

LICENSING COMMITTEE

2 JUNE 2015

Present: County Councillor (Chairperson)
County Councillors Manzoor Ahmed, Boyle, Bridges, Goddard,
Hudson, Kelloway, Murphy, Phillips and Simmons

1 : APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Councillor Morgan.

2 : DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were received.

3 : MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 2 December 2014 were approved by the as a correct record and were signed by the Chairperson.

4 : GAMBLING PREMISES FEES

The Committee received a report and were asked to consider the setting of Premises Licence fees under the Gambling Act 2005. The fees were last set in April 2009.

Members were advised that based on the number of licences issued during 2013/14 the fee regime needed to be amended in order to accurately reflect the cost of providing the service. Consequently, Members were asked to note that there had been a decrease in the grant and provisional statement fees, as few applications were forthcoming and referred to the Licensing Sub Committee for determination. Therefore, that element of the fees associated with Sub Committee costs, was substantially lower.

The Committee considered the proposed revised fees set out in the report. The majority of fees had been decreased. Members asked for clarification as to whether operators in the gambling industry could retrospectively challenge the fees set in the past. The Legal view was that this was unlikely. Member also discussed whether decreasing the fees would encourage more gambling operators into the market. Officer felt that this was unlikely, as the reduction in fees was insignificant given the small sums involved. Members commented that the gambling industry was moving away from local high street premises into online gambling.

RESOLVED – That the proposed fees and charges outlined in the report be approved with an implementation date of 1 June 2015.

The meeting terminated at 10.20 am