

# STATEMENT OF LICENSING POLICY

*Reporting Officer: Head of Democratic Services*

## SUMMARY

To seek Council's approval of the revised Statement of Licensing Policy following the statutory three year review of the policy and upon recommendation by Cabinet.

**RECOMMENDATION: That the revised Statement of Licensing Policy as set out in the Appendix be adopted for implementation January 2011 – January 2014.**

## INFORMATION

The Licensing Act 2003 requires the Council, as the Licensing Authority, to have a Statement of Licensing Policy. This legislation requires the Licensing Authority to promote the four prime licensing objectives set out in the Licensing Act 2003 when making relevant decisions, being:-

- The Prevention of crime and disorder.
- Public Safety
- The prevention of public nuisance.
- The protection of children from harm.

Section 5 of the Licensing Act 2003 requires the Council to review its Statement of Licensing Policy every 3 years. In January 2010, a working party was convened to carry out the second full review of this policy.

In reviewing the policy, the Licensing Service sought observations and comments from the Responsible Authorities, partner organisations, trade representatives, residents and community groups etc. and their comments and suggestions, where relevant, have been incorporated into the revised policy.

Following consultation, the working party recommended 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. However, the format and content of the policy has not changed to any significant degree.

The proposed changes to the revised Statement of Licensing Policy have been considered by both the Licensing and Residents' & Environmental Services Policy Overview Committees. Both committees had no objections to the proposed changes.

As a policy framework document, Cabinet agreed on 16 December 2011 to recommend the policy to full Council for adoption.

The amendments are shown either as track change deletions, or bold additions in the Appendix.

## Financial Implications

Any costs associated with minor changes in the policy, can be met from within existing budgets.

## Legal

There are no additional legal issues other than those highlighted in the report.

**BACKGROUND PAPERS:** Licensing Act 2003; Guidance under section 182 of the Licensing Act 2003; The Council's current Statement of Licensing Policy