

# Minutes of the Late Night Levy Board Meeting

October 7th, 2020 @ 14:00pm via Zoom

## Present:

Cllr Emma Plouviez (EP) – Chair, also chair of Licensing Committee Regulation  
Samantha Mathys (SM) - LBH - Late Night Levy Manager  
Robert Gardner (RG) - LBH - Business Regulation & Enforcement  
Olga Vandenberg (OV) - LBH - Business Communications & Engagement Officer  
Emma Wynne (EW) - LBH - Communications Officer  
David Tuitt (DT) - LBH - Licensing Team Leader  
Margaret Ryan (MRy) – Stoke Newington Pubwatch  
Jack Soilleux (JS) - Dalston Pubwatch  
Adam Popple (APO) - Hackney Central Pubwatch  
SUPT Andy Port (AP) - Met Police  
A.INSP Sam Horton - Met Police / NTF

## Apologies

Gerry McCarthy (GC) - LBH - Head of Community Safety, Enforcement and Business  
Cllr Caroline Selman (CS) - Cabinet member for Community Safety  
Maurice Mason - LBH - Community Safety  
William Knowles-Moffard (WKM) – Shoreditch Pubwatch

<p>1. <b>Chairs Introduction and Round table introductions &amp; Apologies</b></p> <p>The Chair Cllr EP introduced herself and asked everyone else present to do the same.</p>	<p><i>Action</i></p> <p><i>Noted</i></p>
<p>2. <b>Minutes of meeting December &amp; matters arising</b></p> <p>Minutes of August accepted as a true record.</p>	<p><i>Noted</i></p>
<p>3. <b>LBH - Late Night Levy Update</b></p> <p><b><u>Update</u></b></p> <p>SM presented the Late Night Levy update for October 2020, see attached papers.</p> <p>EP Asked about the funds allocated to Police for the forthcoming period and if that was included in the totals shown in the budget.</p> <p>SM added that we would need to scale back significantly for the forthcoming period based on the outcome of the meeting and that it was very hard to give an exact budgeted amount because of the incertitude around the NTE in the coming months and there will</p>	<p><i>Noted</i></p> <p><i>Noted</i></p>

<p>mostly definitely be a need when the NTE reopens.</p> <p>RG added that LBH is liaising with the Home Office and they seem to have some ideas in regards to the Late Night Levy and how we can get around the impact of the curfew.</p> <p>EP added that if we were to do a consultation, it would be a very lengthy and complicated process.</p> <p>SM added that one thing to consider is that if the economy fully reopens in Spring we would not have the quick bounce back if we did decide to go down the consultation route.</p> <p>MRy asked if there will be refunds for those whose businesses were not operating and added that she would be in support of off licenses continuing to pay.</p> <p>DT - If a business stops trading, we can issue a pro-rata refund.</p> <p>JS added he was in support of off licences continuing to pay into the Levy. He also wanted to add that if the curfew continues, most premises will not survive. That will have an impact on Levy. Does the council have any knowledge of when the curfew will end and whether the vote would go ahead.</p> <p>RG In regards to the Home office, what practices could we have to soften the blow on the curfew. There are uncertainties, but we would like to know whether local businesses can support the Levy, and be in favor of a 12 month holiday but use what we've accumulated so far for when everything re-opens. He adds that ending the Levy would be detrimental in regards to safety and everything it has provided so far.</p> <p>JS agrees however adds that if the licensees were unable to pay two years from now that would have an impact on the overall fund down the line.</p>	<p><i>Noted</i></p> <p><i>Noted</i></p> <p><i>Noted</i></p> <p><i>Noted</i></p> <p><i>Noted</i></p> <p><i>Noted</i></p> <p><i>Noted</i></p> <p><i>Noted</i></p> <p><i>Noted</i></p>
<p><b>4. Police, update and options.</b></p> <p><b>Police Update</b></p> <p>AP gave an overview of the summary since reopening and results of Operation Lagana since the re-opening:</p> <p>13 weapon sweeps  6 vehicle seizures  26 drug seizures  4 nox seizures  314 calls that were responded to  156 violence related calls that were responded to</p>	<p><i>Noted</i></p> <p><i>Noted</i></p>

