

London Borough of Islington

**Licensing Committee - 20 November 2018**

Minutes of the meeting of the Licensing Committee held at Committee Room 4, Town Hall, Upper Street, N1 2UD - Islington Town Hall on 20 November 2018 at 6.30 pm.

**Present:**      **Councillors:**      Flora Williamson (Chair), Nick Wayne (Vice-Chair), Sheila Chapman, Paul Convery, Vivien Cutler, Phil Graham, Matt Nathan, Gary Poole and Michelline Ngongo.

**Councillor Flora Williamson in the Chair**

**5      APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE (Item 1)**

Apologies were received from Councillors Spall and Woodbyrne

**6      DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST (Item 2)**

There were no declarations of interest.

**7      MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING (Item 3)**

**RESOLVED:**

- 1)      That the minutes of the meeting held on 5 June 2018 be confirmed as an accurate record of proceedings, subject to the deletion of Councillor Chapman in the apologies and the inclusion of Councillor Champion, and the Chair be authorised to sign them.
  
- 2)      That Councillor Paul Convery replace Councillor Kadeema Woodbyrne on Licensing Sub D with effect from the 7 December 2018.

**8      DRAFT GAMBLING POLICY 2019-2022 (Item 1)**

The licensing manager reported that the Gambling Policy was reviewed every three years. There had not been many changes from the previous policy although local area profiles had now been introduced. The last application for a betting premises had been approved in 2013 and a few betting shops had closed.

In the discussion the following points were made:-

- Paragraph 41. Concern was raised regarding staff working alone and it was requested that this paragraph be strengthened. It was further noted that the spike in crime at certain times of the day be referenced in this paragraph in relation to standards of management.
- There was some inconsistency with terms in the report ie. the Gambling Act may be referred to as The Act, Islington Council may be referred to as the Local Authority or the Authority and these needed to be made more consistent.
- The wording in paragraph 3 needed further explanation where possible.

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- Concern was expressed regarding the data provided on page 24, particularly in relation to St Peter's ward. The licensing manager stated that she would refer back to officers in Public Health to ensure that the crime data provided was accurate.
- Noted the typing error on page 24, Gambling 'Riak' Index.
- Noted that there should be a robust approach to enforcement. The wording in paragraph 33 be amended to 'may be invited to an officer panel or reviewed immediately by the Sub-Committee'.
- It was considered that a paragraph be included, unless prohibited, stating that planning permission was expected to be obtained prior to the submission of a licensing application.
- Regarding paragraphs 45 and 47, applicants would need to show they had taken steps to prevent gambling from being a source of crime and disorder and to protect children and vulnerable persons from harm, particularly where premises were near to schools.
- It was noted that if a betting premises wished to become an adult gaming centre they would need to make a new application.

**RESOLVED** that the report be noted and the comments outlined above included in the draft policy.

The meeting ended at 7.05 pm

**CHAIR**