

REVIEW OF THE COUNCIL'S STATEMENT OF LICENSING POLICY

Committee	Licensing Committee
Officer Contact	Sharon Garner
Papers with report	Revision of the Statement of Licensing Policy
Ward(s) affected	All

SUMMARY

The Licensing Act 2003 requires the Council, as the Licensing Authority, to review its statement of licensing policy every 3 years. This is the second full review of the policy since the implementation of the Act in 2005. The Council will need to approve and adopt the revised policy which will be effective from 2011 to 2014.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Licensing Committee note the current position in regard to the review of the Statement of Licensing Policy.

ACTION INSTIGATED BY THE LICENSING SERVICE

In January 2010, a working party was convened to carry out the second full review of the Council's Statement of Licensing Policy. The working party was made up of the following officers:

- Norman Stanley – Licensing Services Manager
- Sharon Garner – Licensing Officer (the co-ordinating Officer in respect of the review)
- Kathryn Sparks – Deputy Director, Environment and Consumer Protection
- Ed Shaylor – Head of Community Safety
- Sue Pollitt – Trading Standards Service Manager
- Jaspal Wadra – Principle Environmental Health Officer
- Beejal Soni – Licensing Lawyer from Legal Services
- Mark Braddock (represented by Natasha Dogra) – Democratic Services Officer
- Sgt Ian Meens – Metropolitan Police Service
- Station Commander Martin Green (represented by Inspecting Officer Derek Bird) – London Fire & Emergency Planning Authority
- Paul Hewitt – Safeguarding Children and Quality Assurance Service Manager

The working party were of the opinion that the existing format of the current policy should be retained as it was concise and easy for Members, Officers and members of the public to use.

It was agreed that some sections of the policy needed to be amended in order to include the recent changes to the legislation, such as the new mandatory conditions. In addition, some members of the working party suggested changes to reflect the current working practices between the *'Responsible Authorities'*.

The proposed changes were subsequently circulated to all members of the working party for consideration and approval. On finally achieving a consensus of opinion, the proposed changes/amendments were inserted into the current policy (all changes were highlighted in red).

The revised policy was submitted to the full licensing committee for consideration and approval on 22nd April 2010.

Following the approval by full licensing committee the revised policy was sent out for full consultation.

Note:- The list of consultees is detailed on page 2 and 3 of the policy which is annexed hereto.

The consultation period commenced on the 14th May 2010 and ended on 6th August 2010.

A further working party meeting was convened on 1st September 2010 to discuss any observations, comments or proposals that were received. All observations, comments or proposals which were considered relevant have been inserted into the revised policy document.

The revised policy now requires formal approval from the full Licensing Committee. Once approved, then approval will be sought from RESPOC on 16th November 2010, from Cabinet on 16th December 2010 and finally full Council on 13th January 2011.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

This report has been considered by the Borough Solicitor's Office for its legal implications in accordance with Council's procedures. There are no issues that need to be brought to the specific attention of Members other than those highlighted in the report.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

- The Licensing Act 2003
- Guidance issued under section 182 of the Licensing Act 2003