<p>316 Stop &amp; Search  101 arrests  16 arrests of those for weapons  98 dispersals  1500 Licensed visits</p> <p>48 serious offences  13 GBH  18 ABH</p>	<p><i>Noted</i></p>
<p>14 assaults on which is really significant and these were mostly linked to the following locations: Shoreditch Church, Cargo, Boxpark, Matchbox, Traffik.</p>	<p><i>Noted</i></p>
<p>AP added that new legislation came into effect with the 10pm curfew and changed the dynamic of the NTE. Most premises have been adhering - compliance is good. However, violence is still happening in the borough. Robberies are happening a lot on weekends during nte hours, phone snatches etc</p>	<p><i>Noted</i></p>
<p>NID are doing enhanced activities and problem solving work around cashpoints.</p>	<p><i>Noted</i></p>
<p>Police resources will be affected massively without the late night levy and would reduce our capability. We would lose all central resources, such as TSG.</p>	<p><i>Noted</i></p>
<p>EP wanted more information about the changed landscape with the implementation of the curfew.</p>	<p><i>Noted</i></p>
<p>SH gave an operational update.  After the 4th, there were a significant amount of people gathering and street drinking which increased ASB. Since the 25th, there have been less people but it is still a problem.</p>	<p><i>Noted</i></p>
<p>SH also added that they still have individuals carrying weapons and we feel there still needs to be a presence there. We also still see vulnerable people who approach us for help therefore it is important we show visibility.</p>	<p><i>Noted</i></p>
<p>JS asked about the injured police officers.</p>	<p><i>Noted</i></p>
<p>AP reassured him that they have all recovered.</p>	<p><i>Noted</i></p>
<p>EP suggested we could do a crime review of the year after this crisis is over.</p>	<p><i>Noted</i></p>

<p><b>5. Pubwatch representative options and observations</b></p>	
<p><u>Stoke Newington Pubwatch</u></p> <p>MRy wanted to raise the ASB being caused by the off licensed trade. She reported that other than that it has been very quiet.</p> <p><u>Hackney Central Pubwatch</u></p> <p>APO explained that Hackney Central is quiet. He hasn't seen ASB around off licenses. The main concern amongst licensees is the quick changes in guidance and adapting with such short notice. It is very tough on the businesses. Bars who don't get busy until 11pm are essentially having to reinvent themselves. Closures will happen. APO echoed the sentiment that reducing Policing is probably not a great option. He also added that he wished to see the Levy continue with off licences and supermarkets having to pay.</p> <p><u>Dalston Pubwatch</u></p> <p>JS echoed the feedback from Adam and Margaret. Should the curfew continue, it is likely we will see a lot of closures. Most premises have been doing an amazing job at enforcing the guidelines and Dalston premises are sharing best practice.</p> <p>The main issue for Dalston that is raised time and time again are the issues around Gillett Square. Police funding is extremely important and he wishes there were more support from Central Government.</p> <p>EP added in conclusion, that it was agreed not to enter into consultation, and that they would continue with the halt on suspensions for non-payment.</p> <p>SM added that there will be a meeting with the Home Office and an update would be distributed to the board on the position in regards to annual fees.</p>	<p><i>Noted</i></p> <p><i>Noted</i></p> <p><i>Noted</i></p> <p><i>Noted</i></p> <p><i>Noted</i></p> <p><i>SM to distribute update</i></p>
<p><b>6. AOB</b></p>	
<p>N/A</p>	
<p><b>7. Date of Next Meeting.</b></p> <p>The next meeting is 9 December 2020 via Zoom, details to be circulated</p>	<p><i>Noted</i></p>