

Time commenced 6:00 pm
Time finished 8:17 pm

**GENERAL LICENSING COMMITTEE
24 JANUARY 2013**

Present: Councillor Jackson (in the Chair)
Councillors Barker, Harwood, J Khan, MacDonald, Pegg, Poulter,
Redfern, Skelton, Whitby and L Winter

26/12 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Atwal, Keith, Sandhu and F Winter.

27/12 Late Items to be introduced by the Chair

There were no late items.

28/12 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

29/12 Alcohol Strategy Consultation

The Committee considered a report which stated that the Home Office had issued a consultation document on delivering the Government's policies to cut alcohol fuelled crime and anti-social behaviour. The report provided information on the consultation process and proposed draft responses to the questions that had been set out.

Following a full debate on each question in the consultation the Committee agreed responses as set out in the appendix to these minutes.

Resolved to support all the answers and comment set out in the appendix to these minutes.

Alcohol Strategy Consultation

alcohol.
Question 1 – Members did not support a minimum pricing of units of

Question 2 – Not applicable.

Question 3 – If used, minimum unit price should be reviewed after a set period of time. We believe more emphasis should be focussed on alternative ways of tackling higher strength products.

Question 4 – As per report.

Question 5 – Members did not support this proposal.

Question 6 – Not applicable.

Question 7 – If introduced, multi-buy promotions were just as applicable to the on-licensed trade.

Question 8 – As per report.

Question 9 – As per report.

Question 10 – As per report.

Question 11 – Members would like more information about labelling of unit levels particularly in relation to cocktails / mixed drinks.

Question 12 – As per report.

Question 13 – As per report but to include age data collection at A&E and a recommendation that Government considers increasing the age of consent to purchase alcohol.

Question 14 – As per report.

Question 15 – As per report.

Question 16 – As per report.

Question 17 – As per report.

Question 18 – Not applicable

Question 19 – Not applicable

Question 20 – As per report – add wording about why not supporting deregulation.

Question 21 – As per report.

Question 22 – As per report.

Question 23 – As per report.

Question 24 – Not applicable

Question 25 – As per report.

Question 26 – As per report.

Question 27 – As per report.

Question 28 – Yes but only for late night refreshment, not alcohol.

Question 29 – As per report.

Question 30 -

a-as per report

b-as per report

c-yes – bona fide residents only

d-Do not agree. Need to control personal licence holders and issues have not been addressed properly. Include comments made in previous consultation response and personal licence renewal process.

Question 31 -

a-as per report

b-as per report

c-Yes

d-as per report

Question 32 -

a-Yes

b-as per report

c-No

d-Yes

Question 33 – As per report with addition of ‘and be controlled by the Licensing Authority’ and acknowledge that licence holders should be required to notify the Local Authority of any relevant convictions or other intervention by a Local Authority.

Question 34 – As per report.

Question 35 – As per report.

Other comments – Members were concerned that this was not a consultation as there was an expressed government commitment to introduce the changes, giving rise to the inescapable conclusion therefore that the consultation process was merely a box ticking exercise.

There was an inability to control personal licences and no power to revoke them. There was no provision to test ability, or to challenge continuing entitlement because the database which was promised was not forthcoming.

The licence fee should cover the cost of administering the licences, as the work involved was not reflected in the fee charged.

We have experienced cases whereby individuals (sometimes under 18) were being intimidated into selling alcohol to them by people also under age. More needed to be done to prevent this.

Consideration should be given to introducing a power for the Licensing Authority to be able to immediately revoke a premises licence under certain circumstances.

MINUTES END