

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE LICENSING COMMITTEE

WEDNESDAY, 26TH APRIL, 2017

- Councillors Present:** Councillor Emma Plouviez in the Chair
Cllr Brian Bell (Vice-Chair), Cllr Barry Buitekant,
Cllr Sade Etti, Cllr Richard Lufkin and
Cllr Caroline Selman
- Apologies:** Councillor Christopher Kennedy, Councillor
Sharon Patrick, Councillor James Peters,
Councillor Ian Rathbone and Councillor Peter Snell
- Officers in Attendance:** Butta Singh (Senior Solicitor for Licensing) and
David Tuitt (Team Leader – Licensing (Policy and
Operations))

1 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Kennedy, Patrick, Peters, Rathbone and Snell.

1 Declarations of Interest - Members to declare as appropriate

There were no declarations of interest.

3 Minutes of the Previous Meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on the 31 January were approved as a correct record.

4 Statement of Licensing Policy - Update on the Direction of Travel

The report provided the Licensing Committee with relevant information on the Licensing Act 2003 (“the Act”) and an update on the ongoing work to review the Statement of Licensing Policy (“the Policy”).

The report on the “Direction of Travel” as a result of the evidence collection previously undertaken was considered by the Licensing Committee on 31 January 2017. An updated version of this document was to be given further consideration by Members.

Evidence gathering would be ongoing to inform the review process. Quantitative data such as crime, anti-social behaviour, ambulance, accident and emergency and waste data as well as information held by the Licensing Service was being collated.

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In addition, a 'behavioural audit' was being carried out. The aim of this was to assess activities in and around the key areas of the borough, where higher concentrations of licensed premises were located. This would be useful to highlight any area specific impacts as a result of licensed premises in the Borough.

Also being undertaken is a Cost/Benefit analysis of the Evening and Night-time Economy. Both pieces of work will add to and complement the quantitative data such as crime, anti-social behaviour, ambulance, accident and emergency and waste as well as data held by the Licensing Service currently being collated. Members were given an outline of the table.

Members discussed the common licensing objectives that were used to refuse applications, it was highlighted that objections were usually formed around public nuisance rather than crime and disorder. Members also understood the link between the dispersal after the closure of a premises and late night refreshments.

Councillor Bell queried the possibility of a Special Policy Area in Hackney Central, Mare Street and the Broadway. The Licensing Officer explained that the consultant raised this as a possible SPA although there was not enough evidence to support it.

Members discussed the possibility of late night refreshment not needing a licence and the effect of this. The Committee felt that this would cause public nuisances for residents. Member also felt that the premises if operating late night refreshments could use the circumstances and evidence of good maintenance when applying for an alcohol licence.

Councillor Etti arrived at the meeting.

Councillor Selman requested that a session was organised in prevention of sexual assaults with the steering group. It was suggested that there should be an independent meeting including all parties and licensees.

Councillor Lufkin queried whether environmental health conditions could be included in the licensing policy. Councillor Selman questioned if the use of glass bottles could be replaced with the use of plastic bottles and if this could be a condition. The Licensing Officer stated that this could not be a standing condition although if necessary the police could apply this as a condition.

RESOLVED:

The Licensing Committee noted:

- (i) noted the contents of the Appendix**
- (ii) noted the updated timetable for the review in Paragraph 4.**

Duration of the meeting: 7.00 - 7.45 pm

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