

Bristol City Council

Minutes of the Licensing Committee

7 February 2019 at 10.00 am



Members Present:-

Councillors: Peter Abraham, Harriet Clough, Eleanor Combley, Chris Davies, Richard Eddy, Fi Hance, Hibaq Jama, Mike Langley, Brenda Massey, Paula O'Rourke and Chris Windows

Officers in Attendance:-

Nick Carter, Ashley Clark (Legal Advisor), Claudette Campbell (Democratic Services Officer) and Abigail Holman (Licensing Policy Advisor)

1. Welcome, Introductions and Safety Information

Democratic Services Officer, welcomed Members and advised that:

- The position of Chair had become vacant as a result of Cllr Pearce becoming a Cabinet Member
- Cllr Eddy proposed Cllr Langley as Chair, seconded by Cllr Massey

On being put to the vote

Resolved: (9 for, 0 against) that Cllr Langley be elected Chair of the Licensing Committee

- Note that Cllr Abraham and Cllr Jama arrived at the conclusion of the vote

Cllr Langley Chaired the meeting from this point.

2. Apologies for Absence.

- Cllr Whittle on Maternity Leave
- No other apologies received

3. Declarations of Interest

None

4. Public Forum



The statements received as Public Forum item was circulated to members and will be kept as a matter of public record.

5. Sex Establishment Policy Consultation

Nick Carter, Regulatory Services Manager, presented the report outlining the steps to be taken to move towards a wider consultation, recommending that Committee:

- Approve the draft policy for public consultation
- That the consultation on the draft policy runs from 1st March 2019 to 31st May 2019
- That authority is delegated to Officers to amend the draft policy following the consultation
- And for that amended policy to come back to Committee for final approval

The following was noted from the discussion:

- a. Members shared their concerns about the information included in the report. They took the view that the report should reflect the evidence based work that had taken place. Extensive preliminary work had taken place and those being consulted should be made aware of that fact. All agreed it was not member's intention to influence the outcome of the consultation but share the work in a way that provided reassurance that those commissioned with responsibility for this area of policy had taken the role seriously.
- b. Members requested officers consider revising the language used to report the outcomes of the surveys detailed in the consultation document. That the information is laid out in a way that aided understanding and followed logical feedback narrative.
- c. Officers explained that the report was written to ensure that those receiving the report would not conclude that the final policy had been pre-determined during the preliminary stages of the review.
- d. Members acknowledged that this should be avoided and a way must be found to ensure that the reports narrative remained objective but shared the information that the working group 'heard' without intimating the views of the groups.
- e. Members sought clarity on the extent of the proposed consultation. Officers advised that the consultation would be wide covering all partner agencies including the NHS.
- f. Members agreed that the report should be withdrawn and revisions made to include the matters considered by the working group.
- g. On being taken to the vote it was:

Resolved (unanimously) that the decision on the report be deferred; that officers revise the report to include the information shared with the working group; consult with the working group before the report is returned to committee for final decision.

6. Review of the Council's Statement of Licensing Policy.

Nick Carter, Regulatory Services Manager, presented the report that recommended the creation of an Officer & Member working group to engage and shape the policy.



- a) Members had no questions of clarification
- b) Members proposed the following members sit on the working group
 - Cllr Eddy
 - Cllr Clough
 - Cllr Massey
 - Cllr Langley
 - Cllr Combley

On being put to the vote:

Resolved: (unanimously) that the recommended activities outlined in the report are agreed; that the members listed above participate in the working group.

The meeting concluded at 10:30

Meeting ended at 10.30 am

CHAIR _____

