



30th June 2022

Central Police Station
Byron House
Maid Marian Way
Nottingham
NG1 6HS

Tel: 101

Dear Sir or Madam,

Formal response from Nottinghamshire Police to consultation on review and proposed revocation of the Late Night Levy in Nottingham City Council.

Ensuring a safe and vibrant Night Time Economy (NTE) is a vital element of the police and partnership offer for Nottingham City Centre. This entails a dedicated Policing operation every Friday and Saturday night, where large numbers of officers are brought into the City Centre to provide enhanced visibility and reassurance, as well as response to incidents. These operations are scaled according to predicted demand and footfall. They are in addition to the Response officers who work in the City Centre 24/7 and primarily attend the immediate and urgent calls for service. None of these officers are funded through the Late Night Levy.

The Late Night Levy has provided the opportunity to supplement the NTE policing offer with overtime funding to prevent additional officers being drawn from the Neighbourhoods. It has allowed the partnership to provide a prompt and robust response to emerging crime patterns, trends and hotspot locations. For example, the Late Night Levy has recently contributed to Nottingham's partnership response to the national 'spiking epidemic'. A proposal has also been submitted for additional CCTV camera on St James' Street.

Nationally, it is recognised that the re-opening of the NTE post pandemic has resulted in increased demand within the NTE. Footfall data and transport use data suggests that NTE footfall is as high as pre-pandemic levels, and this is replicated in the police demand picture. To ensure we maintain trust and confidence in a safe NTE it is important to constantly review our partnership offer, understand the public perception and be able to react accordingly with new initiatives.

Until recently there has been a Cumulative Impact Assessment in Nottingham City Centre. This restricted the number of licenced premises within designated zones and prevented over saturation of licenced venues that could contribute to crime and disorder. This was not renewed in October 2021, with an intention of reviewing in Spring 2022, however, there is currently no live Cumulative Impact Assessment. The Late Night Levy is collected from premises which sell alcohol after midnight. The removal of measures to prevent saturation of licensed premises plus removal of the Late Night Levy contribution could reduce the partnership opportunity to

put additional safety measures in place to reduce ASB and violence associated with alcohol consumption.

Nottinghamshire Police were consulted with, and welcomed, a recent needs assessment, conducted by Nottinghamshire Police and Crime Commissioner. A number of suggestions for the use of the Late Night Levy funds were proposed by Nottinghamshire Police, including a multi-partnership safe space. Nottinghamshire Police are also supportive of recommendations to extend support into the City Neighbourhoods should the Late Night Levy continue.

Nottinghamshire Police attend a National NTE meeting to share experiences and seek new ideas as well as identifying best practice. Some of these initiatives have subsequently resulted in some of the expenditure of the LNL. Chief Inspector English chairs the NTE Safety Group; a partnership meeting involving key stakeholders and community representatives from Nottingham City. Nottinghamshire Police are supportive of the NTE assessment proposal to use this partnership forum to make recommendations for consideration of projects and funding for future NTE safety initiatives.

I would like to note that Nottinghamshire Police have never been requested to provide any information regarding the outcomes of Late Night Levy expenditure by the Licensing Authority.

It should also be noted that last year, with a short deadline, the Home Office released funding specifically for NTE partnerships to tackle Violence Against Women and Girls. The City Partnership was determined to maximise this opportunity and diverted some of the proposals being developed under the LNL funding to produce this bid. It was fantastic to secure £293,542 from Safer Streets 3 and deliver the projects by the end of March 2022 when the bid term ended. However, diverting these bids from the Late Night Levy just as the NTE was re-opening, plus the extensive lock down period, clearly reduced the requirement to spend the money collected through the Late Night Levy.

Yours sincerely,

Superintendent Kathryn Craner
Area Commander – Nottingham City