

Minutes

Meeting name	Licensing Committee
Date	Thursday, 30 June 2022
Start time	6.30 pm
Venue	Parkside, Station Approach, Burton Street, Melton Mowbray, Leics, LE13 1GH

Present:

Chair Councillor J. Douglas (Chair)

Councillors P. Chandler (Vice-Chair) S. Carter
C. Fisher E. Holmes
J. Illingworth D. Pritchett
J. Wilkinson

Observers Councillor R. Bindloss

Officers Deputy Monitoring Officer
Senior Solicitor
Regulatory Services Manager
Licensing and Compliance Officer
Senior Democratic Services and Scrutiny Officer

Minute No.	Minute
L1	<p>Apologies for Absence Apologies for absence were received from Councillors de Burle and Glancy.</p>
L2	<p>Declarations of Interest Councillor Chandler declared a personal interest in relation to Minute Number L4, Licensing Sub-Committee Minutes for 17 January 2022 and 2 March 2022, as the events would have a significant impact upon the Ward she represents.</p> <p>Councillor Carter declared a personal interest in relation to Minute Number L5, Review of the Statement of Licensing Policy 2022-27, as he possesses a personal licence.</p> <p><i>(At 6:34pm, during the consideration of this item, Councillor Wilkinson entered the meeting.)</i></p>
L3	<p>Minutes The Minutes of the meeting held on 25 November 2021 were confirmed.</p>
L4	<p>Minutes to be noted from Licensing Sub-Committees and Licensing Panels Subject to the below amendment, the Minutes of the Licensing Sub Committee meetings held on 17 January 2022, 2 March 2022, 21 March 2022, 30 March 2022 at 10:30am and 30 March 2022 at 12:30pm were noted.</p> <p>30 March 2022, 10:30am, Exempt Minutes The Committee agreed to change 'Cutting Tree Pub' to 'Cutting Rooms'.</p>
L5	<p>Review of the Statement of Licensing Policy 2022-27 A report that sought approval from Members for the Licensing Policy 2022-27 to go out for consultation for a period of 12 weeks was presented to the Committee.</p> <p>After the presentation, the Chairman commented that she thought that the removal of the requirement for the cumulative impact assessment was a positive step.</p> <p>A discussion ensued regarding whether Members could visit premises seeking licenses, however the Deputy Monitoring Officer advised that if Members wished to visit a premises then it would be prudent to seek advice before doing so.</p> <p>Members noted that there would be a requirement to hold a Special Licensing Committee meeting following the consultation period, in order to agree the final Statement of Licensing Policy 2022-27 prior to submission for approval by Council.</p> <p>RESOLVED</p>

	<p>The Licensing Committee approved that the draft Statement of Licensing Policy 2022-27, made under the Licensing Act 2003, proceed to consultation and endorsed the removal of the Cumulative Impact Policy.</p>
L6	<p>Licensing Performance Report</p> <p>The Licensing Performance Report containing the work carried out by the Licensing Team and the wider impacts and benefits of the licensing regime was presented to the Committee.</p> <p>During a discussion regarding the length of time it took to process licensing applications, Members were informed that applicants tend to drip feed information to the Licensing Team and that Officers are reminding applicants to submit the correct information. In response to the question whether applicants should be encouraged to submit all the information at the same time, it was confirmed that the Licensing Team have no issues with doing that.</p> <p>In response to a query on whether regular checks are made in relation to animal welfare licenses, the Committee were informed that licensed premises are regularly checked but concerns over particular licenses would be investigated.</p> <p>Officers were asked whether there are sufficient levels of staff within the Licensing Team to process applications. In response, Members were informed that the team is stretched which is further stretched by absences (e.g. holiday, sickness) and that more resource is needed. When asked how staffing compares to three or four years ago, Members were informed that four years ago the Licensing Team did not have an Enforcement Officer.</p> <p>Further discussion ensued and covered the Enforcement Officer post which is shared between Licensing and Planning. The Committee were informed that the Planning department receive more of the post's time, despite it being evenly split however resource levels are being reviewed. A Member commented that they would like the Licensing department to receive enforcement hours it should have back.</p> <p>When asked whether the Enforcement Officer carries out night-time enforcement, Members were informed that the Enforcement Officer does carry out night-time enforcement and that the Officer did also work during the Covid pandemic.</p> <p>RESOLVED</p> <p>That the information contained within the Licensing Performance Report be noted.</p>
L7	<p>Urgent Business</p> <p>There was no urgent business.</p>

The meeting closed at: 7.27 pm

Chair