

# LICENSING COMMITTEE

**Date:** 10 September 2014

**Venue:** East Northamptonshire House, Cedar Drive, Thrapston

**Time:** 7.30 pm

**Present:** Councillors:- **Glenvil Greenwood-Smith (Chairman)**  
**Pauline Bradberry JP (Vice-Chairman)**

**Tony Boto**  
**Richard Gell**  
**Roger Glithero**  
**Sylvia Hughes**

**Barbara Jenney**  
**Andy Mercer**  
**Bob Nightingale**  
**Rupert Reichhold**

The Chairman welcomed Councillor Pauline Bradberry JP as Vice Chairman of the Committee.

## **140. MINUTES**

The minutes of the meeting held on 5 March 2014 were approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

## **141. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies were received from Councillor Anna Sauntson.

## **142. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

<b>Councillor</b>	<b>Nature of Interest</b>	<b>DPI</b>	<b>Other Interest</b>
Andy Mercer	Asst. Cabinet Member at NCC for Strategic Infrastructure, Economic Growth and Public Protection, which includes Trading Standards		Yes

## **143. QUESTIONS BY MEMBERS UNDER COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE 10.3**

There were no questions submitted under Procedure Rule 10.3.

## **144. LICENSING LEGISLATION - UPDATE**

The Health Protection Manager (HPM) presented a report outlining changes to the licensing legislation and guidance and updated Members on licensing matters.

The Government had announced a series of changes to licensing legislation and guidance that would affect East Northamptonshire Council, some of which was highlighted in a report to the previous committee meeting.

The Government were now proposing to keep personal licences and were recommending that licences would last indefinitely, rather than the 10 years covered by current legislation. The renewal for the original personal licences is November 2014, and it is not envisaged that the legislation will have been introduced in time to avoid the huge administrative burden which is envisaged.

A new mandatory condition had been added to all Premises Licences, both new and existing whereby "a relevant person shall ensure that no alcohol is sold or supplied for consumption on or off the premises for a price which is less than the permitted price". The HPM would circulate further information on other mandatory conditions to the Committee which had recently been received.

The Policy & Resources Committee had agreed to the introduction of boat licensing following a consultation with operators. A scheme had been introduced, with current operators being given a six month period in which to apply for their licences.

The Committee were provided with the latest draft Statement of Licensing Policy for Regulated Entertainment, Late Night Refreshment and the Sale of Alcohol. Consultations, both external and internal, had been carried out on the policy statement. It had been put together by Corby Borough Council, on behalf of the County.

Following discussions at a Licensing training event, the Committee would be required to review the document prior to it being presented to the Policy & Resources Committee for adoption at Council. Discussions at the training event related to individualising policy to make it more reflective of East Northamptonshire, although there needed to be a balanced approach to ensure consistency across the 7 authorities, Police, Trading Standards, Public Health and Fire. Observations made by members of the Committee on the draft Statement were noted by the HPM.

Discussions would be taking place in the House of Lords during October regarding the Taxi and Private Hire vehicle bills. The key proposals were

- To retain the two tier system
- Estimate fare prior to booking
- If picking up outside of authority boundary, both taxis and private hire must be pre booked
- Inclusion of stretch limousines
- Introduction of national standards
- Operators not restricted to operating in the area in which they are licensed
- Locally set Taxi fees but Private Hire set nationally

The process relating to the case management of Licensing Panels had recently changed and members of the Committee had been provided with the changes. The Committee noted that the report was very comprehensive and well written.

**RESOLVED:**

That the report be noted.

**145. EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC AND PRESS**

**RESOLVED:**

That the public and press be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following items of business because exempt information, as defined under paragraphs 1 and 7 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 may be disclosed.

**146. LICENSING ACTIVITY AND UPDATE REPORT**

The Committee received a report detailing applications received under the Licensing Act 2003 in the previous six months, broken down into new licences and licence variations, Temporary Event Notices and personal licence applications received.

A representative from Northamptonshire Police attended to provide details on crime related activity and A & E statistics within the district of East Northamptonshire.

**RESOLVED:**

That the contents of the report be noted

**Chairman**