

MEETING:	Statutory Licensing Regulatory Board
DATE:	Wednesday, 26 October 2016
TIME:	2.30 pm
VENUE:	Reception Room, Barnsley Town Hall

MINUTES

Present

Councillors C. Wraith MBE (Chair), J. Carr, Frost, S. Green, Daniel Griffin, W. Johnson, Saunders, Shepherd and Wilson

4 Declaration of Interests

There were no declarations of pecuniary and non-pecuniary interests from Members in respect of items on the agenda.

5 Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 29th June, 2016 were taken as read and signed by the Chair as a correct record.

Arising therefrom it was noted that the Government were giving consideration to the policy in respect of fixed odds betting terminals in betting shops.

6 Licensing Act 2003 - Statement of Licensing Policy Consultation (Cab.21.9.2016/8)

The Service Director Culture, Housing and Regulation submitted a report informing Members of a review of the existing Licensing Policy, governing the licensing of the retail sale of alcohol, the provision of regulated entertainment and the provision of late night refreshment, and seeking the Board's approval to go out to public consultation on a new Statement of Licensing Policy for the Council.

The report outlined the aim of the Policy to promote the four licensing objectives:-

- The prevention of crime and disorder;
- Public safety;
- Prevention of public nuisance; and
- The protection of children from harm.

In the ensuing discussion, reference was made to the following:-

- Members recognised that the licensing entertainment and hospitality industry was a major provider of full-time, part-time and casual employment and made a significant contribution to the local economy. It fulfilled an important and social community role providing facilities for both residents and businesses and provides vital support for related sectors such as retail and tourism.

- Members recognised the need for the new Policy to support businesses and regeneration across the Borough and the town centre in particular, whilst protecting the public and ensuring the four licensing objectives identified earlier were met, resulting in a safe and varied night time economy.
- It was noted that the Policy made it clear that the Planning permission and Licensing application process were completely separate processes.
- The powers available in the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 to charge a levy to persons who are licensed to sell alcohol late at night were noted. The requirements and process for introducing a levy was discussed and it was noted that such levy would require significant evidence to be produced by the Police and that it would be the decision of the Police to apply for a levy. The use of such levies was not yet common practice across the country.
- Members indicated that, although this may be a useful tool, it was stated that great care would need to be taken to consider the implications of such a levy on businesses.

RESOLVED:-

- (i) that the draft Licensing Act - Statement of Licensing Policy 2016, as now submitted, be approved for release for consultation; and
- (ii) that a further report back on the outcome of the consultation be submitted to the Board.

Chair