

LICENSING COMMITTEE: 10 May 2010

Report of the Operational Manager (Licensing)

ROYAL WEDDING – EXTENSION OF HOURS

1. Background

- 1.1 On 29 April 2011, the nation celebrated the Royal Wedding of Prince William and Kate Middleton. To mark the occasion, the government declared the day a public holiday. Many pubs and other licensed premises wished to open later over that weekend to take advantage of the celebrations and the long weekend. The authority would have been responsible for dealing with such applications. This report is to provide details of the situation in respect of the hours of operation that applied for the event.

2. Details.

- 2.1 The Royal Wedding was a unique one off event and licence holders could not reasonably have made provision in their licence applications for extensions to celebrate the event. Licence holders would therefore normally have had to apply for a Temporary Event Notice (TEN) to extend their opening hours for a limited period. However, these are subject to annual limits and may be refused if the police object on the grounds of crime and disorder. As the Royal Wedding was a time of national celebration the government wanted everyone to be able to participate and had therefore undertaken a consultation process to considering temporarily extending the opening hours of licensed premises in England and Wales to 1am on Friday 29 April and Saturday 30 April.
- 2.2 On 12 January 2011 the Government published a consultation document seeking views on the proposal. The government subsequently made a licensing hours order under Section 172 of the Licensing Act 2003 to extend opening hours to 01.00 on Friday 29 April and Saturday 30 April for the sale of alcohol for consumption on the premises and the provision of regulated entertainment in those premises. On 30 March 2011 the House of Lords Committee approved the Licensing Hours Order and this was endorsed by the full House on 4 April 2011 bringing the extension of hours for the Royal Wedding by way of statutory instrument into effect.
- 2.3 All premises which had 'on licences' were therefore able to take advantage of an extension from 11.00pm on Friday 29 April to 1.00am on Saturday 30 April and

from 11.00pm on Saturday 30 April to 1.00am on Sunday 1 May. The extension applied to the sale of alcohol and the provision of hot food on the premises and also to the types of regulated entertainment which each individual premises licence already had the benefit of. Off Licences and Supermarkets did not benefit from the extension as the order related to the on-trade only.

4. Achievability

This report contains no equality personnel or property implications.

5. Legal Implications

5.1 The legal implications appear within the text of this Report.

6. Financial Implications.

6.1 As applications did not have to be made there was no additional expenditure as a result of the extension of licensing hours and the report therefore has no direct financial implication for the authority.

6.2 The exemption removed the burden of dealing with applications and the financial burden on businesses as they would otherwise have needed to apply to the authority for temporary licences at a cost of £21.00.

7. Recommendation

7.1 That the report be noted.

Paul Shone
Operational Manager (Licensing).

4 April 2010

This report has been prepared in accordance with procedures approved by Corporate Managers.

Background Papers: None