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KIRKLEES COUNCIL

LICENSING AND SAFETY COMMITTEE

Monday 29 October 2012

Present: Councillor Hussain in the Chair

Councillors Ahmed, Dodds, S Hall, Hardcastle, P Scott and Sokhal

1 Membership of the Committee

There were no substitutions of membership at the meeting.

2 Minutes of Previous Meeting

RESOLVED - That the Minutes of the meeting held on 26 April 2012 be approved as a correct record.

3 Interests

No interests were declared.

4 Admission of the Public

The Committee noted that all agenda items would be considered in public session.

5 Deputations/Petitions

No deputations or petitions were received.

6 Public Question Time

No questions were asked.

7 Revised Gambling Policy - Statement of Principles

The Committee gave consideration to a report which set out details of the outcome of the consultation process in respect of the Council's Gambling Policy (Statement of Principles). The Council noted that it was the duty of the Local Authority to publish a Statement of Gambling Policy every three years and to set out the policies which would apply in promoting Licensing Objectives.

The proposed Kirklees Gambling Policy 2013-2016, which was appended to the report, had been subject to wide consultation and no objections to the proposals had been received. It was noted that the report was to be submitted to Council on 5 December 2012 and was subject to implementation from 31 January 2013.

The Committee noted the content of the policy as submitted and agreed that it be submitted to the next meeting of Council.

RESOLVED - That the proposed Gambling Policy 2013-2016 be noted and submitted to the meeting of Council on 5 December 2012 with a recommendation that the policy be adopted.

Terms of Reference Document for Kirklees Safety Advisory Group
The Committee received a report which set out proposals for Terms of
Reference for the Kirklees Safety Advisory Group. The report advised that
the group, which was created following a recommendation from Lord
Taylor's report regarding the Hillsborough tragedy, was to provide a body
of expertise, allowing the Authority to develop a consistent approach
towards spectator safety at both stadiums and public events.

The report sought approval for the Terms of Reference document, as appended to the report, which set out the role of Local Authorities relating to the specification of sports grounds and public events, and to advise on the roles of the Safety Advisory Group and the Licensing and Safety Committee in protecting public safety at sports grounds and at public events. It was noted that it had been a recommendation of the Sports Grounds Safety Authority (SGSA) that Safety Advisory Groups should produce a Terms of Reference document, and should also produce minutes in order to provide an audit trail.

RESOLVED:-

- (1) That the report be noted.
- (2) That the Safety Advisory Group Terms of Reference, as attached at Appendix A of the report, be approved.

9 House to House Collections Policy

The Committee received a report which provided details on the present situation regarding house to house collections in Kirklees, and which sought approval for the adoption of a new policy in order to regulate the collection arrangements.

The Committee noted that the number of house to house collections had increased significantly over the last 2 years, and that there were also an increasing number of bogus collectors and illegal collections. The report indicated that many of those presently collecting goods were commercial companies, and also that there was public misunderstanding regarding the amount of charitable donations that were being made from collections.

The Policy, which was attached as an appendix to the report, had been subject to a 12 week consultation process and Members were now asked to authorise its adoption in order to allow improved controls for the arrangement of house to house collections.

Members welcomed the report and made a number of suggestions with regard to publicising details of house collection arrangements, including discussions at Area Committees and publishing articles in 'Kirklees Together' and KNH 'Door to Door' magazines.

RESOLVED:-

- (1) That the report be noted.
- (2) That the House to House Collection Policy, as attached as an appendix to the report, be approved.
- (3) That information regarding House to House Collections be publicised as appropriate in order to promote public awareness.

10 Changes to Licensing Act

(The Committee agreed to the consideration of this urgent item on the grounds that the regulations had recently been published and would be effective from 31 October 2012)

The Committee were informed that Regulations regarding the Late Night Levy and Early Morning Restriction Orders had now been published and would come into force on 31 October 2012.

The report set out the steps that the Authority would need to undertake in order to implement an Early Morning Alcohol Restriction Order, and the categories where premises exemptions would apply.

The Licensing Manager advised that a further report would be brought back to a future meeting once further consideration had been given to the financial implications of the regulations.

RESOLVED - That the report be noted.