

WYRE FOREST DISTRICT COUNCIL

LICENSING AND ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITTEE
3RD SEPTEMBER 2007

Statement of Licensing Policy

OPEN	
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APPENDICES	Appendix 1 – Current Licensing Policy Statement Period 2005 – 2008 Appendix 2 – Revised , generic Licensing Policy Statement

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To receive a report on the Revised Statement of Licensing Policy (in accordance with the Licensing Act 2003) for the Wyre Forest District.

2. RECOMMENDATION

The Committee is asked to RECOMMEND to Cabinet:

- 2.1 **The Revised Draft Statement of Licensing Policy (in accordance with the Licensing Act 2003) for the Wyre Forest District, as set out in Appendix 2 of the report, be approved to enable consultation to commence with relevant stakeholders.**

3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1 The Licensing Act 2003 reformed the law of Liquor Licensing and Public Entertainment within England and Wales. It received the Royal Assent on 10th July 2003.
- 3.2 Section 5 of the 2003 Act requires the Council to prepare and publish a statement of its licensing policy every three years.
- 3.3 The first statutory period of licensing began on the 7th January 2005 and will expire on the 6th January 2008.
- 3.4 The Statement of Licensing Policy for this period is attached at **Appendix 1**.

4. KEY ISSUES

- 4.1 The Council must now review the Policy to determine if revisions are appropriate.
- 4.2 Licensing Data is published widely via the Worcestershire Hub Customer Service Centre and it is essential that information published by the six Worcestershire councils do not conflict.
- 4.3 Licensing Officers operating within the county have drafted a generic Licensing Policy Statement within the Guidelines published by Government under section 182 of the Licensing Act 2003. Copy at **Appendix 2**.

5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 Annual Inspection fees may be collected by the Council in respect of Premises Licences when the Policy Statement has been adopted in 2008.

6. LEGAL AND POLICY IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 Before determining its policy for any three year period, or if revising a policy within a period, the licensing authority must consult the persons listed in section 5(3) of the 2003 Act.

These are:

- The Chief Police Officer for the District;
- The Fire and Rescue Authority for Hereford and Worcester;
- Persons/ bodies representative of local holders of premises licences
- Persons/ bodies representative of local holders of club premises certificates
- Persons / bodies representative of local holders of personal licences.
- Persons / bodies representative of business and residents in its area.

- 6.2 The views of these bodies should be given proper weight and all of the consultation results will be returned to the Licensing and Environmental Committee before the policy is determined.
- 6.3 Beyond the statutory requirements, it is for each licensing authority to decide the full extent of its consultation, but should have due regard to cost and time.

7. CONCLUSION

- 7.1 The new policy is generic for the County of Worcestershire and reflects the guidance under Section 182 of the Licensing Act 2003.

8. **CONSULTEES**

8.1 Head of Legal and Democratic Services

9. **BACKGROUND PAPERS**

9.1 Guidance Notes Section 182, Licensing Act 2003.

21.8.07