



Borough of Telford and Wrekin

Communities Scrutiny Committee

1 October 2026

Night-Time Economy in Telford & Wrekin

Cabinet Member:	Cllr Nathan England - Cabinet Member for Safer Streets and Better Housing
Lead Director:	Anthea Lowe – Director: Policy & Governance
Service Area:	Policy & Governance
Report Author:	Andy Bishop – Trading Standards & Licensing Group Manager
Officer Contact Details:	Tel: 01952 383686 Email: andy.bishop@telford.gov.uk
Wards Affected:	All
Key Decision:	Not Key Decision
Forward Plan:	Not Applicable
Report considered by:	Communities Scrutiny Committee – 1 October 2026

1.0 Recommendations for decision/noting:

The Committee is asked to:

- 1.1 Endorse the continued commitment by the Council to provide a safer night-time economy for residents and visitors to Telford and Wrekin.
- 1.2 Agree the suggested areas of focus and priorities for the year ahead while suggesting areas of focus for further consideration.

2.0 Purpose of Report

- 2.1 This report seeks to provide the Communities Scrutiny Committee with an update on work undertaken by the Council, working in partnership with West Mercia Police and stakeholders, to provide a safer night-time economy for residents and visitors to Telford and Wrekin

3.0 Background

- 3.1 Telford & Wrekin Council is committed to working with partners and licensed premises to provide a safer night-time economy for all.
- 3.2 As part of the Council's enforcement agenda, various enforcement activity is undertaken across licensing using legislation to protect and support residents, businesses as well as those who visit the borough. This work is often undertaken in partnership with other agencies including West Mercia Police, Immigration and HMRC.
- 3.3 Over the past 12 months, as well as reactive work such as responding to specific complaints relating to licensed premises or licensed vehicles, the Council has supported proactive multi-agency exercises with the primary aim of keeping residents and visitors safe. These include:
- Visits made to pubs ahead of the World Cup, where over 80 licensed premises were visited and provided with guidance material on help for victims of domestic abuse, hate crime, drug & alcohol support services and 'Ask for Angela' messaging to support the Council's commitment in tackling Violence Against Women & Girls (VAWG).
 - A multi-agency community safety initiative that ran from 1st December 2025 through until 31st January 2026, targeting crime, anti-social behaviour, and vulnerability during the festive and winter period. The Council visited premises in Southwater with West Mercia Police to provide advice and raise awareness of drink spiking, and to issue anti-spiking bottle caps and glass covers as preventative measures. Premises were given specific training and supported to have a written policy on spiking and what to do in the event of a customer making a report that they think they have been spiked.
- 3.4 As well as the above, the Council has worked in partnership with West Mercia Police in response to complaints about both licensed and unlicensed premises causing noise and other nuisance such as problem parking.
- 3.5 In 2022, the Council supported the night-time economy through promoting the independently operated Licensing Security & Vulnerability Initiative (LSAVI); a tool designed to help licensed premises provide a safer and more secure environment for their staff, customers and the local community.
- 3.6 LSAVI closed nationally in April 2026 following a five-year initiative. However, the Council continues to actively advocate the principles which underpinned the Home Office led initiative in support of the night-time economy. This has included previously accredited LSAVI premises acting as safe spaces in support of the West Mercia Police led Walksafe+ App. This is a free personal safety App is designed to help people feel more confident when out in busy periods or at night. It provides a list of safety trained venues, that meet recognised standards which aligns to the principles of LSAVI accreditation.

