

# Bristol City Council

## Minutes of the Licensing Committee

8 May 2019 at 10.30 am



### **Members Present:-**

**Councillors:** Eleanor Combley, Chris Davies, Richard Eddy, Paul Goggin, Fi Hance, Margaret Hickman, Mike Langley, Brenda Massey and Paula O'Rourke

### **Officers in Attendance:-**

Nick Carter, Ashley Clark (Legal Advisor) and Claudette Campbell (Democratic Services Officer)

## **1. Welcome, Introductions and Safety Information**

The Chair led introductions and welcome those present.

## **2. Apologies for Absence.**

## **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 to a wider consultation during a three month period requesting that Committee agree the following recommendation:

- Approve the draft policy for public consultation
- Agree the consultation period - 24<sup>th</sup> May to 31<sup>st</sup> August 2019
- That Officers would amend the draft policy following the consultation and that it would be presented to Committee for formal approval



The following was noted from the discussion that followed:

- a. Members acknowledged that the report had far more substance than the report presented on the 7<sup>th</sup> February.
- b. A number of Members shared their concern about the information presented in the report. They had hoped to see evidence on the known impact of a nil cap and/or information to rebut the presumption that a nil cap would drive this area underground.
- c. They were of the view that the report presented to committee sought approval for a wider consultation to allow various organisations and individuals to be given an opportunity to make their views known. That by supporting the recommendation committee would be giving them an opportunity to do so.
- d. Members who sat on the working group shared that; they had carefully reviewed the information that was shared in the group sessions; that they approved the report, before committee, to allow for a wider consultation; that they had worked on reviewing the existing policy noting that the policy allowed for the establishment and monitoring of such venues.
- e. Officers replied to the various question posed by members; that policy allowed for 3 venues in the areas considered appropriate; that independent of this policy, the licensing act allowed license premises to convene 11 SEV acts in a 12 month period; that collating evidence on the impact of nil cap would require extensive resourcing, liaising with enforcement authorities and other regional authorities in an attempt to ascertain what is 'underground'; by its very nature it may prove difficult to find definitive information about Underground activities to feed into the consultation.
- f. Following a full discussion on the issues that arisen on reviewing the draft policy.
- g. It was moved that Committee support the recommendation and asked the Licensing Manager to do a specific piece of work on the issue of a nil cap.

**Resolved** ( 5 for and 4 against) that the recommendations outlined in the report be agreed; that Officers would during the consultation period liaise with Licensing Authorities with a nil cap in place, to seek evidence on the impact of that policy and the impact on other license venues.

**6. Appendix A Draft Policy**

**7. Appendix B Draft Conditions**

**8. Appendix C List of LA Policy Decisions**

**9. Appendix D Responses**

**a. Appendix E**

**10 Appendix F Summaries of responses**

**11 Appendix G Summary Report Questionnaire**

**a. Appendix H EqIA**



Meeting ended at 11.30 am

**CHAIR** \_\_\_\_\_

