data and privacy, please email us on dataprotection@buckinghamshire.gov.uk or write to our Data Protection Officer at Buckinghamshire Council, The Gateway, Gatehouse Road, Aylesbury, HP19 8FF.

Printed survey

Buckinghamshire Council's Statement of Licensing Policy

1. Do you agree that the current Statement of Licensing Policy remains broadly fit for purpose?

Please tick (✓) one option

- Strongly Agree
- Agree
- Neither agree or disagree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree

Please tell us the reason(s) for your answer here:

2. How clear and easy to understand is the policy?

Please tick (✓) one option

- Very easy
- Somewhat easy
- Not very easy
- Not at all easy
- I don't know

If you chose 'Not very easy' or 'Not at all easy', please tell us the sections which you feel could be made clearer:

3. Do you agree that the current Statement of Licensing Policy appropriately promotes the licensing objective of the prevention of crime and disorder?

Please tick (✓) one option

- Strongly Agree
- Agree
- Neither agree or disagree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree

Please tell us the reason(s) for your answer and additional comments here:

4. Do you agree that the current Statement of Licensing Policy appropriately promotes the licensing objective of public safety?

Please tick (✓) one option

- Strongly Agree
- Agree
- Neither agree or disagree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree

Please tell us the reason(s) for your answer and additional comments here:

5. Do you agree that the current Statement of Licensing Policy appropriately promotes the licensing objective of prevention of public nuisance?

Please tick (✓) one option

- Strongly Agree
- Agree
- Neither agree or disagree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree

Please tell us the reason(s) for your answer and additional comments here:

6. Do you agree that the current Statement of Licensing Policy appropriately promotes the licensing objective of protection of children from harm?

Please tick (✓) one option

- Strongly Agree
- Agree
- Neither agree or disagree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree

Please tell us the reason(s) for your answer and additional comments here:

7. If there are any local issues affecting the licensing objectives that you feel the policy should reflect more strongly, please tell us here:

8. If you have any further comments about the Statement of Licensing Policy, please tell us here:

Standard questions

About you

We will use the information you provide here only for the purpose of this activity. We will store the information securely in line with data protection laws and will not share or publish any personal details.

9. What type of licence do you currently hold? (select all that apply)

- Personal licence
- Premises licence
- Club premises certificate
- I don't hold a licence

10. Which of the following describe you?

Please tick (✓) all that apply

- I live in Buckinghamshire
- I work in Buckinghamshire
- I study in Buckinghamshire
- I represent or own a business in Buckinghamshire
- I represent a community or voluntary group in Buckinghamshire
- I am an elected representative in Buckinghamshire
- I represent a Parish / Town Council or Town Committee in Buckinghamshire
- I work for Buckinghamshire Council
- Other (please give details below):

11. How did you find out about this consultation?

Please tick (✓) all that apply

- Local media (newspaper, radio, TV, website or newsfeed)
- Social media (Facebook, Twitter/X, Instagram, Nextdoor or LinkedIn)
- Buckinghamshire Council website or Your Voice Bucks website
- Email or newsletter from Buckinghamshire Council
- Buckinghamshire Council staff or other professionals
- Through working at Buckinghamshire Council
- Poster or leaflet
- Friend or family member
- Local community or special interest group

- Councillor, town/parish council or community board
- Other (please give details below):

12. Are you responding as an individual or on behalf of an organisation (e.g. a business or a voluntary group)?

Please tick (✓) one option

- As an individual (go to question 14)
- On behalf of an organisation

On behalf of an organisation

13. Please provide the following details:

Name of organisation:

Your job title:

End of survey if responding on behalf of an organisation.

More about you

We want to hear from as many people as possible to understand the views and needs across Buckinghamshire. The following questions help us see if the communities we serve have had the opportunity to be heard through this activity.

All questions are optional. You can skip any questions you do not wish to answer.

14. What is your postcode?

We want to understand the views of people living in different areas. You don't have to provide your postcode, but it helps us plan and make considered decisions.

15. What is your age?

Why we ask this: We want to understand the experiences and views of different age groups.

Please tick (✓) one option

- Under 16
- 16 to 24
- 25 to 34
- 35 to 44
- 45 to 54
- 55 to 64
- 65 to 74
- 75 to 84
- Over 85
- Prefer not to say

16. Do you consider yourself to have a disability / disabilities, impairment(s) or long term health condition(s)?

Why we ask this: We want to understand the experiences and views of disabled people, people with impairments and people with long term health conditions.

Please tick (✓) all that apply

- Disability / disabilities
- Impairment(s)
- Long term health condition(s)
- No
- Prefer not to say

17. Are you:

Why we ask this: We want to understand the experiences and views of different sexes.

Please tick (✓) one option

- Female
- Male
- Prefer not to say

18. How would you describe your ethnicity?

Why we ask this: We want to understand the experiences and views of different ethnicities.

Please tick (✓) one option

- Asian - British
- Asian - Bangladeshi
- Asian - Chinese
- Asian - Indian
- Asian - Pakistani
- Any other Asian background - Please give details below

- Black - African
- Black - British
- Black - Caribbean
- Any other Black, African or Caribbean background - Please give details below

- Mixed or multiple ethnic groups - White and Asian
- Mixed or multiple ethnic groups - White and Black African
- Mixed or multiple ethnic groups - White and Black British
- Mixed or multiple ethnic groups - White and Black Caribbean
- Mixed or multiple ethnic groups - Mixed or Multiple Ethnic backgrounds British
- Any other Mixed or Multiple ethnic background - Please give details below

- White - English, Welsh, Scottish, Northern Irish or British

- White - Irish
- White - Gypsy or English traveller
- White - Irish Traveller
- White - European
- Any other White background - Please give details below

- Other ethnic group - Arab
- Other ethnic group - Arab British
- Other ethnic group - Please give details below
- Prefer not to say

Please give other details here:

End of the survey

Thank you for taking the time to complete this survey.

Please return your completed survey by 11:59pm on Sunday 5 July 2026.

You can:

- email it to licensing@buckinghamshire.gov.uk
- post it to:
Commercial Licensing
Buckinghamshire Council
The Gateway
Gatehouse Road
Aylesbury
Buckinghamshire
HP19 8FF