- 3.7 The Council works in partnership with other authorities to ensure that proportionate, appropriate, effective and enforceable licence conditions are applied to premises operating during the evening and night-time economy. The Council regularly visits premises to check the implementation of these conditions, which are intended to promote the safe and responsible management of licensed premises, safeguard customers, and support the prevention of crime and disorder.
- 3.8 Whenever a new premises application is received or there is a change in Designated Premises Supervisor (DPS), the Council will visit and provide advice and guidance. Examples include Challenge 25 policies, the deployment of Security Industry Association (SIA) licensed door supervisors where appropriate, effective staff training requirements, prevention and management policies, and the provision and maintenance of effective CCTV systems.
- 3.9 Where breaches of licence are identified, these are investigated by the Council. In the period from 1st April 2025, the Council investigated 13 Designated Premises Supervisors with 24 warning letters being issued to licence holders. These investigations were mostly around noise levels from premises and failures to comply with licence conditions designed to address this.
- 3.10 The Council has supported a licence review application brought by the Home Office to revoke a premises alcohol licence at a restaurant in Telford, due to the poor management and illegal practices taking place.
- 3.11 In parallel to activities to support licenced premises, the Council continues to invest in measures which includes new and improved street lighting and additional CCTV in areas of persistent anti-social behaviour.
- 3.12 As a Council, we continue to offer free, professionally fitted CCTV to all of our licensed private hire vehicles and hackney carriages, funded by the Community Safety Partnership. To date 48 vehicles licensed by the Council have CCTV fitted on a voluntary basis. The provision of CCTV represents an additional safety feature to residents and visitors to the Borough and equally as important to our licensed drivers.
- 3.13 The work of the Community Safety Partnership continues to promote a safer night-time economy, through supporting initiatives such as the Taxi Marshal scheme (see para. 3.14 below), the Street Pastors and the use of data and intelligence to identify hotspots associated with licensed premises, taxis and community safety concerns, targeted enforcement and preventative interventions.
- 3.14 A Taxi Marshal service has been delivered through funding provided by the Community Safety Partnership. This service operated primarily in the town centre, with additional coverage provided in Newport at key peak periods.
- 3.15 The Council works in partnership with West Mercia Police on vehicle stop operations, during which private hire vehicles are inspected. Since October 2025, the Council has held reciprocal arrangement with Wolverhampton Council, enabling them to inspect and suspend Wolverhampton-licensed vehicles. During 2025, 18 breach of condition notices were issued to Telford vehicle proprietors,

requiring identified defects or compliance issues to be rectified. These breaches included failures to have PHV plates fixed correctly on vehicles, a defective headlamp and drivers not wearing their PHV lanyards.

4.0 Summary of main proposals

- 4.1 This report seeks to outline the work of teams across the Council to support and protect residents, businesses, visitors and all users of the night-time economy. Communities Scrutiny Committee is asked to endorse the approaches taken in the delivery of services to promote the Council's priorities while offering areas of possible enhancement.

5.0 Alternative Options

- 5.1 The Council has a statutory duty to enforce consumer and business protection legislation. This report provides an overview of the activity undertaken in the last 12 months to protect residents, business and visitors to the borough and fulfilling this duty while facilitating a safer more inclusive night-time economy.

6.0 Key Risks

- 6.1 If as a Council we were to reduce the activities of officers and engage less with other agencies in regulating the night-time economy, there is a risk that reduced presence and ultimately a reduction in enforcement could lead to a risk of operator practices falling below acceptable standards to the detriment of users of the night-time economy.

7.0 Council Priorities

- 7.1 The work of the teams identified in this report support the following council priorities:
- Every child, young person and adult lives well in their community
 - Everyone benefits from a thriving economy
 - All neighbourhoods are a great place to live
 - A community-focused, innovative council providing efficient, effective and quality services.

8.0 Financial Implications

- 8.1 There are no financial implications arising from this report. The Night-Time Economy function is delivered within existing Council budgets alongside additional support provided by the Community Safety Partnership. Opportunities for external funding will be sought wherever possible.

9.0 Legal and HR Implications

- 9.1 The Council has delegated powers under relevant legislation, which enables the conduct of interventions, issue of notices and carry out investigations where required.

9.2 There are no direct HR implications arising from the content of this report.

10.0 Ward Implications

10.1 The content of this report is borough-wide and therefore impacts on all wards

11.0 Health, Social and Economic Implications

11.1 The work undertaken to promote a safe night-time economy has positive implications for the health and wellbeing of residents in Telford and Wrekin.

11.2 Through actions to promote responsible drinking and acting where necessary against irresponsible drinks promotions or similar activities. The preventative work teams do to highlight the dangers of drink spiking, VAWG and 'Ask for Angela' is significant in reducing both short- and long-term health risks by seeking to stop harmful incidents from happening.

12.0 Equality and Diversity Implications

12.1 The Council supports safe and inclusive night-time economy across the borough, through the implementation and promotion of safety measures such as those outlined in para 11.2 above alongside enforcement and targeted intervention work.

13.0 Climate Change and Environmental Implications

13.1 There are no climate change or environmental implications arising from this report.

14.0 Background Papers

N/A

15.0 Appendices

None

16.0 Report Sign Off

Signed off by	Date sent	Date signed off	Initials
Finance	22/09/2026	23/09/2026	ER
Legal	23/09/2026	23/09/2026	EH
Director	24/09/2026	28/09/2026	DS