

LICENSING COMMITTEE

30 MAY 2008

Present: County Councillor Bridges (Chairperson)
County Councillors Cox, Ford, Goddard, Griffiths, Holland,
Kelloway, Macdonald, David Morgan, Elgan Morgan and
Smith

Apology: County Councillor Grant

L1 : CHAIRPERSON

The Committee noted that the County Council on 15 May 2008 appointed County Councillor Bridges as Chairperson of this Committee.

L2 : DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON

The Committee noted that the County Council on 15 May 2008 appointed County Councillor Cox as Deputy Chairperson of this Committee.

L3 : MEMBERSHIP AND TERMS OF REFERENCE

The Council on 15 May 2008 had appointed the following Members to this Committee:

County Councillors Cox, Ford, Goddard, Grant, Griffiths, Holland,
Kelloway, Macdonald, David Morgan, Elgan Morgan and Smith

The following Terms of Reference were approved:

To be the Council's Licensing Committee as required by the Licensing Act 2003 and Gambling Act 2005 and any re-enactment or modification thereof; and as full delegate of the Council to exercise all the powers and functions permitted under those Acts.

L4 : MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 5 February 2008 were approved by the Committee as a correct record and signed by the Chairperson.

L5 : LICENSING SUB COMMITTEE DELEGATION

The Licensing Act 2003 provides that certain decisions and functions required may be taken or carried out by the Licensing Committee or delegated to Sub Committees. The Chief Strategy Planning and Environment Officer submitted a report requesting that the Committee consider delegating authority to Licensing Sub Committees in order to ensure effective performance in meeting the requirements of the Act. The report recommended re-establishing of Licensing Sub Committees in respect of hearings of contested application and licence reviews under the Act.

It was recommended that the Licensing Sub Committees consider of one Chairperson plus two other members. The Sub Committee would be quorate with two members.

Members were asked to elect three Chairpersons. Members were advised that Licensing Sub Committees would be arranged for 10.00am on every Friday throughout the year, although past experience had shown that many of these hearing would not take place. A rota of the members scheduled to sit on each of the Sub Committees would be drawn up by the Committee Services Department.

RESOLVED – That

- (1) the Licensing Committee delegate authority for Licensing Sub Committees to discharge its functions within the powers conferred by Sections 7 and 10 of the Licensing Act 2008;
- (2) a quorum of two be set for the Licensing Sub Committees;
- (3) Councillors Bridges, Griffiths and Smith be elected as Chairpersons of the Sub Committees;
- (4) meetings of the Sub Committee be scheduled for 10.00am every Friday commencing from 6 June 2008, with the members being chosen on a rota basis in accordance with a schedule organised by the Clerk to the Council.

L6 : LICENSING ACT 2003 – ACTIVITY SUMMARY REPORT
2007/08

The Committee received a report providing summarised details of the work undertaken by the Licensing Service relating to the Licensing Act 2003 during the year from 1 April 2007 to 31 March 2008. The report provided information on the various aspects of the work undertaken by the Service during the period and provided comparison with previous years.

RESOLVED – That the report be noted.

L7 : GAMBLING ACT 2005 – ACTIVITY SUMMARY REPORT

The Committee received a report providing summarised details of the work undertaken by the Licensing Service relating to the Gambling Act 2005 during the year from 1 April 2006 to 31 March 2007.

RESOLVED – That the report be noted.

L8 : LICENSED PREMISES AWARD SCHEME

The licensing authority, in partnership with South Wales Police has sought to identify an award scheme for licensed premises in the City Centre. The Committee received a report providing details of the proposed scheme.

South Wales Police operate a scheme which identifies licensed premises in the city centre which were having difficulty meeting the licensing objectives by using information from the police crime database and the Heath Hospital Accident and Emergency Unit. This scheme had been very successful in ensuring high standards of safety and in minimising crime, disorder and harm associated with the consumption of alcohol.

It was proposed that Cardiff Council, in partnership with the Cardiff Licensees Forum and South Wales Police use the information gathered to identify the least problematic premises. This data, along with information gathered by the Licensing Authority, Waste Management, Pollution Control, Health and Safety, Development Control, Trading Standards and Child Protection, could be used to award points to identify those premises which are well managed.

Members of the Committee questioned how such a scheme would be financed. They also questioned what the criteria would be for awarding points.

RESOLVED – That

- (1) the Committee support the principle of the establishment of an annual awards scheme for licensed premises;
- (2) a further report be made to the Committee when the details of the award scheme have been finalised.

**L9 : SOUTH WALES POLICE AND TRADING STANDARDS
UPDATE ON ENFORCING THE LICENSING ACT 2003**

Members received a presentation from Steve Grey, Operational Manager, Fair Trading, on enforcing the law and reducing the problems associated with the sale of alcohol and other age-restricted goods in Cardiff.

Mr Grey informed that Committee that an information pack had been distributed to all off-licence premises within the city advising traders of their responsibilities under the law. This had been readily received by responsible traders.

Members were advised of the success the service had had over the past 5 years in reducing the incidences of illegal sales of alcohol in the city and the services plans for tackling the remaining problem traders.

Members thanked Steve Grey for an interesting and informative presentation.

RESOLVED – That the presentations be noted.

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Chairperson