

THE LIVE MUSIC ACT – CHANGES TO THE LICENSING ACT 2003

Committee

Licensing Committee

Officer Contact

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Papers with report

None

Ward(s) affected

All

SUMMARY

To update the Committee on the forthcoming changes to Licensing Legislation.

RECOMMENDATION

That the committee note the information

INFORMATION

On 8th March 2012 the Live Music Bill received Royal Assent and became the Live Music Act. The effects of the new legislation will remove the licensing requirements for:

- **Amplified live music** between 08.00 hours and 23.00 hours before audiences of no more than 200 people on premises authorised to sell alcohol for consumption on the premises (e.g. pubs, clubs, hotels and restaurants)
- **Amplified live music** between 08.00 hours and 23.00 hours before audiences of no more than 200 people in workplaces not licensed under the Licensing Act 2003 (e.g. shops, community centres, religious establishments) or premises licensed only for late night refreshment (e.g. takeaways)
- **Unamplified live music** between 08.00 hours and 23.00 hours in all venues.

The conditions currently on premises licences relating to noise nuisance from amplified and unamplified music will automatically become void.

However, Licensing Authorities will be able to re-instate or impose conditions about noise nuisance from live music following a Review of the premises licence or club premises certificate when authorised to sell alcohol for consumption on the premises.

The Live Music Act will also remove all licensing requirements for the provision of entertainment facilities (e.g. providing facilities for making music and dancing).

Also, it will widen the licensing exemption for live music integral to a performance of Morris dancing or dancing of a similar type (e.g. folk dancing or dancing of an English Heritage nature) and the exemption applies to both live and recorded music instead of just unamplified live music.

The legislation is expected to come into force on 1st October 2012, once Guidance is provided.