

WYRE FOREST DISTRICT COUNCIL

LICENSING AND ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITTEE

COUNCIL CHAMBER, WYRE FOREST HOUSE, FINEPOINT WAY, KIDDERMINSTER

4TH AUGUST 2014 (10.30AM)

Present:

Councillors P B Harrison (Chairman), G C Yarranton (Vice-Chairman), J Aston, G W Ballinger, R Bishop, A R Clent, P Dyke, J A Hart, P V Hayward, J Holden, M B Kelly, R J Lloyd, M Price and D R Sheppard.

Observers:

Councillors P W Wooldridge and M J Wrench.

LIC.1 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors V Higgs and N Knowles.

LIC.2 Appointment of Substitutes

Councillor R J Lloyd was appointed as a substitute for Councillor N Knowles.

LIC.3 Declaration of Interests

No declarations of interest were made.

LIC.4 Minutes

Decision: The minutes of the meeting held on 14th April 2014 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

LIC.5 Licensing Act 2003 – Review of Statement of Licensing Policy

The Committee received a report from the Director of Worcestershire Regulatory Services (WRS) on behalf of Wyre Forest District Council which asked Members to consider a draft revised Statement of Licensing Policy and to approve the draft for the purpose of consultation with all Relevant Parties.

The Senior Licensing Practitioner (WRS) led Members through the report and advised that the review of the policy had been undertaken as a result of the large number of changes to the legislation and statutory guidance since the publication of the current policy. The redrafted policy had been based on a Home Office template and it was intended for all of the licensing authorities in Worcestershire to adopt a Statement of Licensing Policy based on this template.

The Committee considered each page of the draft policy in turn. The Senior

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Licensing Practitioner (WRS) highlighted the new sections which had been added to the policy and advised that any typographical errors would be addressed prior to consultation.

The Senior Licensing Practitioner (WRS) advised the Committee that the draft report would be circulated on the basis that the second sentence of paragraph 22.3 relating to the Late Night Levy would be deleted.

The Senior Licensing Practitioner (WRS) confirmed that the Members of the Committee would be consultees and advised the Members to engage with the consultation process if they wished to make amendments to the draft Policy and for them to respond within the consultation period.

Decision: The draft revised Statement of Licensing Policy shown at appendix 2 of the report to the Licensing and Environmental Committee, is approved for the purpose of consultation with all relevant parties.

LIC.6 Any Other Business

Members requested an update on the following items:

- The number of Scrap Metal Dealer licences issued within the district and details of any enforcement initiatives undertaken.
- The number of Hackney Carriage / Private Hire Vehicle licences which fall under the old licensing policy, and the number of renewal applications which have been refused.

Decision: The Senior Licensing Practitioner (WRS) to provide an update for the Committee.

There being no further business, the meeting ended at 11.10am.