

What measures are in place to safeguard against spiking within your licensed venues?

The Licensing Team work with a range of partners to try and ensure that our Night-time economy is safe for everyone and drink spiking is one of the areas where we have been consistently proactive over recent years. We periodically purchase drink spike testing kits for distribution free of charge to our late night venues through our local pub watch groups. We meet every week with Dorset Police Licensing Team and Environmental Health colleagues to discuss any intelligence or trends relating to issues, including drink spiking and conduct joint visits to licensed premises to investigate reports and work with the trade to minimise risk. We will soon be introducing Licensing Savvi scheme to our late night venues and work to support our Purple Flag accreditation in Weymouth amongst other local initiatives. We financially support the local Safe Space project in Weymouth Town Centre which deals with medical incidents and vulnerable persons within the Night Time Economy in partnership with our security and medical contractors, Weymouth Street Pastors and St Mary's Church. Drink spiking allegations thankfully are rare within Dorset however we investigate jointly with the Police and where allegations are proven take robust enforcement action against premises where partnership working has failed.