

APPENDIX D

Summary of the consultation

1.1 The Local Authorities (Alcohol Consumption in Designated Public Places) Regulations 2007 require that local authorities undertake a consultation process prior to making an Order. The following must be consulted:

- The Chief Officer of the police for the area
- Any neighbouring local authorities and police, where the area covers an area on the boundary with that neighbouring authority
- Licensees within the area or those affected who may be affected by the Order

There is also a requirement on local authorities to take reasonable steps to consult the owners or occupiers of any land proposed to be covered by the Order. As it is impracticable to consult individually with all land owners and occupiers in the proposed area, public consultation notices in the local press are acceptable.

1.2 All residents were consulted by way of a legal public notice placed in the Newham Recorder and Newham Gazette in December 2008. A duplicate notice was placed in the papers in January 2009 because of Christmas/New Year. A notice also appeared in the Newham Magazine, which gets delivered to every household in the borough, in January.

1.3 The following were also consulted directly:

- Anchor House
- British Transport Police
- Drug and Alcohol Services for London (DASL)
- East London NHS Foundation Trust
- Emmanuel Church
- All Licensed Premises in E7 and E15
- London Ambulance Service
- London Fire Brigade
- Metropolitan Police
- National Express
- Newham Chamber of Commerce
- Newham Council
- Newham Homes
- Newham Primary Care Trust

- Newham Pubwatch
- Registered Social Landlords via the Newham ASB Social Landlord Forum
- Newham University Hospital NHS Trust
- St John's Church
- Stratford Area Tenant Liaison Committee
- Turnaround - The Renewal Programme
- Transport for London

1.3 The initial deadline of the consultation period was extended for a further four weeks to give people extra time to comment. An extension notice went into the Newham Recorder.

1.4 Elected Members for the affected wards were informed of the DPPO by letter and the Influential Councillor Scheme was used to inform all Elected Members. No objections were received to the proposal.

1.5 Local authorities must also publicise any intention to make an Order. A notice must be published in a locally circulated newspaper containing the following information:

- Identification of the place to be designated
- The effect of an order made in relation to that place
- Inviting representations as to whether or not the order should be made

Local authorities must consider any representations made from the consultation process before the designation of any order. It should not make an order until at least 28 days the publication of the notice.

1.6 A total of 42 responses were received to the consultation. Overall 86% (36) of respondents supported the proposal for the DPPO. Three respondents disagreed with the Order and three were not sure.

Nearly three quarters (74%) of responses were made by representatives on behalf of their organisation or business. The remaining 11 respondents were private residents.

The 36 organisations/businesses that responded to the consultation included the police, BTP, TfL, National West East Anglia, Newham PCT, Turnaround (The Renewal Programme), the Emmanuel Church, the St John's Church, Newham Pubwatch, eight licensed premises/retailers and nine shop/retailers.

92% (33) of organisations/businesses were supportive of the proposal. One licensed premises was unsure of the Order as were two retailers.

Three respondents who disagreed with the proposal were all private residents (see Appendix E for their objections).

- 1.7 The Borough Commander for Newham is a statutory consultee and has expressed his support for the proposal. The police would like to see a borough-wide DPPO but there is insufficient evidence of alcohol related nuisance or annoyance to members of the public across the whole of Newham to support such an application.

The police believe that the introduction of a DPPO will be an effective tool for reducing the amount of alcohol related disorder with the designated area and support the making of an Order.

- 1.8 The BTP were consulted and fully support the making of an Order.

BTP expressed concern that Stratford Railway Station was outside the designated area and would like the station to be included. If it is not included, its proximity to the designated area may encourage people to enter the station to drink and therefore import problems onto the station. The alcohol ban on Transport for London (TfL) property imposed by the Mayor of London does not cover the mainline railway station and trains. As Stratford is an intermodal station with London Underground, DLR and mainline railway services there are large areas of the station where the alcohol ban not be enforced. Additionally, the TfL alcohol can does not allow the police to issue a penalty notice with the potential sanction of a £500 fine for failure to comply.

- 1.9 TfL are fully supportive of the inclusion of Stratford Railway Station in the designated area. The inclusion is inline with TfL's own alcohol ban on public transport and is consistent with the creation of a continuum of alcohol control across TfL's transport network.

- 1.10 National Express East Anglia were also supportive of expanding the designated area to encompass Stratford Railway Station, which already takes in Forest Gate and Maryland train stations.

London Underground (under the Railways and Other Guided Transport Systems (Safety) Regulations 2006) has overall safety responsibility for Stratford Railway Station. Including the station within the designated area would mean a consistent approach with London Underground rather than National Express having some station platforms that were covered by the order and some that were not.

- 1.11 All licensed premise holders within the proposed designated area are statutory consultees and were written to. None of the licensed premises that responded to the consultation objected to the Order. One was unsure of its effects.

Newham Pubwatch, an action forum which brings together representatives from the license trade with the council, police, and

other partners supported the Order expressed a number of concerns including:

- The negative impact that the Order may have on the image of the area.
- The funding for the ongoing costs in maintaining the Order.
- The lack of police resources to effectively enforce the Order.
- The possible over reliance on DPPO powers and not making full use of other measures to deal with alcohol related disorder and nuisance
- The lack of available services for people with alcohol dependency problems.
- The possible introduction of an Alcohol Disorder Zone (ADZ) in favour of other Licensing Act powers.

- 1.12 Newham PCT was supportive of the DPPO although felt that this approach to alcohol related anti-social behaviour was excessive when the data was considered in comparison with other London boroughs that had established a DPPO.

The PCT highlighted that West Ham Park is on the border of the designated area and that it could emerge as a 'safe haven' for public drinking if the DPPO was introduced. The implication of this was large congregations converging on the park, which would discourage families and young people from going there. The park is owned and maintained by the City of London. It is fenced off and closed at night. It is regularly patrolled and has closed circuit television.

In the event that the Order is approved, it recommended that the council in partnership with the PCT, considers identifying resources for establishing a specific alcohol street outreach service and/or 'wet' service.

- 1.13 Turnaround did not believe that the Order would in itself resolve the issue of street drinking, although it was supportive of the DPPO. Since the closure of Choral Hall Day Centre they suggested the reintroduction of structured day care provision, which would better contain the problem.

Turnaround also expressed the possible difficulty of street drinkers accessing local services provided by the Aram House Night Shelter, Drug and Alcohol Services for London (DASL) and Emmanuel Church, which are all within the designated area, if the police enforced the order too rigorously.

- 1.14 Emmanuel Church supported the proposed Order. It raised a similar concern to Turnaround about the enforcement of the order and danger of those suffering with addictions being prevented from attending

clinics e.g. at Capital House (DASL), Aram House (Turnaround) and Breakfast Club at the church

1.15 The St John's Church highlighted the increase in crime and anti-social, much of it linked to street drinking, it has experienced over recent years, including:

- Large drunken groups who indulge in aggressive and intimidating behaviour
- Begging in order to purchase alcohol
- Shoplifting and other petty crime
- The use of the churchyard as a public toilet
- Sizeable amounts of litter from discarded cans and bottles

It has had to remove all flower beds and shrubs from the churchyard to reduce opportunities from criminal and anti-social behaviour, and all the seating to stop people street drinkers and rough sleepers from congregating there. The wider town centre has also suffered because of the large number of street drinkers, which create an unpleasant and intimidating environment.