

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE LICENSING COMMITTEE
HELD AT THE TOWN HALL, PETERBOROUGH ON 14 MARCH 2013**

Members Present: Councillors Thacker (Chairman), Peach (Vice Chairman), Hiller, Serluca, Nawaz, Kreling, Jamil, Saltmarsh, Miners and Davidson

Officers Present: Peter Gell, Strategic Regulatory Services Manager
Adrian Day, Licensing Manager
Kerry Leishman, Licensing Development Officer
Gemma George, Senior Governance Officer

1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Councillor Allen.

Councillor Kreling was in attendance as a substitute.

2. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

3. Minutes of the Meeting held on 14 February 2013

The minutes of the meeting held on 14 February 2013 were approved as a true and accurate record.

3.1 Minutes of the Sub-Committee Hearings held in January 2013

The following minutes from the Sub-Committee Hearings held in January 2013 were approved as true and accurate records.

- i) 07/01/13 – 86-88 Lincoln Road, New Premises Licence
- ii) 28/01/13 – Super Poli, 613 Lincoln Road, Review of Premises Licence

4. Cumulative Impact Policy, Late Night Levy and Early Morning Restriction Orders Consultation

The Committee received a report which had been compiled as a result of the consultation carried out on the proposed amendment to the Council's Statement of Licensing Policy to include a Cumulative Impact Policy in respect of the area in the city known as the Operation CAN-do area.

The Committee was requested to consider the contents of the report which included the representations and evidence received following the public consultation and it was further requested to provide a recommendation in respect of the extent of the special policy and whether to include all licensed premises, off sales only, on sales only, or on and off sales and also whether to include Late Night Refreshment.

In December 2012, concern had been expressed by Council Officers as to the perceived saturation of licensed premises within the Operation CAN-do area and to the negative effect these premises were having on the Licensing Objectives.

The Licensing Committee met on 21 January 2013 and approved the commencement of a consultation on the review of the Statement of Licensing Policy to include a special policy in the Operation CAN-do area.

A consultation had been carried out with Cambridgeshire Constabulary, Cambridgeshire Fire and Rescue Authority and those persons/bodies representing the trade and businesses as well as local residents both by way of direct communication and by publicity on the Council's website and local press. The consultation had commenced on 22 January 2013 and ended on 4 March 2013.

The responses to the consultation had been positive in nature and included 22 responses from local residents and representatives of residents, and a petition. Responses had also been received from the Neighbourhood Delivery Team, Public Health and Cambridgeshire Constabulary and a vast amount of evidence had been submitted in support of the responses.

It was highlighted that under the guidance issued to Licensing Authorities under Section 192 of the Licensing Act 2003, there should be evidential basis for the decision to include a special policy within the Statement of Licensing Policy. The Committee was therefore requested to determine whether sufficient evidence had been presented in order for a recommendation to be made to Full Council to include a special policy for the Operation CAN-do area within the Council's Statement of Licensing Policy.

Members debated the report. Comments and responses to questions included:

- The local residents who had responded to the consultation were situated throughout the Operation CAN-do area;
- A number of maps had been submitted alongside the committee report which detailed the locations of crime and anti-social behaviour in the area. These were extremely informative;
- Since the changes in the licensing regime, there had been a substantial increase in the numbers of premises selling alcohol;
- There was an inordinate amount of crime in the area which had increased with the influx of licensed premises;
- The implementation of a Cumulative Impact Policy would increase the Sub-Committees powers of refusal;
- It would be possible to implement additional Cumulative Impact Policies in the future to cover other areas of the city, however the need for such a policy would need to be evidenced;
- The review mechanism was available for premises not adhering to or promoting the Licensing Objectives.

Following debate and questions to Officers, Members commented that the report was extremely well informed and the consultation responses were encouraging. The issues being faced in the area needed to be addressed and the implementation of a Cumulative Impact Policy would go some way towards this.

RESOLVED:

The Committee:

1. Recommended to Council that a Cumulative Impact Policy (Special Policy) in the Operation CAN-do area, be adopted under the guidance issued under the Licensing Act 2003; and

2. Approved the content of the special policy in respect of the type of licensed premises to be included within the policy, this being the inclusion of all licensed premises and Late Night Refreshments.

Reasons for the decision:

The decision was made to comply with the statutory requirements regarding amendments to the Statement of Licensing Policy in order to include a Cumulative Impact Policy with a view to making sustainable improvements in the Operation CAN-do area.

7.00pm – 7.20pm
Chairman