

LICENSING COMMITTEE

19 March 2018 at 10.00 am

MEMBERS: Councillor Mary Burstow (Chair), Councillor Samantha Bourne (Vice-Chair) and Councillors Margaret Court, Marlene Heron, Richard Marston, Nighat Piracha, Paul Wingfield and Graham Whitham

ABSENT Councillor(s) David Bartolucci, Richard Clifton, Miguel Javelot, Nali Patel, Tony Shields and Moira Butt

18. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND DECLARATION OF SUBSTITUTES

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor David Bartolucci and Councillor Clifton

19. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The Minutes of the meeting held on 18 December 2017 were approved as a correct record, and signed by the Chair.

20. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

There were no declarations of interest made.

21. REVISED STATEMENT OF POLICY AND PRINCIPLES - GAMBLING ACT 2005

Nick Cloke, Lead Officer Licensing presented the report.

Members asked if those using gambling machine were challenged over their age. The Lead Licensing Officer informed the Committee that establishments should challenge users of category C machines, for example those found in pubs and bars, regarding their age and it is recommended machines should be placed in areas which are visible by staff, as the onus is on staff to monitor the usage. Category D machines, for example those found in family entertainment centres, seaside amusement arcades, which give lower prizes can be played by users of any age.

The Lead Licensing Officer added further that the team provide reminders to establishments of their responsibilities in regard to gambling machines, by checking permits, and distributing guidance documents detailing best practice.

Members asked about the guidelines regarding schools and other organisations who run events with lotteries with prizes. The Lead Licensing Officer informed the committee that many of these lotteries fall below the statutory value required for a license and only where tickets are sold in advance, are organisations required to register with the local authority. The Licensing team can also be contacted for further details and advice by organisations

Members asked if there are profit limits for organisations which can be made from a lottery. The Lead Licensing Officer informed the committee that the upper limits for these 'small society lotteries' is £250,000 per year although there are further limits on each draw. There are links between the Licensing Team and HRMC whereby information is shared as appropriate. It was added that that lotteries can only be run for 'good causes' and these need not be registered charities. Organisations raising very large amounts of money through lotteries would be covered by the Gambling Commission rather than the Local Authority.

RESOLVED that:

1. Agree the process (as set out in the report in section 5) for reviewing the Gambling Act 2005 Statement of Licensing Policy and Principles.
2. Agree that a draft of the proposed revised Statement of Licensing Policy and Principles is brought to the next Licensing Committee (currently scheduled for June 2018) for consideration prior to the consultation.

22. ANY URGENT BUSINESS,

An urgent verbal update by was given by David Kingstone, Licensing and Environmental Compliance Team Leader on I the Cumulative Impact Policy.

It was highlighted that:

- The Licensing Policy requires the Cumulative Impact Policy to be reviewed in March 2018 and therefore this update was required to be taken under urgent business
- Due to the upcoming elections the committee is now unable to review the policy
- Officers therefore suggested to the chair to delay the review until June which will include the Cumulative Impact Zones, so only one round of consultation is required
- Officers will prepare a draft policy to be presented to the committee in June.

Nick Cloke, Lead Licensing Officer, provided an update on the upcoming amendment to Animal Welfare Legislation due in October 2018. The amendment will include major changes covering pet shops, boarding and breeding establishments and riding centres.

Members discussed the option of developing a Council Animal Welfare Charter, which could include issues outside of the remit of the Licensing Committee.

Members asked about the regulation of live animals at events. The Licensing and Environmental Compliance Team Leader informed the committee that hire agreements of spaces include regulations relating to animal welfare which must be followed. The Licensing Team ensure that animal welfare checks are completed if they receive information via the events management process. Concerns relating to animal welfare at events should be raised with the Licensing Team.

Councillor Whitham proposed a vote of thanks to the Chair for her attention to detail and the able way she has chaired the Licensing Committee during this term. This was seconded by Councillor Court .

Members asked if there would be any additional issues for Licensing during the Football World Cup, The Lead Licensing Officer informed the committee that the Licensing Team will be in touch with establishments via the Pub Watch scheme.

The meeting ended at 10.40 am

Chair:

Date: