

**STATUTORY LICENSING COMMITTEE**

Minutes of a remote meeting held on 9<sup>th</sup> March, 2021.

The Committee agenda is available [here](#).

**Present:** Councillor J.W. Thomas (Chairman); Councillor O. Griffiths (Vice-Chairman); Councillors Ms. J. Aviet, Mrs. J.E. Charles, R. Crowley, Mrs. P. Drake, V.P. Driscoll, K.F. McCaffer, Mrs. A. Moore, M.J.G Morgan, Mrs. J.M. Norman, Mrs. R. Nugent-Finn, S.T. Wiliam and Mrs. M.R. Wilkinson.

**448 APOLOGY FOR ABSENCE –**

This was received from Councillor Ms. M. Wright.

**449 MINUTES –**

**RESOLVED – T H A T** the minutes of the meeting held on 15<sup>th</sup> January, 2019 be approved as a correct record.

**450 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST –**

No declarations were received.

**451 LICENSING ACT 2003; REVIEW OF STATEMENT OF LICENSING POLICY FOR 2021-2026 (DEH) –**

The Licensing Team Manager presented the report which sought approval to undertake the statutory consultation required to renew the Statement of Licensing Policy and detailed the prescribed process, including referrals to Cabinet, and finally Council for adoption.

The report highlighted that at a time when the authority would normally have been reviewing its Licensing Policy, it had faced the challenges of dealing with the Covid-19 pandemic. Consideration had therefore been given to the fact that many hospitality venues had been closed for periods during 2020 and may have faced the challenge of adapting their premises and services to the new safety measures needed to protect customers and staff. The Council did not have new evidence of any major concerns or trends which would warrant the introduction of new policies within the Statement.

A copy of the draft Statement of Licensing Policy was attached at Appendix A to the report, with amendments in red text which brought the policy up to date with the Council's current corporate priorities. The Officer drew Members' attention to section 8 of the draft policy wherein reference to the Council's Licensing Privacy Notice had

been added, and section 11 which had been amended to make reference to the undertaking of Sub Committee hearings remotely. The draft policy also highlighted that the Licensing Authority was under a legal duty to review the Statement of Licensing Policy every five years, and the proposal was therefore to consult on the basis of renewing the current Statement of Policy in 2021 and initiating a further review again when the Authority and its partner agencies would hopefully be in a better position to look at evidence of new trends or issues affecting the licensing objectives.

In response to a query regarding what guidance licensed premises would be given should they be permitted to re-open following the current lockdown on the basis of using their outdoor areas which were not always licensed, the Officer referred to the guidance Welsh Government had provided regarding the measures to be adopted by premises when the previous lockdown in 2020 had been lifted, and advised that premises should again refer to this guidance upon any lifting of current restrictions.

Having fully considered the report it was subsequently

RESOLVED – T H A T the approach to the publication of the Vale of Glamorgan Statement of Licensing Policy for the period 2021-2026 be endorsed.

#### Reason for decision

- (1) To ensure that the Council fulfils its statutory duty as a licensing authority.
- (2) The licensing authority must, when undertaking its functions, have regard to the four licensing objectives:
  - The prevention of crime and disorder;
  - Public safety;
  - The prevention of public nuisance; and
  - The protection of children from harm.