
Meeting of the Cabinet – 23rd September 2020

Report of Acting Director of Public Realm

Review of Licensing Policy

Purpose

1. To recommend the Council to approve the Licensing Policy following consultation with relevant authorities and interested parties.

Recommendation

2. That the Council be recommended to approve the Licensing Policy.

Background

3. The Licensing Act 2003 requires the Council to review and publish a statement of its Licensing Policy every five years.
4. The original Licensing Policy was approved on the 6th December 2004 by full Council and published on the 7th February 2005. That policy was subsequently reviewed in 2007 with the addition of the Cumulative Impact Policy, and again in 2010, and 2015. The Cumulative Impact Policy has since required a separate review as required by new legislation. This took place in 2019 and will be further reviewed in 2022. (This specific policy is required to be reviewed every three years)
5. The Licensing and Safety Committee recommended approval to the Cabinet of the current Licensing Policy on the 28th October 2015 which was followed by Council approval on the 30th November 2015.



6. In respect of the latest Policy review, a consultation was conducted, commencing on 14th May, 2020. Letters were sent to out to consultees as listed on the Policy. The letters informed them of the revision of the Licensing Policy and directing them to the Licensing Web Page where a draft Licensing Policy could be viewed and inviting their comments by the 21st June 2020. This was extended until 3rd July, 2020, to take into account the Covid-19 crisis.
7. There is a comprehensive list of consultees attached to the Licensing Policy.
8. The draft revision of the Licensing Policy was considered and approved by the Licensing and Safety Committee on 2nd September, 2020. The policy is available on the [Committee Management Information System](#) and copies will be made available to all Members of the Council.
9. Three replies were received as a result of the consultation. One thanking the authority for bringing it to their attention. The second related to national licensing annual fees which are not subject to local licensing policy. Lastly representations from the local branch of the Musicians Union, seeking clarification on the section dealing with Live Music. Copies of the correspondence is available on the [Committee Management Information System](#).

Finance

10. There are no financial implications to the Council.

Law

11. Section 5 of the Licensing Act 2003 requires the Council to prepare and publish a statement of its Licensing Policy every five years.
12. Section 5 – 8 of the Licensing Act 2003 allows for the policy to be determined by full Council.

Equality Impact

13. This report complies with the Council's policy on equality and diversity.
14. The Licensing Policy will impact on children and young people by their attendance at premises licensed by the Council.



15. There has been no direct consultation with children and young people in developing these proposals. However, Children's Services have been consulted on the review of the Licensing Policy.

Human Resources/Organisational Development

16. There are no organisational development/transformation implications.

Commercial/Procurement

17. There are no commercial/procurement implications.

Health, Wellbeing and Safety

18. This applications falls within the Council's responsibility for liquor licensing which has a direct link to the Council's key corporate priority on safety matters.



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Background Documents

Draft Revision of Licensing Policy
Correspondence as a result of the consultation
(Full documents are available on the [Committee Management Information System](#))

