

## **Bill Contains New Powers for Councils**

The Crime and Security Bill, currently before Parliament, is set to give local authorities the power to impose blanket bans on the sale of alcohol, between 3am and 6am, in entire streets or city centres where these are affected by alcohol-related anti-social behaviour and disorder.

If enacted, the new measures will mean that where disorder or public nuisance cannot be attributed to individual premises, local authorities will be able to limit late opening across an entire area.

The ban would operate in respect of all premises selling alcohol, including pubs, bars, clubs, supermarkets and convenience stores. It could apply throughout the week or only on particular days. Councils would need to demonstrate that the restriction was necessary in order to prevent crime and disorder or public nuisance, or to promote public safety.

When a local council proposes to use the new power, it would first invite views from everyone affected, including local residents, the police and licence holders. If necessary, it would hold a public hearing before making a final decision.

*For more information contact PCB Solicitors on 01743 248148  
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