

Time commenced 6:00 pm  
Time finished 7.24pm

**GENERAL LICENSING COMMITTEE  
31 MARCH 2014**

**Present:** Councillor Jackson (Chair)  
Councillors Barker, Harwood, J Khan, Keith, Poulter, Redfern, Roberts,  
Sandhu, Skelton and Whitby

**39/13 Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Atwal, S Khan, F Winter and L Winter.

**40/13 Late Items to be Introduced**

There were no late items.

**41/13 Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

**42/12 A Consultation on Fees Under the Licensing Act 2003**

The Committee considered a report from the Strategic Director of Neighbourhoods considering a consultation on fees under the licensing act 2003. The officer reported that the consultation document contained information about the consultation process, details of the consultation questions being asked and a proposed response for consideration by Members. It was noted that the deadline for the response was 10 April 2014. The officer reported that the proposed responses would need to be considered by the Chief Executive and the Leader of the Council prior to the response being submitted.

The Committee were provided with a proposed response from the officers and an updated version was circulated at the meeting to include further comments from Members following publication of the report.

Members considered the responses and made further suggestions / comments accordingly.

The Committee felt that some of the questioning within the consultation document lacked precision and noted that this caused misperception amongst Members during the response process.

**Resolved:**

- 1. to agree the proposed responses provided by officers and to include the further suggestions by the Committee;**
- 2. to authorise the Service Director, Environmental and Regulatory Services to respond to the Home Office on behalf of the Council;**
- 3. to authorise the Service Director, Environmental and Regulatory Services to write to Norman Baker MP, on behalf of the Committee setting out their adversity in responding to the consultation due to the lack of precision on some questions within the consultation document.**