

LICENSING POLICY WORKING GROUP

WEDNESDAY 11 JUNE 2003 AT 2.00PM

PRESENT: Councillors Bloxham, Morton and Parsons.

OFFICERS: J Messenger - Licensing Manager
B Blamires – Assistant Solicitor
E MacKay – Committee Clerk

LPWG.01/03 APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMAN

RESOLVED – That Councillor Morton be appointed Chairman of the Working Group.

LPWG.02/03 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

An apology for absence was submitted on behalf of Councillor Atkinson.

LPWG.03/03 LICENSING POLICY 2003 – STATEMENT OF LICENSING POLICY

Progress of the Licensing Bill 2003:

The Licensing Manager tabled a note updating Members on the progress with the Licensing Bill 2003. It was anticipated that the Bill would receive Royal Assent at the end of June or beginning of July 2003. The transitional period is due to commence on 1 January 2004 and a Licensing Policy must be in place by that date. During the 6 month transitional period, applicants will apply to the Council for Liquor Licences and this will run alongside Magistrates Licences. From 1 July 2004 the Council will take over Liquor Licensing. These dates are still provisional and will not be confirmed until the Bill receives Royal Assent.

Draft County Licensing Policy:

Mr Messenger then reported on progress with the Officer Group which is drafting a County Licensing Policy. This approach is favoured by Police and Fire Services and local authorities welcome it as long as there is some scope for local aspects to be incorporated. The Government had issued draft Guidance on Licensing Policy. This Guidance was being taken into account by the officer Group and it was anticipated that a draft Licensing Policy would be produced by the Officer Working Group on 24 June. The draft could then be considered and local organisations would then be consulted on the draft Policy

Consultation with Local Organisations

Mr Messenger advised that there was a requirement to consult with local organisations on the draft Licensing Policy. He tabled a list of proposed

consultees and asked Members to consider whether there should be any further additions to the list of consultees.

In response to Members' questions, Mr Messenger advised that in addition to circulating the draft Policy to consultees, an advert would be placed in the Cumberland News inviting interested parties to view and comment on the draft Policy. Members suggested that two adverts should be placed, with one aimed at all existing licence holders.

Councillor Morton stated that he had resigned from the General Committee of Carlisle Rugby Club to ensure that there would not be a conflict of interest.

There may also be a requirement to educate existing Licence Holders on the new arrangements. Seminars would have to be arranged at a future time.

Members also suggested that the Magistrates Clerk and Fire and Police representatives should be invited to a future meeting of the Working Group.

RESOLVED – (1) That **in addition** to the consultees set out in the list tabled by the Licensing Manager, the following organisations be consulted:

- Carlisle Hospitals Trust
- Carlisle and District Primary Care Trust
- Eden Valley Primary Care Trust
- Cumbria Ambulance Service
- British Transport Police
- All private Club premises certificate holders
- Local Law Society – Licensing Manager to speak to them re consultation with local solicitors
- Parish Councils Association – Administrator is Clive Moth
- Housing Associations – HOME HA, Anchor HA, Impact HA, Two Castles HA, Carlisle HA

(2) That two adverts be placed in the Cumberland News, as follows:

- (a) One aimed at existing Licence Holders inviting them to view and comment on the Policy and advising that it is intended to hold a seminar.
- (b) One more general advert stating that views would be welcomed from religious organisations, ethnic minority groups and residents.

(3) That future meetings of the Licensing Policy Working Group be held on:

- Friday 27 June 2003 at 10.00am
- Tuesday 22 July 2003 at 10.00am – The Licensing Manager to invite representatives of the Police and Fire Services and the Magistrates Clerk to this meeting.

Meeting ended at 2.45pm