

Licensing Committee

Wednesday, 03 October 2018

Attendees: Councillor Roger Buston, Councillor Nick Cope, Councillor Simon Crow, Councillor Paul Dundas, Councillor Darius Laws, Councillor Julie Young

Substitutes: Councillor Theresa Higgins (for Councillor Mike Hogg), Councillor Pauline Hazell (for Councillor Patricia Moore)

Also Present:

69 Minutes of Previous Meeting

Councillor Cope was of the view that minute number 64, Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Licensing Policy, did not adequately reflect the clarification he was seeking in relation to the legal stance of CCTV with regards to the Town Police Clauses Act 1847 and the Local (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976.

RESOLVED that arrangements be made for minute no 64 to be redrafted and the consideration of the minutes of the meeting held on 29 August be deferred to the next meeting of the Committee.

70 Revised Statement of Gambling Licensing Policy 2019-2022

The Committee considered a report from the Assistant Director of Environment and were asked to agree the draft Gambling Policy 2019-2022 for the purposes of consultation and also agree to a commencement of a 4 week formal consultation process.

Sarah White informed the Committee that the Gambling Act 2005 required the policy to be reviewed every 3 years. The most significant change to the policy was the requirement that premises carry out a risk assessment. It was explained that work was ongoing on the creation of a Local Area Profile and welcomed comments and thoughts from the Committee with regard to mapping risk areas and other areas of vulnerability, especially with regard to gambling.

The Committee mentioned areas near places like Emmaus, YMCA's, Alms-houses, Post Offices in known vulnerable areas, North Station Road and gambling establishments near/at sporting or training grounds. The Committee also spoke about online gambling and the likely effect this would have on people applying to open a betting shop. Sarah informed the Committee that there appeared to be a downward trend in applications to open betting establishments. The Committee then went on to speak about the potential

of underage gamblers/drinkers; it was acknowledged that in general premises were aware of their obligations and a lot of customers were known to them.

Jon then showed the Committee the Local Area Profile developed on C-Map which gave an idea of where gambling establishments were in the town centre and within the vicinity of churches, schools etc. He explained it was still in development and more information was to come from Public Health. This would assist establishments in determining where to locate. Jon informed the Committee that it was intended to review the information yearly and more frequently if possible.

The Committee asked whether this could be used to assist with planning and planning applications. Jon informed the Committee that it would be something that they would need to investigate.

The Committee thanked and acknowledged the work that had gone into the report.

RESOLVED –

The Committee agreed the draft Gambling Policy 2019-2022 for the purposes of consultation and also to the commencement of a 4 week formal consultation process; with the Gambling Policy going to Full Council on 6 December 2018.