

LICENSING SERVICE – ANNUAL REPORT**LICENSING COMMITTEE****30 JUNE 2016****CLASSIFICATION:****Open****If exempt, the reason will be listed in the main body of this report.****WARD(S) AFFECTED****All Wards****GROUP DIRECTOR, NEIGHBOURHOODS AND HOUSING****KIM WRIGHT**

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to inform the Committee of the activities and performance of the Service during the 2015/16 municipal year and to show aims and targets for the forthcoming 2016/17 year.

2. RECOMMENDATION(S)

- 2.1 The Licensing Committee is recommended to note the report.**

3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1 The Licensing Service has been preparing annual reports to the Licensing Committee on its statistics since 2009. This report provides an update on the main operational functions of the Licensing Service in terms of applications and enforcement and refers to 2015/16. It also includes a look forward to 2016/17.

4. COMMENTS OF THE GROUP DIRECTOR OF FINANCE AND CORPORATE RESOURCES

- 4.1 This report informs the Licensing Committee of the activities and performance of the Service during 2015/16. The report is retrospective, and therefore has no immediate financial implications.
- 4.2 The Licensing Service generated an annual income of £720k in 2015/16, against a budgeted income of £581k. Expenditure was £796k against a budgeted expenditure of £758k. The borough wide review of enforcement services may require a re-alignment of the Licensing service budgets.
- 4.3 The Licensing Service will continue to review all locally set fees to ensure they are reasonable and proportionate in accordance with LGA guidance, and review the costs related to the collection of fees regulated by the Licensing Act 2003.
- 4.4 The Service aims to manage the impact of any legislative changes within the available revenue budgets.

5. COMMENTS OF THE DIRECTOR OF LEGAL

- 5.1 This report is solely for noting as such there are no legal matters arising from the report that require comment on at this stage.
- 5.2 Notwithstanding paragraph 5.1 it should be noted that since the last report legislative changes has resulted in the following;

- Personal Licences are now valid indefinitely, as opposed to being renewed every 10 years;
- The Immigration Act 2016 amends the Licensing Act 2003 to include amongst other things includes:
 - i) the Secretary of State will become an Responsible Authority,
 - ii) an application for a premises licence cannot be made by someone who isn't 'entitled to work in the UK',
 - iii) any granted licence will lapse if the Premises Licence Holder ceases to be 'entitled to work in the UK',
 - iv) notice of a transfer should be given by the Secretary of State who can reject it if it is 'appropriate for the prevention of illegal working in licensed premises to do so', and
 - v) a review of a premises licence can be triggered from the court following an illegal working closure notice.

5.3 There are a number of other proposed changes that are currently being considered by Parliament along with a House of Lords select committee appointed on 25th May 2016 to consider the Licensing Act 2013. The select committee is expected to report back before 31st March 2017.

APPENDICES





Appendix 1 – Annual Statistics/Mayor's Manifesto commitments / Look ahead - projects

EXEMPT

Not applicable.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

None

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