



Report of: **Service Director, Public Protection**

Meeting of	Date	Agenda Item	Ward(s)
Licensing Committee	7 March 2016		All

Delete as appropriate		Non-exempt
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Subject: **Late Night Levy – Annual Review**

1. Synopsis

- a. Appendix A contains the annual report for the first year of implementing the late Night Levy. It describes the activities funded by the Levy, levy income and expenditure as well as achievements and the impact on alcohol related crime and disorder.

2. Recommendations

- a. That the Committee notes the first annual report on the Late Night Levy.

3. Background

- a. Islington Council adopted the Late Night Levy to come into effect on 1st November 2014 and from that date any licence holder permitted sell alcohol after midnight was required to pay the levy. All income raised by the levy must fund activities that benefit the late night economy
- b. From the very outset the Council's intention has been to use the levy to fund additional uniformed night time patrols and this has been achieved through funding a dedicated multiagency team called Operation Nightsafe.
- c. The overall aim of Operation Nightsafe is to support and promote the late night economy in Islington by:

- i. providing a safe, welcoming night time environment for residents, workers and visitors
 - ii. reducing late night alcohol related crime, disorder, antisocial behaviour and nuisance
 - iii. minimising negative impacts on local residents.
- d. Operation Nightsafe has two distinct complementary strands
 - i. The deployment of both a rapid response and intelligence lead policing capability at night and day time follow up action
 - ii. The provision of a street based patrolling service, operated by Parkguard, with capacity to support to the licensed trade as well as providing police and medical support
- e. Appendix A contains a full description of
 - i. Activities funded by the levy
 - ii. Achievements
 - iii. Summary of levy income and expenditure
 - iv. Impact on alcohol related crime and disorder
 - v. a comprehensive review of Operation Nightsafe activities carried out by Parkguard Ltd
 - vi. a report from Community Safety on alcohol related crime and the night-time economy.

4. Implications

a. Financial

- i. All premises licence holders permitted to sell alcohol beyond midnight are required to pay the Late Night Levy. The amount payable is determined by the rateable value of the premises and is set nationally.
- ii. All income raised by the levy must be spent on activities that benefit the night time economy. At least 70% of the income raised must be allocated to the police to fund activities supported by them and no more than 30% can be used to fund late night council services. Islington Council and the Metropolitan Police, with agreement from the Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime, have agreed to pool income to fund activities described in appendix A.

b. Legal

- i. The Late Night Levy will apply indefinitely until the licensing authority decides that the levy will cease to apply in its area.
- ii. The Home Office amended guidance on the late night levy provides that licensing authorities may wish to review the requirements for the levy at appropriate intervals. The Council on 27 February 2014 decided that an annual review of the operation and effect of the levy should be prepared and the outcome of the review should be reported to the Licensing Committee.

c. Environmental

- i. An environmental impact scoping exercise has been carried out and it was identified that the Late Night Levy impacts positively on the environment, particularly minimising noise and nuisance.

d. Residents Impact Assessment

- i. The Council must, in the exercise of its functions, have due regard to the need to eliminate discrimination, harassment and victimisation, and to advance equality of opportunity, and foster good relations, between those who share a relevant protected characteristic and those who do not share it (section 149 Equality Act 2010). The Council has a duty to have due regard to the need to remove or minimise disadvantages, take steps to meet needs, in particular steps to take account of disabled persons' disabilities, and encourage people to participate in public life. The Council must have due regard to the need to tackle prejudice and promote understanding.
- ii. A Resident Impact Screening Assessment, completed on 13 February 2014, indicated no negative equality impacts arising from the adoption of the Late Night Levy.

5. Reason for Recommendation

- a. This is an update report summarising the activities and achievements that have been funded by the Late Night Levy over the last 12 months.

Appendices

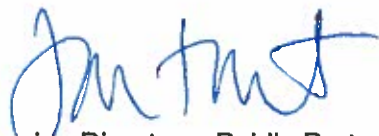
A Late Night Levy Annual Report 2014-5

Background papers:

None

Final Report Clearance

Signed by



Service Director – Public Protection

Date 25.2.16

Received by

Head of Scrutiny and Democratic Services

Date

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