



**NOTTINGHAMSHIRE  
POLICE & CRIME  
COMMISSIONER**

**COMMISSIONER CAROLINE HENRY**

28 June 2022

To: Cllr David Mellen  
Mel Barrett  
Lord Vernon Coaker  
Cllr Neghat Khan  
Andrew Errington  
Colin Wilderspin  
Paul Dales

Dear Colleague

**Formal response from Police and Crime Commissioner Caroline Henry to consultation on review and proposed revocation of the Late Night Levy in Nottingham City Council**

The enclosed correspondence has been forwarded to our office in respect of your current consultation on the Late Night Levy. Please note the letter that has been addressed to me, dated 9th May 2022, it was not sent directly to any of the correspondence addresses for my office. In fact, it was only received by our office on Wednesday 15th June 2022 as a result of being forwarded to us from a Nottinghamshire Police officer.

I note that my Chief Executive and Monitoring Officer, Sharon Caddell, has since received direct correspondence from your officer, Paul Dales, via email on Friday 17th June 2022. I also note that this is just two weeks prior to the close of your consultation on 1st July 2022. These late communications have left myself and my office very little time to formulate a considered response to the consultation.

I must express that I am deeply disappointed that, as a key statutory stakeholder and the Police and Crime Commissioner for Nottinghamshire, there has not been a greater effort to communicate with me directly in respect of this matter. I sincerely hope that this is not indicative of a lack of commitment to a partnership dialogue in respect of community safety agenda more generally. I am sure that you will agree that as Police and Crime Commissioner for Nottinghamshire, it is important that I am afforded the opportunity to feed my full and considered response into the current consultation on the Late Night Levy.

As you will be aware, my office has recently commissioned an independent needs assessment to identify issues and opportunities in respect of the night time economy, a copy of which is

**Nottinghamshire Police & Crime Commissioner**

Forces Headquarters |  
Sherwood Lodge Arnold |  
Nottingham | NG5 8PP

T 0115 844 5998

E [officepcc@notts.police.uk](mailto:officepcc@notts.police.uk)

[www.nottinghamshire.pcc.police.uk](http://www.nottinghamshire.pcc.police.uk)



attached. This report was shared at the earliest opportunity with all key stakeholders in the City Council, including the licensing committee. I must therefore express my disappointment that despite having contacted various members of the City Council directly regarding the recommendations of the report, we are yet to receive formal acknowledgement of this, or a response to follow up communications from my office sent on 28th April 2022 and 11th April 2022.

The report was commissioned on the basis of ensuring that the Late Night Levy monies are optimised in ensuring that our night time economy is as safe as it can be. This strongly supports the principles of Section 125 (3) of the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act (PRsRA) 2011, which requires:

- (a) that a licensing authority consider the cost of policing and other arrangements for the reduction or prevention of crime and disorder, in connection with the supply of alcohol between midnight and 6am; and,
- (b) having regard to those costs, the desirability of raising revenue to be applied in accordance with S131 (*payment of specified proportion of that amount, no less than 70%, to the relevant local policing body*)

In addition to a lack of formal acknowledgement of the needs assessment, I was surprised to learn that some officers in the Council had stated that the report had been commissioned without their involvement or prior knowledge. Quite the opposite is true: a significant number of stakeholders (including Heads of Service and some elected members) at City were approached by my office and the consultants, who were commissioned to carry out the needs assessment. Those stakeholders were requested to be involved in the interviews, and indeed a number of them were interviewed and made contributions which have influenced the final recommendations of the report.

I am very committed to discharging my responsibilities in respect of my community safety duty, as conferred by the PRsRA 2011 but currently, it is my perception that I am being frustrated in my efforts by the lack of dialogue and response from Nottingham City Council. I sincerely hope I am mistaken in my perception and would encourage you to reply to this and my other points at your earliest opportunity.

