

**DRAFT MINUTES OF THE LICENSING COMMITTEE  
HELD ON  
MONDAY, 7TH JUNE 2021**

**THIS MEETING WAS LIVE STREAMED AND CAN BE VIEWED HERE:**

[https://youtu.be/\\_QIVKrvkkz0](https://youtu.be/_QIVKrvkkz0)

**Chair:** Cllr Emma Plouviez

**Councillors in Attendance:** Cllr Cllr Sophie Conway, Cllr Brian Bell, Cllr Kofo David, Cllr M Can Ozsen, Cllr Sharon Patrick, Cllr James Peters, Cllr Ian Rathbone, Cllr Peter Snell, Cllr Gilbert Smyth, Cllr Susan Fajana-Thomas, Cllr Penny Wrout,,

**Apologies:** Cllr Sem Moema and Cllr Harvey Odze,

**Officers in Attendance:** Samantha Mathys (Late Night Levy Manager)  
Amanda Nauth (Licensing and Corporate Lawyer)  
Andrew Spragg (Governance Services Team Leader)  
David Tuitt (Licensing Team Leader)  
Natalie Williams (Governance Services Officer)

**1. Apologies for Absence**

- 1.1 Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Moema and Odze.
- 2.1 It was noted that Cllr Gordon had joined the meeting remotely.

**NOTED**

**2. Declarations of Interest - Members to declare as appropriate**

- 2.1 There were no declarations of interest.

**NOTED**

### 3. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

- 3.1 **RESOLVED:** That the minutes of Licensing Committee meetings held on 10 March 2021 and 27 April 2021 and minutes of Licensing Sub Committee B held on Thursday, 22 April 2021, be agreed as a true and accurate record of proceedings.

### 4. Late Night Levy Update Report (Quarter 2, Year 4)

- 4.1 Samantha Mathys (Late Night Levy Manager) introduced the report providing an overview of the financial situation and activities between 1 February 2021 and 30 April 2021 and highlighted the following:

#### Financial Update

- Receipts continued to be severely impacted by Covid-19 and the cyber attack.
- Expenditure had been cut to take account of this, however it was hoped that there would be an increase in revenue from September 2021 following notices being sent to businesses.
- Total receipts in year 4 to date amounted to £32, 403
- A balance of £260, 073 from previous years had been carried over.
- It was noted that there had been a significant reduction in expenditure, with no Police spend during quarter 2, due to lockdown. However, there was spending connected to the launch and testing of the new Hackney Nights Portal.
- There was a current balance of approx £123,000

#### Consultation

- The Late Night Levy Consultation was launched at the beginning of June and would be open for eight weeks. Licencees, residents and workers were being encouraged to participate.
- In relation to fees reduction, this could only be agreed in a limited set of circumstances. There was a statutory duty for the Licensing Service to consult prior to the implementation of any reductions.
- It is proposed that levy fee-payers who had gained Hackney Night's Accreditation would be able to benefit from a 30% reduction in late night levy fees.

#### Hackney Nights Portal

- 125 had signed up to the portal, with over 100 people being trained since it's launch 6 weeks ago.
- The Portal would be regularly updated and engagement visits would be undertaken with a view to boosting take-up. There would be specific emphasis on engaging participation of Off-Licences within the borough.

- Following the consultation, the accreditation scheme would be updated with a further report to the Licensing Committee in September detailing use of the portal.
- An overview of the available training modules was presented and it was noted that these were delivered via e-learning modules which could be accessed at any time and live online training at specific times.

#### Looking Forward

- As the Night Time Economy reopened, following the lifting of restrictions, regular Police and Enforcement presence would be required.
- The current quarterly agreement with the Police would end on June 30th. The next agreement, currently being negotiated, would cover a longer period to allow for income in September and October to be received.

4.2 Following the presentation, Members asked a number of questions and in response Samantha Mathys confirmed that:

- The intention was to ensure that training was available to all licensed premises and accessible to non Late Night Levy fee payers. Assurances were given that this would be addressed further as part of the engagement element.
- A welfare element of training was in development for inclusion in the Portal which would be available to all premises. This would provide information on sign-posting to key support services.
- Income forecast was somewhat unpredictable as some premises have chosen to remain closed voluntarily during the current restrictions. This year's income was based only on off-sales (supermarkets, takeaways and off-licences).
- Should restrictions continue, expenditure would need to be reevaluated and budgets adjusted accordingly once the situation is assessed. It was noted that income had been deferred rather than lost as premises were still obliged to pay the levy by virtue of holding licences.
- Licensees would have to complete a set of requirements in order to gain Hackney Night's accreditation. Most reputable establishments would be familiar with these requirements and use these as part of their day to day operational practices. It was estimated that it would take approximately one day to gather the evidence and information required.
- The Portal allowed for training information pertaining to individual team members to be added. Periods of inactivity were also flagged to trigger engagement from the Late Night Levy Team.
- With regard to sustainability, one of the mandatory criteria points to accreditation, was no single-use plastics in use on the premises, as well as trying to source local suppliers and healthy alternatives.
- Councillors were welcome to attend any of the live remote training sessions should they wish.

4.3 Members welcomed the report and requested that:

- All abbreviations are clarified in all future reports and presentations.
- An update be provided on the active management and targeting of the radio scheme with specific reference to Dalston..

**RESOLVED:** To note the report and the appendices

**5. Review of the Gambling Act 2005 Statement Of Principles: Draft Statement of Gambling Policy for Consultation**

5.1 David Tuitt (Licensing Team Leader) introduced the report setting out the proposed review of the Gambling Statement of Principles. Each licensing authority was required to have a Statement which set out how they would make provisions for gambling within the borough. The timetable for the review at paragraph 4.1 of the report was highlighted and it was noted that the revised Statement would be required to be considered by Cabinet on 13th October and Full Council at its meeting on 20th October 2021, before it comes into effect in January 2022. In summary, the proposal was that the continuation of the 'no casino' resolution remain for a further three years.

5.2 Following the introduction, a brief discussion of the report took place and David Tuitt confirmed the following:

- Minimal changes were made to the policy and the changes that were made were primarily to update maps contained within the appendices.
- The Gambling Act 2005 was being reviewed to look at remote (online) gambling.
- There had been a reduction in the number of betting shops and there had been an increase in the number of smaller format bingo premises within the borough. Further information and statistics would be presented in the annual report presented to the committee later in the year.
- Betting shops had their own planning user class.

**RESOLVED:**

- i) To note the proposed approach to the review of the Statement.
- ii) To recommend to Council that the 'no casino' resolution remain for a further three years given the characteristics of the borough.

## 6. Dates Of Future Meetings

The Licensing Committee noted the dates of meetings for the remainder of the Municipal Year 2021/22 as follows:

- 9th September 2021
- 8th December 2021
- 9th March 2022

**NOTED**

**End of Meeting.**

**Duration of the meeting:** 19:00 - 20:15

**Contact:**

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**Chair of the Meeting:**

Cllr Emma Plouviez - Chair of the Licensing Committee