

NEWCASTLE-UNDER-LYME BOROUGH COUNCIL

**CORPORATE LEADERSHIP TEAM'S
REPORT TO LICENSING & PUBLIC PROTECTION COMMITTEE**

11 June 2024

Report Title: Relaxation of licensing hours for the 2024 UEFA European Championships

Submitted by: Service Director - Regulatory Services & Licensing Administration Team Manager

Portfolios: Finance, Town Centres & Growth

Ward(s) affected: All

<u>Purpose of the Report</u>	<u>Key Decision</u> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
To inform the Committee of the result of a Home Office consultation to allow certain licensed premises to open later than their normal hours. It is in relation to the semi-final and final matches of the 2024 European Championships, should a 'Home Nations' team progress to that stage.	
<u>Recommendation</u>	
That Committee/Council:	
1. Note the contents of the report	
<u>Reasons</u>	
The Home Office held a consultation on whether to allow a relaxation of licensing hours during the semi-final and final stages of the 2024 European Championships, should a 'Home Nations' team progress to that stage.	

1. Background

1.1 Section 172 of the Licensing Act 2003 allows the Secretary of State for the Home Department to make a Licensing Hours Order ('Order') relaxing opening hours for licensed premises (any premises with a premises licence or a club premises certificate) in England and Wales to mark an occasion of 'exceptional international, national or local significance'.

1.2 Past national occasions where the government has extended licensing hours have included the late Queen's platinum jubilee in 2022, the Royal Weddings in 2018 and 2011, the late Queen's ninetieth birthday celebrations in 2016, the late Queen's diamond jubilee in 2012, and the Kings Coronation in 2023. The power was also used during the World Cup in 2014 and the 2020 UEFA European championship final.

2. Issues

- 2.1 In February to March 2024 the Home Office consulted upon whether it was appropriate to make an Order to extend the times for licensed premises to be open during the semi-final and final stages of the UEFA 2024 European Championships, should a 'Home Nations' team progress to that stage. Unfortunately due to the short duration and time of the consultation, and the Committee meeting dates, it was not referred to this Committee.
- 2.2 The Government received 65 complete responses with a majority response in favour of the extension being implemented and it applying to the semi-finals (9-10th July 2024) and the day of the final (14th July). On 8th May 2024 the draft order was laid before the two houses and on 24th May it was approved with a commencement date of 25th May 2024.
- 2.3 The Order authorises all licensed premises that are already permitted to sell/supply alcohol for consumption on the premises until 11pm to operate until 1am the day after. This allows for these premises to carry out late night refreshment during these times. It should be noted that this Order will only have effect should either the England team, Scotland team or both teams progress to the semi-final and/or final stages, and will only take effect on the date that they are playing. For example if one of the teams played in the semi-final on 9th July, it would only be 9th July that would benefit from the relaxation. The licensable hours for 10th July would be the normal hours.
- 2.4 The relaxation does not apply to the sale of alcohol for consumption off the premises, regulated entertainment, late night refreshment premises or unlicensed premises.

3. Recommendation

- 3.1 That Members note the content of the report.

4. Reasons

- 4.1 To inform Members of amendments to the Licensing Act 2003 and matters of local and national significance.

5. Options Considered

- 5.1 Not applicable.

6. Legal and Statutory Implications

- 6.1 Not applicable.

7. Equality Impact Assessment

- 7.1 Not applicable.

8. **Financial and Resource Implications**

- 8.1 It is unlikely to cause any resource implications however if there was to be complaints and incidents as a result of the extended hours then it would require investigation by the appropriate officers. It is not anticipated to be the case but the resource would be covered by existing staff members.

9. **Major Risks & Mitigation**

- 9.1 Not applicable.

10. **UN Sustainable Development Goals (UNSDG)**

10.1



11. **Key Decision Information**

- 11.1 Not applicable.

12. **Earlier Cabinet/Committee Resolutions**

- 12.1 Not applicable.

13. **List of Appendices**

- 13.1 None

14. **Background Papers**

- 14.1 [The Licensing Act 2003 \(UEFA European Football Championship Licensing Hours\) Order 2024](#)
- 14.2 [Explanatory Memorandum to the above Order](#)