However, in the interests of our collective goal of working toward a safer Nottingham and Nottinghamshire in future, I believe it would be helpful to draw your attention to the recommendations that were developed, based upon stakeholder input and evidence bases, within the needs assessment that has been sent to you, in the summary below:

<b>RECOMMENDATION</b>	<b>ONE OFF COST</b>	<b>ANNUAL COST</b>
Permanent Safe Space	£10,000	£164,000
Boosting volunteer support	£10,000	£2,000
Empowering the NTE Safety Group	N/A	£50,000
Taxi marshals & enhanced enforcement	N/A	£62,000
St James's Street safety measures	£93,920	N/A
Talbot Street modifications and plan	£30,000	N/A
City neighbourhoods BCRP	N/A	£37,700
Enhanced CCTV coverage	N/A	£20,000
Operation Guardian	N/A	£18,000
Communicating the Late Night Levy	N/A	£1,500
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£143,920</b>	<b>£355,200</b>

You may recognise that many of the above recommendations build upon the successes achieved through the Safer Streets 3 funding which enabled the excellent and highly innovative work of the Safer Women at Night (SWAN) scheme activities to be commissioned. Indeed, this work incorporated evidence-based initiatives put forward directly by Nottinghamshire's Consent Coalition, including the A-Z of Consent and Help a Friend Campaigns concept and branding of the transport network. The partnership work in Nottingham and Nottinghamshire has received national recognition, including from Director of Public Prosecutions, Max Hill QC, who attended the launch in March 2022.

The night time economy needs assessment provides us with a firm basis for using Late Night Levy monies to best effect and to the collective benefit of the public and businesses within Nottingham City and beyond. However, determining which of the proposals should be taken forward now requires us, as a partnership, to come together and discuss these recommendations and I request that this is done as a matter of urgency. To this end, I have requested confirmation of any unspent monies as well as ongoing commitments funded through the levy and should be able to provide this in the near future, hopefully at a point in time when we meet to discuss this proposal.

It should be noted that it may not be possible to progress these recommendations if the Late Night Levy is not collected in future. I am very concerned that while its revocation might yield a short-term benefit, it would be deeply harmful in the longer term and would stymie our collective efforts in ensuring the vibrant night time economy of Nottingham City is enabled to be as safe and inclusive as possible, for our women and girls, and the more vulnerable residents in our communities.

I regularly monitor the effectiveness and efficiency of our response to night time economy related crime and ASB and the new and emerging issues that have presented, particularly in the emergence from the Coronavirus pandemic. One matter that I have regularly challenged the Chief Constable about is that of feelings of safety after dark, which has been identified as a key issue of concern by local residents, and women and girls in particular, via our quarterly Police and Crime Surveys. I have significant concerns that the absence of revenue raised via the Late Night Levy will thwart mine and the Chief's Constable's efforts to make and keep our City Centre safe.

A further area of concern, if the Levy were to be revoked, is that of the impact and lack of resilience regarding football related violence. The promotion of Nottingham Forest to the Premier League is a wonderful achievement for our City and it will stimulate economic vitality and growth. However, I am told that there is connectivity between football event and violent crime and disorder, including drug taking. I am advised by the police that the majority of fans and spectators are well behaved and go to games to enjoy themselves, but the behaviour of a minority of fans, including violence, criminal damage, drug-taking, intimidation and harassment, and in some cases, exploitation of vulnerable young people, requires an elevated police presence as well as associated response and support interventions to be deployed.

For the reasons set out above, I am opposed to the Late Night Levy being rescinded.

I believe it would be in all our interests and logical if, before any final decision on the levy is made to come together with relevant stakeholders as soon as possible, and to discuss recommendations from the needs assessment. This would ensure that a holistic view of the merits and demerits of the loss of the levy to the people and businesses of Nottingham City can be fully considered.

In the interim, please confirm your receipt of this communication and whether you intend to consider the proposals within the needs assessment. I remain open and committed to dialogue

about how we might work together to ensure a lasting impact is achieved by using current and future Late Night Levy monies to optimal effect.

I hope to hear from you shortly.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Caroline Henry". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal flourish underneath.

**Caroline Henry**  
**Nottinghamshire Police & Crime Commissioner**

