

## Licensing Committee – 26 June 2006

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Minutes of the meeting of the **Licensing Committee** held on **26 June 2006** when there were present:-

Chairman: Cllr A J Humphries  
Vice-Chairman: Cllr Mrs M A Starke

Cllr Mrs R Brown  
Cllr T G Cutmore  
Cllr K A Gibbs  
Cllr Mrs S A Harper  
Cllr K H Hudson  
Cllr T Livings

Cllr R A Oatham  
Cllr D G Stansby  
Cllr M G B Starke

### OFFICERS PRESENT

G Woolhouse - Corporate Director (External Services)  
P Nellies - Licensing Officer  
W Edwards - Secretary/PA  
J Bostock - Principal Committee Administrator

### 203 GAMBLING ACT 2005 – STATEMENT OF LICENSING PRINCIPLES

**Note:** Councillor T Livings declared a personal interest in this item by virtue of being a member of the Salvation Army.

The Committee considered the report of the Corporate Director (External Services) on the key aspects associated with the Gambling Act 2005, including the production of a Statement of Licensing Principles.

Responding to questions, officers advised that:-

- Responsible consultees are:-

The Police; the Fire Authority; the Local Planning Authority; Customs & Excise; Environmental Protection; Child Protection and the Gambling Commission.

Other consultees are:-

Faith Groups; providers of the gambling machines; Gamblers Anonymous and local schools.

- Church Halls running bingo arrangements are excluded due to their size.
- Officers would further check the situation with regard to machines in supermarkets.

Consideration would also be given as to whether the term 'etc' could be placed after reference to 'taxi offices, fish and chip shops and take away restaurants' in licensing documentation. Account would be taken of the need to achieve consistency with the national model template.

- Officers would provide clarification on the situations when a Councillor will be precluded from representing an interested party in the context of Member concern that, democratically, an elector should have access to their Ward Member. The position with regard to premises occupied by political groups that are subject to the legislation in terms of how this could impact on Member involvement in the licensing process would also be clarified.
- Fees are only available from the Department for Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS) on a provisional basis at this stage – actual figures will be published in the Members' Bulletin when available.
- The Council's Licensing Team will be happy to answer any questions Members have on this subject matter. In terms of Member training, arrangements will be made for copies of forms that applicants will be expected to complete to be available.
- The resource impact of dealing with cases is likely to be much less than that associated with the Liquor Licensing legislation.
- Conditions could be included on Licences to require that casinos or bingo halls employ door supervisors that have to be licensed by the Security Industry Authority.
- The term 'tracks' refers to sites (including horse racecourses and dog tracks) where races or other sporting events take place. A full definition will be incorporated into the glossary.
- In terms of the granting of club gaming machine permits, machines have to be either category B, C or D. The definitions for the different categories of gaming machine have not yet been finalised by DCMS.

During discussion the Committee concurred with the view of a Member that, notwithstanding that responses to consultation should be considered in October, it would be appropriate for a further meeting to be convened should any fundamental changes associated with the legislation arise in the meantime.

It was recognised that it will be important to clarify the position of restrictions that may be placed on the ability of Councillors to represent Ward constituents if serving on the Licensing Committee.

### Resolved

- (1) That the draft Statement of Licensing Policy be approved for consultation between 3 July 2006 and 2 October 2006.
- (2) That the Committee meet in October 2006 to consider responses to the consultation. An additional meeting of the Committee to be convened in the interim should any fundamental changes associated with the legislation arise.

The meeting commenced at 9.30am and closed at 10.25am.

Chairman .....

Date.....