
REPORT OF THE HEAD OF SHARED REGULATORY SERVICES

LICENSING: REVIEW OF STATEMENT OF LICENSING POLICY

Reason for Report

1. To formally authorise the publication of, and use of, the Council's Statement of Licensing Policy which has been reviewed and updated in accordance with the statutory requirements of the Licensing Act 2003.

Background

2. The Council is the licensing authority for Cardiff for the purposes of the Licensing Act 2003.

Under section 5 of the Licensing Act 2003 each licensing authority must produce a Statement of Licensing Policy every five years. The Council's current Statement of Licensing Policy came into effect in January 2011 and is due for replacement in January 2016. The matter has been reviewed and has been the subject of an extensive public consultation exercise in accordance with the requirements of the Act. The proposed new Statement of Licensing Policy 2016 – 2021 (**the Policy**) is the result.

3. The Council is asked to approve the publication of the Policy and adopt its use with effect from 4th January 2016.

Issues

4. The Statement of Licensing Policy outlines the licensing authority's approach to licence applications and deals with the problems and issues surrounding such applications. The previous policy proved to be robust and effective in providing an additional framework for dealing with applications under the Licensing Act 2003, but lacked linkages with the Council's corporate policies and Vision. The revised policy addresses this issue and is a more strategic, forward-looking document that is able to reflect aspirations for the City
5. In accordance with the legislative requirements the Policy has been reviewed and amendments proposed in consultation with responsible authorities, stakeholders and the citizens of Cardiff. The draft new Policy was further amended as a result of the representations received and also incorporates developments in the law and guidance issued by Government. The draft new Policy was approved by the

Licensing Committee at its meeting of 3 November 2015. A copy of it is attached to this Report.

Legal Implications

6. The Licensing Act 2003 places a statutory requirement on licensing authorities to issue a Statement of Licensing Policy with respect to the exercise of their licensing functions. It is a requirement of the Act that the full Council meeting should formally approve the Policy for publication.

Financial Implications

7. This report does not result in any additional financial implications and can be achieved within existing budget provision.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Council is recommended to

- (1) approve the decision taken by the Licensing Committee at its meeting of 3 November 2015 to adopt and publish the Statement of Licensing Policy for use with effect from 1st January 2016.
- (2) authorise the Head of Shared Regulatory Services to make administrative amendments to the Policy should the need arise.

Dave Holland
Head of Shared Regulatory Services

4th November 2015

Background papers:
Report to Licensing Committee 3 November 2015