Update on Inviting Representatives from Responsible Authorities to Attend Licensing Hearings.

Committee	Licensing Committee
Officer Contact	Norman Stanley, Licensing Service Manager, tel; 01895 277418
Papers with report	None
Ward(s) affected	All

SUMMARY

To report back to the Licensing Committee in respect of a matter raised at their request at the London Licensing Managers Forum.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Licensing Committee note the report.

INFORMATION

The "action" instructions detailed in the minutes of the Licensing Committee meeting held on Thursday the 1st of October 2009, which related to agenda item number 7, required the Licensing Service Manager (Norman Stanley) to raise a specific question at the next meeting of the London Licensing Managers Forum, which was scheduled for the 23rd of February 2010.

The Licensing Committee's question was:- "whether or not fellow local authorities invited representatives from responsible authorities to attend hearings even if they have not made representations".

The question was listed on the LLMF agenda and it sparked a very lively debate.

On conclusion of the debate and following a show of hands, it was noted that the majority of London Authorities do not invite representatives from responsible authorities if they have not made a representation, however a small number of authorities do.

Following the discussion, Pat Crowley, the Chair of the LLMF, advised the delegates, that as far as he was aware there is no legal reason as to why such representatives from responsible authorities should not be invited, however he recommended they should only take part in the hearing when invited to respond to specific questions posed to them by members of the licensing sub committee.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Licensing Committee
Part 1 – Members, Public and Press

None

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

None

BACKGROUND PAPERS

The Licensing Act 2003

Guidance issued under section 182 of the Licensing Act 2003