

Minutes

LICENSING COMMITTEE

31 August 2010

Meeting held at Committee Room 3 - Civic Centre,
High Street, Uxbridge UB8 1UW



HILLINGDON
LONDON

	<p>Committee Members Present: Councillors Andrew Retter (Chairman), Josephine Barrett (Vice-Chairman), Lynne Allen (Labour Lead), Bruce Baker, Mike Bull, Peter Kemp, Janet Gardner and Carol Melvin.</p> <p>LBH Officers Present: Natasha Dogra (Democratic Services) Beejal Soni (Legal Services) Stephanie Waterford (Licensing Service)</p>	
1.	<p>APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE (<i>Agenda Item 1</i>)</p> <p>Apologies were received from Cllr David Allam and Cllr Judy Kelly.</p>	Action by
2.	<p>DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST IN MATTERS COMING BEFORE THIS MEETING (<i>Agenda Item 2</i>)</p> <p>None.</p>	Action by
3.	<p>TO CONFIRM THAT THE ITEMS OF BUSINESS MARKED PART I WILL BE CONSIDERED IN PUBLIC AND THAT THE ITEMS MARKED PART 2 WILL BE CONSIDERED IN PRIVATE (<i>Agenda Item 3</i>)</p> <p>It was confirmed that all items of business would be considered in public.</p>	Action by
4.	<p>TO AGREE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 1ST JULY 2010 (<i>Agenda Item 4</i>)</p> <p>The minutes of 1 July 2010 were agreed by the Committee.</p>	Action by
5.	<p>HOME OFFICE CONSULTATION - REBALANCING THE LICENSING ACT (<i>Agenda Item 5</i>)</p> <p>Officers presented the report to obtain the Licensing Committee's opinion of the Home Office proposals and to seek their views in respect of the specific questions raised in the consultation.</p> <p>Officers informed Members that the new government coalition was introducing a number of new proposals which would overhaul the Licensing Act 2003 by giving more powers to Licensing Authorities by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Give licensing authorities the power to refuse licence applications or call for a licence review without requiring relevant representations from a responsible authority.	Action by

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Remove the need for licensing authorities to demonstrate their decisions on licences 'are necessary' for (rather than of benefit to) the promotion of the licensing objectives. • Reduce the evidential burden of proof required by licensing authorities in making decisions on licence applications and licence reviews. • Increase the weight licensing authorities will have to give to relevant representations and objection notices from the police. • Simplify Cumulative Impact Policies to allow licensing authorities to have more control over outlet density. • Increase the opportunities for local residents or their representative groups to be involved in licensing decisions, without regard to their immediate proximity to premises. • Enable more involvement of local health bodies in licensing decisions by designating health bodies as a responsible authority and seeking views on making health a licensing objective. • Amend the process of appeal to avoid the costly practice of rehearing licensing decisions. • Enable licensing authorities to have flexibility in restricting or extending opening hours to reflect community concerns or preferences. • Repeal the unpopular power to establish Alcohol Disorder Zones and allow licensing authorities to use a simple adjustment to the existing fee system to pay for any additional policing needed during late-night opening. • Substantial overhaul of the system of Temporary Event Notices to give the police more time to object, enable all responsible authorities to object, increase the notification period and reduce the number that can be applied for by personal licence holders. • Introduce tougher sentences for persistent underage sales. • Trigger automatic licence reviews following persistent underage sales. • Ban the sale of alcohol below cost price. • Enable local authorities to increase licensing fees so that they are based on full cost recovery. • Enable licensing authorities to revoke licences due to non-payment of fees. • Consult on the impact of the Mandatory Licensing Conditions Order and whether the current conditions should be removed. <p>The Committee considered the Home Office consultation regarding the Licensing Act.</p>	
	<p>The meeting, which commenced at 5.00 pm, closed at 7.00 pm.</p>	

These are the minutes of the above meeting. For more information on any of the resolutions please contact Natasha Dogra on 01895 277 488. Circulation of these minutes is to Councillors, Officers, the Press and Members of the Public.