

LICENSING AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE MINUTES

15 JUNE 2010

Chairman: * Councillor Mano Dharmarajah

Councillors:

* Husain Akhtar	Ajay Maru
* Ramji Chauhan (3)	* John Nickolay
* Mrinal Choudhury	* Bill Phillips (5)
* John Cowan	* Raj Ray
* David Gawn	* Stanley Sheinwald
* Thaya Idaikkadar	* Krishna Suresh
* Krishna James	* Simon Williams

**In attendance:
(Councillors)** Sue Anderson
Varsha Parmar
Ben Wealthy

* Denotes Member present
(3) and (5) Denote category of Reserve Members
† Denotes apologies received

RECOMMENDED ITEMS

9. Recommendation I - Licensing Policy

The Committee received a report of the Corporate Director of Community and Environment that outlined the draft revised Licensing Policy for Harrow Council as the Licensing Authority and the responses to the consultation exercise in respect of it. An officer reported that:

- the licensing policy was a guide for submitting a licensing application and had been amended to capture legislative changes;

- the consultation process had taken place between 15 March and 21 May 2010. The draft policy had also been distributed to responsible authorities, existing premises licence holders and known local residents associations for comments. Officers had received two responses, one of which related planning issues. In response, officers had advised that planning matters did not form part of the licensing policy;

In response to questions raised by Members, officers advised that:

- licensing applications were considered and granted in accordance with the four licensing objectives, whereas, planning decisions were considered in accordance with planning legislation. Both applications were independent of each other, however, licensing applicants were advised to resolve any planning issues in order to operate according to their premises licence;
- applicants seeking planning permission could apply for a provisional licence and approach planning once the application was granted. Comments from licensing were invited when a planning application was made. Any changes made to a licensed premises may require planning consent and/or building regulations approval. Any new renovation work would require need to provide disabled access in accordance with current building regulations;
- officers response to comments received following the consultation process would be included in the report submitted to full Council on 8 July 2010;
- the licensing policy was reactive to other policies or initiatives that were implemented or exercised by the Council;
- if an isolated offence had been committed, officers would normally issue a written warning to a licensee advising them to discontinue any unauthorised activity. A simple caution was a formal legal sanction that was issued where licences were persistently breached. A record of this would remain on file for 3 years;

RESOLVED to Recommend: (to Council)

That the draft licensing policy be referred to full Council for approval.

RESOLVED: That the responses received following the consultation be noted.