

**DRAFT MINUTES OF THE LICENSING COMMITTEE
HELD ON
WEDNESDAY, 8 DECEMBER 2021**

**THIS MEETING WAS LIVE STREAMED AND CAN BE VIEWED HERE:
<https://youtu.be/KetAOv5ERZc>**

Chair: Cllr Emma Plouviez in the Chair

Councillors in Attendance: Cllr Brian Bell, Cllr M Can Ozen, Cllr Sharon Patrick and Cllr Peter Snell

Councillors Joining Virtually: Cllr Sophie Conway, Cllr Sem Moema, Cllr Gilbert Smyth and Cllr Margaret Gordon

Officers in Attendance: Robert Gardner (Enforcement and Business Manager), Peter Gray (Governance Services Officer), Amanda Nauth (Licensing and Corporate Lawyer), Samantha Mathys (Late Night Levy Manager) and David Tuitt (Business Regulation Team Leader)

1. Apologies for Absence

1.1 Apologies for absence were received from Cllr James Peters.

2. Declarations of Interest - Members to declare as appropriate

2.1 There were no declarations of interest.

3. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

3.1 **RESOLVED:** That the minutes of the meeting held on 9 September 2021 be agreed as a true and accurate record of proceedings.

3.2 **Matters arising (if applicable):** There were no matters arising.

4. Late Night Levy - Update

4.1 The Late Night Levy Manager introduced the report, highlighting the following:

- Total receipts in year 4 amounted to £64,019k.
- There was a balance carried over from the previous year of £260,073k.
- Payment reminders had been sent out for outstanding amounts.
- Total expenditure amounted to £326,703k.
- There had been an increase in violent offences, which also included an increase in assaults against the Police.
- The Police faced challenges around resources.
- Training was available to licensees with a focus on women's safety, hate crime and safety at night.
- CCTV and radio transmitters were continued to be supplied to Licensees.
- Receipts were expected to return to normal by 2022.
- Year 5 Forecasted Receipts - £450,000k.
- The main focus of Year 5 would be the new venue accreditation scheme. The accreditation criteria had been finalised and was being added to the portal along with guidance to help venues conduct their accreditation.
- The intention was to recruit a new support officer to assist with the accreditation scheme.
- There would be a new Town Centre team within the Shoreditch area.
- The Late Night Levy was considered to be in a secure position.

4.2 Councillor Snell stressed that the Council and other affected boroughs had campaigned to have the ability to waive the levy during the Pandemic. However, this had not been agreed to by the Government. He referred to a basic lack of understanding of responsibilities amongst licence holders, in particular in relation to anti-social behaviour outside premises and whether training was provided in this regard. He asked what further measures could be taken to track the anti-social behaviour to specific venues.

4.3 The Late Night Levy Manager confirmed that refresher training was offered on dealing with anti-social behaviour. It was stated that ongoing work was being carried out linking incidents of anti-social behaviour to specific venues. The Business Regulation Team Leader confirmed that enforcement arrangements were available to officers under the Licensing Act 2003.

4.4 Councillors David and Moema requested figures on stop and search outcomes and profiles of those stopped. It was agreed that this information would be provided at a future meeting.

4.5 Councillor Moema stressed that urgent action was required to support licensees in compliance with regulations, following the recent announcements around increased restrictions including mask wearing and vaccination passes.

- 4.6 Robert Gardner confirmed that new responsibilities brought about by the increase in restrictions would be conveyed to licence holders.
- 4.7 Councillor Gordon stated that given the ongoing pandemic and an increase in cases of coronavirus, further nationwide restrictions from Central Government were likely, which would impact the Late Night Levy.
- 4.8 **RESOLVED:** That the report be noted.

End of Meeting.

Duration of the the meeting: 7:00-7:45pm

Chairperson: Councillor Emma Plouvez

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