

**MINUTES OF THE LICENSING COMMITTEE MEETING  
HELD AT 6:00PM, ON  
WEDNESDAY, 18 NOVEMBER 2020  
VIRTUAL, TOWN HALL, PETERBOROUGH**

**Committee Members Present:** Hiller Chairman (Chair), Councillors Cllr Allen, Brown, Coles, Hiller, Joseph, Ellis, Wiggin, Hogg, Farooq and Fox

**Officers Present:** Kerry Leishman, Head of Operations - Environmental Health & Licensing  
Colin Miles, Litigation Lawyer  
Terri Martin, Strategic Regulatory Officer - Licensing  
Gareth Brighton, Licensing and Business Manager  
Karen S Dunleavy, Democratic Services Officer  
Daniel Kalley, Senior Democratic Services Officer

**1. APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMAN**

Following a nomination, which was seconded, Councillor Hiller was appointed as Chairman for this Licensing Committee meeting.

**2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Azher Iqbal and Ayres. Councillors Brown and Farooq were in attendance as substitutes.

**3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

No declarations of interest were received.

**4. MINUTES OF THE LICENSING COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 13 FEBRUARY 2020**

The minutes of the meeting held on 13 February 2020 were agreed as a true and accurate record.

**5. LICENSING ACT 2003 – STATEMENT OF LICENSING POLICY AND CUMULATIVE IMPACT – REVIEW, CONSULTATION AND RESPONSES**

The Licensing Committee received a report in relation to the statement of licensing policy and cumulative impact review, consultations and responses.

The purpose of the report was for Members to consider and note the contents, including due consideration of the responses and evidence received following the public consultation, to modify the Cumulative Impact Policy (CIP) and recommend to Council the adoption of the final Statement of Licensing Policy.

The Strategic Regulatory Officer - Licensing introduced the report and summarised the consultation undertaken of the Statement of Licensing Policy and the modifications to the CIP.

The Licensing Committee debated the report and in summary, key points raised and responses to questions included:

- The Business and Planning Act 2020 Act temporarily amended the Licensing Act 2003, by allowing certain premises, which held a relevant authorisation on or before the 26 July 2020, to provide 'Off sales' of alcohol without the requirement to submit an application. The 2020 Act provided an expedited review process, available to Responsible Authorities, for individual premises should problems arise. Further information on the temporary amendments was attached at Annex A to the Statement of Licensing Policy.
- There was an area just outside of the Can-do boundary, in PE1 2AU where there were licensed premises which had not been included in the Cumulative Impact Policy. Although there were issues, such as car cruising being experienced in that area, they were not associated with the licensed premises. The boundary would be reviewed every three years and if issues occurred during that time, that could be attributed to licensed premises the CIP boundary could be reviewed and amended accordingly following due process.
- The proposed modification to the CIP would mean that only new and variation applications requesting 'Off sales' of alcohol, would be subject to the policy. Whether or not the application also requested 'On sales' of alcohol. The boundary to remain unchanged. This had not restricted residents from making objections to any new or variation application, if they had cause. The CIA to be updated, detailing the current issues and evidence obtained during the consultation process.
- Members felt that the proposals were clear and there had been no reason to refuse the recommendation.

The Licensing Committee considered the report and **RESOLVED** (Unanimously) to agree the modification to the Cumulative Impact Policy (CIP) in relation to 'Off Sales as part of the authorised licensing activities and recommended to Council the adoption of the final Statement of Licensing Policy

## **AGREED ACTIONS**

The Licensing Committee:

- I. Modified the current Cumulative Impact Policy (CIP) so that it was only applicable to applications (new and variation) which request 'Off Sales' of alcohol as part of the authorised activities, and revise and republish the Cumulative Impact Assessment (CIA) in line with this decision.
- II. Recommended the adoption of the final Statement of Licensing Policy to Full Council for 9 December 2020

## **REASONS FOR THE DECISION**

- I. When reviewing the CIP, the licensing authority must ensure that it remained relevant to the current problems described geographically and evidentially robustly supported. The evidence obtained in the review and consultation process, indicated that the current problems identified in the boundary were relevant, but not to all types of applications.
- II. There was no doubt that there were compelling reasons to retain the CIP, the concentration of licensed premises within the current defined boundary, continue to negatively impact on the objectives, the residents and businesses within the

boundary. However, when assessing the types of activities which were seen to most contribute to the problems experienced and reported, it had been those selling alcohol for consumption 'Off' the premises that were highlighted.

- III. The data provided by the police showed that alcohol related crimes within the boundary were on the increase, (160 (8%) in 2017–2018 and 263 (13.7%) in 2019-2020, despite an overall drop in crime. The data also showed that the crimes and incidents were not occurring at the actual location of the licensed premises. This indicated that the problems were not associated with 'On' licensed premises. The report stated: ...' Alcohol was driving crimes in the Op-Can-Do area, especially within homes, but it had not been clear if this was due to local licensed premises (though it would stand to reason that if alcohol had been readily available near home, residents were likely to go to local off licenses and bars to get it.).
- IV. The response from the Director of Public Health referred to the considerable body of research examining the relationship between alcohol outlet density (AOD), alcohol related harms and social disorder in areas of deprivation. Op-Can-Do was one of the most deprived areas of Peterborough, with a higher rate of alcohol related hospital admissions in central ward.
- V. The information provided by Peterborough Enforcement Services (PES) detailed the alcohol related incidents reported to the police between May 19 to May 20. Most of the incidents related to anti-social behaviour of people in the street, either drinking, being rowdy, aggressive, etc. 'That the frequency of cleansing had been significantly higher in the CI area, partly due to the amount of alcohol related litter, which also posed a safety risk and degraded the area.'
- VI. Most of the responses to the consultation support the intention of the CI and also list a multitude of 'street' related problems, such as street drinking, anti-social behaviour, street toileting, street alcohol related litter as many of the problems experienced. With the proliferation of 'Off' sales premises considered as the 'attractive' cause, for people to gather on the street then behave in an anti-social manner.
- VII. Based on the overall evidence, the CIP and CIA should be modified to reflect the current problems identified. Therefore, it should be modified and only be applicable to new and variation applications requesting 'Off' sales of alcohol.

Chairman

6:00pm - 6:20pm

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