

OBJECTING TO A NEW LIQUOR LICENCE

The public can object to a new liquor licence application.

HOW DO YOU BECOME AWARE OF A NEW LIQUOR LICENCE APPLICATION?

- The applicant must put up a notice at the premises where he/she plans to sell liquor.
- The application must be advertised in a local newspaper.
- It is advertised on the Western Cape Liquor Authority (WCLA) website (<https://www.wcla.gov.za>).
- It is advertised in the Government Gazette.
- The Designated Liquor Officer (South African Police Service) must inform neighbouring residents of the liquor licence application.
- The municipality (councillors) are also informed about the application.
- The Community Police Forum is also informed about the application.

THE LIQUOR LICENCE APPLICATION PROCESS AND THE PUBLIC

If you think you or other people may be negatively affected if the application is successful, you may object to the granting of the licence.

To object to an application

- You have 28 days from publication to object against or comment on the application.
- You can object to or comment on applications directly to the WCLA by letter or e-mail.
- You must give your name, address, ID number, and/or company registration number, contact numbers (telephone number or email address) and physical address.
- The name and the address of the premises must be clearly stated on the objection or comments.
- Give full reasons for your objections, based on facts with dates, times, and examples of incidents.
- It is important that the objection is directed at a specific application.
- You can object as an individual or as an interested group.

EXAMPLES OF GENERAL OBJECTIONS RECEIVED

There are too many liquor licenses in the area already	Liquor already abused within this community
High crime statistics in the area and people feel unsafe	Disturbing noise levels
There is no adequate parking at the specific premises	Premises situated within a residential area

Whether the granting of the liquor licence will negatively influence

- the residents of a residential area e.g. personal safety, children in the neighbourhood
- the residents of an institution for the aged or frail
- the learners of an educational institution (e.g. school) who are under the age of eighteen (18) years
- the patients of an institution for drug or alcohol-related dependencies
- the congregants of a religious institution located near the proposed licensed premises

TIPS FOR RAISING OBJECTIONS

- Objections are not limited to the above examples. The more specific an objection is and if supported by evidence, it will carry more weight. For example, a general statement that there is a major alcohol abuse problem in the Western Cape is not specific enough to deny a particular application.
- The objection must be specific to the area and the views and observations of the residents.
- The objection must show the connection between the specific application, the chances of problems, and that if the application is successful it will lead to more problems.
- Current problems in the area must be reported, for example, that there are statistics showing that crime is a problem.

CONTACT US

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