



Cumulative Impact Assessment 2024 to 2027 Licensing Act 2003

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Introduction

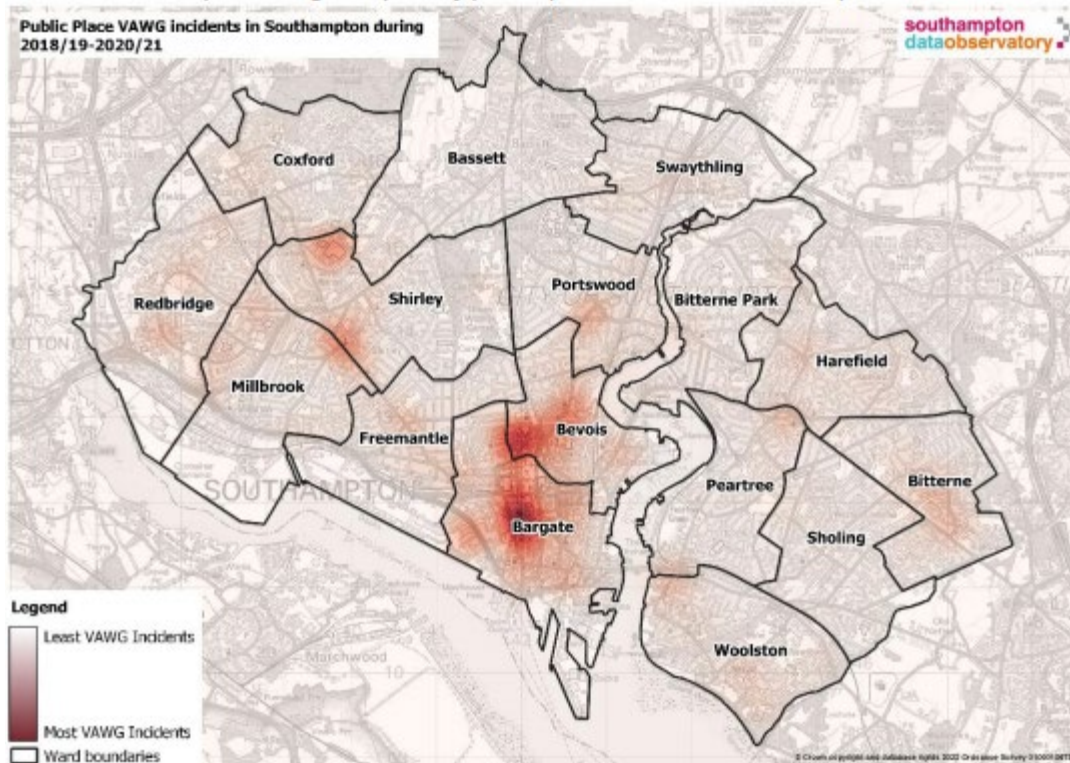
1. 'Cumulative impact assessments' (CIA) were introduced into the 2003 Act by the Policing and Crime Act 2017, with effect from 6 April 2018. Cumulative impact is the potential impact on the promotion of the licensing objectives of a number of licensed premises concentrated in one area. This should not be confused with the issue of "need" which relates to the commercial demand for licensed premises and cannot be taken into account when determining licensing applications.
2. The last CIA was conducted alongside the adoption of the Statement of Licensing Policy adopted in 2021. The impact policy is detailed in Section 6 of that document.

Cumulative Impact Assessment

3. The assessment in 2021 supported the continuance of the previously established Stress Areas, namely London Road/Bedford Place, Above Bar Street and Bevois Valley.
4. The police and other partners were asked to review any data they had for the authority to consider in a review of the cumulative impact policy. Hampshire and Isle of Wight Constabulary produced a report based on data between 2020 and 2022.
5. The police report talks about 'zones'. These are numbered 1 to 5 and are different areas of night time economy activity in Southampton.
 - Zone 1 London Road/Bedford PI
 - Zone 2 Above Bar street
 - Zone 3 high Street/Oxford St
 - Zone 4 Bevois Valley
 - Zone 5 Leisure World
6. The report concludes Zones 1 and 2, which equate to the stress areas of the same names, still have high incidents of crime and disorder. It identifies Zone 4 has seen a reduction in such incidents and recommends it is removed as a stress area. Zone 3, in particular around Oxford Street has seen an increase and recommends Oxford

street becomes a stress area. The report adds there are clusters in both Charlotte Place and St Mary's Road and both of these should be incorporated into the stress areas. A copy of the police report is part of this assessment and is attached as Appendix 1.

7. The Community Cohesion Team provided a heat map of Violence Against Women and Girls incidents between 2018 and 2021. This shows high concentrations of incidents in the city centre including Above Bar Street and London Road/Bedford Pla areas. It also showed Bevois Valley to have a high concentration of incidents.



8. In light of this information Southampton City Council undertook a consultation exercise in accordance with the legislation that proposed retaining the London Road/Bedford Place and Above Bar Street stress areas unchanged. Retaining Bevois Valley stress area and extending it to include Charlotte Place and to create a new stress area in Oxford Street. Maps of the proposed areas form part of the assessment and are attached as appendix 2.
9. The consultation ran from 4th September until 29th October 2023 and received 54 responses. A report summarising the responses is part of the assessment and is attached as appendix 3.

10. The majority of responses are in support of the proposals. There are a number of comments supporting the inclusion of Oxford Street as a stress area. There are also a number of comments expressing dissatisfaction with previous decisions to grant licences within existing stress areas.

11. Responses from officers to the constructive responses are attached as appendix 4.

Conclusion

12. The Assessment has been carried out in accordance with the Section 5(a) of the Licensing Act 2003. This Assessment has been published because the Council considers that the number of relevant authorisations in respect of premises in one area described in the assessment is such that it is likely that it would be inconsistent with the Council's duty under the Act to grant any further relevant authorisations in respect of premises in that part.

13. With immediate effect the stress areas identified in section 6 of the Statement of Licensing Policy of Southampton City Council will be amended to be as identified in appendix 2 of this assessment. These cover 4 areas:-

- London Road/Bedford Place
- Above Bar Street
- Bevois Valley
- Oxford Street

Appendixes

1. Police report
2. Maps of stress areas
3. Report summarizing consultation responses
4. Officer responses to consultation comments