

Financial Data – Late Night Levy

The Licensing Team has interrogated the Licensed Premises register and has provided the following information as a guide to Members.

Total Number of Licensed Premises	1494
Total Number of Alcohol Premises	1288
Total Number of Alcohol Premises (Licensed from midnight)	857
Authorised on New Year's Eve/New Year's Day only	103
Total gross amount that the Levy might raise (without any exemptions)	£741,478 pa

The levy payable by each premises caught within the levy period is determined by the rateable value of the premises. The rateable value of each premises is set by the Valuation Office and the levy amount is set by Central Government. The number of premises in each band that authorise the alcohol from Midnight to 06:00 are:

Rateable Value Bands (based on the existing fee bands)	A No rateable value to £4,300	B £4,301 to £33,000	C £33,001 to £87,000	D £87,001 to £125,000	E £125,001 and above	D x 2 Multiplier applies to premises in category D that primarily sell alcohol	E x 3 Multiplier applies to premises in category E that primarily sell alcohol
Annual Levy charge	£299	£768	£1,259	£1,365	£1,493	£2,730	£4,440
<i>Existing Annual Licence Fee</i>	<i>£70</i>	<i>£180</i>	<i>£295</i>	<i>£320</i>	<i>£350</i>	<i>£640</i>	<i>£1050</i>
Number of Premises	109	523	141	26	54	2	2

Levy by time

The levy period can be set at any time from Midnight to 06:00 and the table below provides Members with a breakdown of premises by time (the figures are based on there being no exemptions).

Time	Number of Premises	Amount of Levy	Cumulative Amount
NYE only	103	£ 80,052	£ 80,052
Midnight to 12:59	327	£275,370	£355,422
01:00 to 01:59	276	£230,468	£585,890
02:00 to 02:59	107	£107,440	£693,330
03:00 to 03:59	19	£ 20,738	£714,068
04:00 to 06:00	7	£ 6,869	£720,937
24hrs	17	£ 20,541	£741,478

Levy by Town

Cheshire Constabulary has provided data relating to the crime, disorder and anti-social behaviour linked to the late night economy. This data states that the towns of Crewe, Macclesfield, Nantwich and Wilmslow have the highest concentration of incidents. The table below provides Members with a breakdown of how much each of these towns might contribute to the levy (the figures are based on there being no exemptions). It is important to note that the Late Night Levy can only be implemented on a Borough wide basis.

Town	Number of Premises	Amount of Levy
Crewe	99	£ 95,296
Macclesfield	127	£102,550
Nantwich	48	£ 43,501
Wilmslow	49	£ 51,097
Total		£292,444

Summary

Members should also note that the cost of implementing the levy can be deducted prior to the apportionment of the final figure (that being 30% to the Licensing Authority and 70% to Cheshire Constabulary). This would also include the cost of any legal challenge to the making of a levy. The process to be followed to implement the levy is comprehensive and extensive consultation should be conducted to reduce the risk of any challenge. Providing the information to date has resulted in the diversion from normal duties of over 240 officer hours.

Premises that do not use their authorisations after midnight are likely to take advantage of the free minor variation that must be provided to them if the levy were to be implemented (a minor variation would normally carry a fee of £89.00). It is impossible to estimate the number of premises that would chose to change their licence rather than pay the levy. However, to provide an indication, if 10% of the total premises licensed from midnight varied their licence this would be a reduction of approximately £80,000.

Similarly, it is impossible to estimate the number of premises that might fall into one of the exemption categories. For example, there are a number of hotels that have an authorisation to serve the public after midnight. However, they may choose to lose this ability and only serve residents after midnight and therefore be exempt from the levy if this category of exemption is adopted. Hotels also tend to have a higher than average rateable value and therefore pay one of the higher levy fees.

Members also need to consider the impact of such a charge on the late night economy as a whole including premises that may close as a result of the extra cost (and the impact this would have on employees etc) and any 'ancillary' businesses such as the Private Hire and Hackney Carriage trade.