



## **Update on the Licensing Policy**

### **SUMMARY**

- 1.1 The report summarises the process involved in developing the latest version of the Licensing Policy.

### **RECOMMENDATION**

- 2.1 To consider and comment on the amended version of the policy which came in to effect on 1 January 2011.

### **REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION**

- 3.1 The latest policy incorporates the views put forward by my members as part of their review conducted in 2009. We need to give time to reflect on whether the amendments introduced in the new policy are delivering the desired outcomes.

### **SUPPORTING INFORMATION**

- 4.1 A Licensing Policy provides councillors on the Licensing Committee with guidance and powers to make decisions on licensing applications. It also helps licence applicants, residents and business to understand the basis on which the Council makes their decisions. Licensing Policies have to reflect national policies. Derby's Licensing policy came into effect on 7 February 2005 and incorporated the requirements of the Licensing Act 2003.
- 4.2 In July 2008 a motion was put to the Council requesting the Licensing Committee to work with the relevant Overview and Scrutiny Commission and undertake a major review of the Council's Licensing Policy. Members felt the policy was not strong enough to slow an increase in late license applications outside the city centre deal with crime and anti social behaviour activities caused by excess alcohol. Members were also concerned about the ability of young people to gain access to alcohol when they should not be entitled to do so, the poor management of some licensed premises and considers that felt that the enforcement of the regulations relating to underage selling could be more stringent. The policy was reviewed by the Licensing Committee and SMC and a report recommending an action plan approved by the Licensing Committee in September 2009.

4.3 The SMC received an update to the action plan in September 2010 who were satisfied with the progress which showed that almost all of the recommendations had been implemented and requested feedback on the cumulative effect of the high concentration of licensed premises in Derby. The Policy has been amended and a revised version has been in use since 1 January 2011. Its purpose is to:

- Secure the safety and amenity of our communities
- Help to promote safe and sustainable licensed trade that contributes to the economy and vibrancy of the City
- Reflect the needs of the City's community in relation to its culture and diversity. This will be achieved by supporting licensable activities, including live music, dancing, theatre and other cultural developments
- A recognition of the needs of residents for a safe and healthy environment in which to live
- Work with other partners, such as Derbyshire Constabulary, Derbyshire Fire & Rescue Service, and commercial partners.

4.4 Members are asked to note the amended version of the Licensing Policy.

#### OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

5.1 None.

This report has been approved by the following officers:

Legal officer Financial officer Human Resources officer Service Director(s) Other(s)
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For more information contact: Background papers: List of appendices:	Name 01332 255597 e-mail mahroof.hussain@derby.gov.uk None Appendix 1 – Implications
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#### Appendix 1

#### IMPLICATIONS

Financial

4.1 None arising from this report.

## **Legal**

- 2.1 The Commission has the statutory Crime and Disorder Committee responsibilities.

## **Personnel**

- 3.1 None directly arising from this report.

## **Equalities Impact**

- 4.1 None Directly arising from this report.

## **Health and Safety**

- 5.1 None arising from this report

## **Carbon commitment**

- 6.1 None arising from this report

## **Value for money**

- 7.1 None.

## **Corporate objectives and priorities for change**

- 8.1 Our aim is to work together so that all people in Derby will enjoy being safe and feeling safe.