

THE MAGISTRATES' ASSOCIATION
JUDICIAL POLICY & PRACTICE COMMITTEE

Response to Proposals to amend the Licensing Act 2003 to improve the processes for interim authority, statements of licensing policy and temporary event notices

The Magistrates' Association agree with all the proposals in this consultation document, except as follows:

Proposal A: Licensing Statements: Questions A1 –A6

We do not agree that the existing requirement to review licensing statements every three years should be removed. We are of the opinion that for reasons of transparency and public accountability a clear licensing statement should be produced every three years. This would ensure that the Authority would be required to keep all licensing matters up to date, improve practice, comply with case law and ensure that any amendments to legislation are updated as they occur.

Proposal B, Question B4:

We are of the opinion that the interim authority period should not be extended to three months. We feel that any extension to this time could increase the risk of public disorder.

9 February 2010