

Time commenced – 6.00pm
Time finished – 6.10pm

**GENERAL LICENSING COMMITTEE
WEDNESDAY 9 JULY 2008**

Present: Councillor Redfern (in the Chair)
Councillors Baxter, Hussain, Leeming, Lowe, Rawson, Richards,
Skelton, Williams and Winter

01/08 Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Berry, Hird and Poulter.

02/08 Late items introduced by the Chair

In accordance with Section 100(B) (4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the Chair agreed to admit the following late item on the grounds that it could not wait until the next meeting.

- Request for Views on Controlling Lap Dancing Establishments

03/08 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

04/08 Minutes of the Previous Meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on 19 December 2007 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

**05/08 Request for Views on Controlling Lap
Dancing Establishments**

The Committee considered a report from the Director of Environmental Services to consider the request for views on the control of lap dancing clubs from the Department for Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS).

It was reported that the Government was concerned about the increase in the number of establishments which were putting on lap dancing and similar forms of

entertainment. They were aware that some local authorities and other stakeholders shared those concerns.

The Chair suggested that a Cross Party Working Group be formed to consider the request and formulate a response. Nominations were received for members of the working group.

Resolved that a Cross Party Working Group consisting of Councillors Redfern, Berry and Winter consider the request and formulate a response. Councillor Redfern would then respond to the Department for Culture, Media and Sport .

06/08 Amusements with Prize Machines in Licensed Premises

The Committee considered a report from the Director of Environmental Services on Amusements with Prize Machines in Licensed Premises. The process was complicated by the way in which these permits had been granted in the past. Some had been previously granted by the Magistrates' Court under the old alcohol licensing regime whilst others had been granted by the Council under the gaming legislation that applied at the time.

In the Council's 'Gambling Act 2005 - Statement of Principles', which was approved by the General Licensing Committee on 18 October 2006, applications for Amusement with Prizes permits from alcohol licensed premises fell into three categories:

- All can automatically apply for up to two amusement with prizes machines of categories C and/or D (new or renewal).
- The 'grandfather rights' are in place for premises that previously held a permit for more than two amusement with prizes machines under the magistrates' regime, and requested a renewal for the same number of machines or less.
- If a premises wishes to submit a new application for a permit to have more than two machines, then at the moment, an application for a permit must be submitted to the General Licensing Sub Committee for consideration.

Resolved:

1. To amend the number of machines the Assistant Director – Environmental Health and Trading Standards can authorise in a single Amusement with Prizes application;

2. To authorise the Assistant Director – Environmental Health and Trading Standards to grant all Amusement with Prizes Permits for up to five machines and to confirm that all new Amusements with Prizes Permit applications for more than five machines, or in respect of which representations have been received, are to be referred for determination by the Council's General Licensing Sub Committee.

MINUTES END