

**Minutes of the Licensing and Safety Committee  
Monday 8<sup>th</sup> November, 2021 at 6.00 pm  
In Committee Room 2 at the Council House, Dudley**

**Present:**

Councillor E Taylor (Chair)  
Councillor J Clinton (Vice-Chair)  
Councillors R Burston, J Cowell, P Drake, M Evans, K Razzaq and A Taylor.

**Officers:**

S Smith - Team Manager (Licensing and Waste Enforcement) (Directorate of Public Realm);  
S Wright – Solicitor and H Mills – Democratic Services Officer (Directorate of Finance and Legal).

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**4 Apologies for absence**

Apologies for absence from the meeting were submitted on behalf of Councillors C Elcock, K Finch, P Miller and A Millward.

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**5 Declarations of interest**

No Member made a declaration of interest in accordance with the Members' Code of Conduct.

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**6 Minutes**

**Resolved**

That the minutes of the meeting held on 3<sup>rd</sup> June, 2021, be approved as a correct record and signed.

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7 **Section 141 Policing and Crime Act 2017 Review of Cumulative Impact Assessment 2022**

A report of the Acting Director of Public Realm was submitted to review the Cumulative Impact Assessment currently in place in respect of an area of Stourbridge Town Centre.

The Team Manager (Licensing and Waste Enforcement) presented the report in detail, referring to the background for the implementation of a Cumulative Impact Assessment in Stourbridge and outlined the consultation process that had been undertaken.

It was reported that representations had been received from West Midlands Police, a local Ward Councillor and a member of the public, as part of the consultation review process. Additional representations had also been received on behalf of the Directorate of Public Health and Wellbeing, a copy of which was circulated to Members at the meeting. It was noted that all representations received were in support of the Cumulative Impact Zone to be retained.

In light of the statistical evidence provided by West Midlands Police and the Directorate of Public Health and Wellbeing, taking into account the concerns raised by a local Ward Councillor and resident, the Committee were content to endorse and retain the current Cumulative Impact Assessment for Stourbridge. The Committee noted that the data had been affected by the introduction of Covid-19 restrictions during 2020/21 and having taken this into account, were of the view that the Cumulative Impact Assessment was required to be retained.

**Resolved**

That the Cabinet and Council be recommended to approve the retention of the Cumulative Impact Assessment, in respect of the specified area of Stourbridge Town Centre, as identified in Appendix 2 of the report submitted.

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8 **Review of the Gambling Policy (Statement of Principles)**

The Committee considered a report to review the responses to the consultation of the Council's Gambling Policy (Statement of Principles).

In presenting the report, the Team Manager (Licensing and Waste Enforcement) highlighted the proposed changes to the Gambling Policy (Statement of Principles 2022-2025) and confirmed that representations had been received from West Midlands Police only, who had no adverse comments to the draft policy.

A question was raised on how the licensing objective in relation to preventing gambling from being a source of crime or disorder, being associated with crime or disorder or being used to support crime, would be measured. In responding, the Team Manager (Licensing and Waste Enforcement) commented that it was expected that new applicants would contact the police to obtain statistical crime information prior to submitting an application, to ensure that they were aware of any existing problems and explain what measures would be put into place to mitigate those problems.

Members commented positively and expressed their support for implementation of the draft policy.

### **Resolved**

- (1) That the responses to the consultation and review of the Council's Gambling Policy (Statement of Principles), be noted.
- (2) That the Cabinet and Council be recommended to approve the revised Gambling Policy (Statement of Principles).

The meeting ended at 6.30 pm.

CHAIR

