



RHONDDA CYNON TAF COUNCIL LICENSING ACT 2003

Minutes of the meeting of the Licensing Act 2003 held on Tuesday, 11 June 2019 at 4.30 pm at the Council Chamber, The Pavilions, Cambrian Park. Clydach Vale, Tonypany, CF40 2XX.

County Borough Councillors - Licensing Act 2003 Members in attendance:-

Councillor A Fox (Chair)

Councillor D Williams	Councillor S Bradwick
Councillor E Webster	Councillor T Williams
Councillor L Jones	Councillor W Lewis
Councillor S Morgans	Councillor A Cox

Officers in attendance:-

Ms L Davies, Service Director – Public Protection Services
Mr P Nicholls, Service Director, Legal Services
Ms R Hope, Health Protection and Licensing Service Manager
Mr G Black, Community Safety and Strategic Partnerships Manager
Mr M Owen, Assistant Licensing Manager

1 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from County Borough Councillors S. Powderhill and P. Howe.

2 Declaration of Interest

In accordance with the Council's Code of Conduct, there were no declarations made pertaining to the agenda.

3 Human Rights Act 1997 and Crime and Disorder Act

It was **RESOLVED** to note that when Members determine the licensing and registration matters before them, they have a duty not to act in a manner that is incompatible with the convention on Human Rights and the Crime and Disorder Act.

4 Minutes

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the minutes of the 12th March 2019 as an accurate reflection of the meeting.

5 Review of the Licensing Act 2003 & Gambling Act 2005

The Service Director, Public Protection provided the Committee with a quarterly report on relevant issues with regard to the Licensing Act 2003 and the Gambling Act 2005, together with ancillary matters arising from the

responsibilities charged to the Committee.

It was reported that there had been a decrease in number of Temporary Events Notices (TEN's), which was reflective of the time of year following the busy Christmas period. However, a number of TEN's had been held over the various Bank Holidays and because of the approaching summer months, there had been an increase in outdoor events such as open-air markets.

The Service Director reported the outcome of a contested application, which was considered within the period, namely Chippy Plus, whereby the Sub Committee resolved to refuse the application for variation of a premises licence. The Service Director confirmed that there was one pending Review, which was due to be heard on 20th June 2019, the outcome of which would be reported to the next appropriate meeting of the Licensing Committee (sitting in its role under the Licensing Act 2003).

The Service Director referred Members to section 4.3 of the report where the premises inspections and infringements were outlined. Members were pleased to learn that 89% of premises inspected were broadly compliant and that officers were in the process of developing specific action plans for licence holders to reach compliance. The Service Director hoped that the work would increase the percentage of compliance by the next reporting period.

The Officer provided the Committee with an overview of the work undertaken by the Licensing teams in conjunction with Police Licensing teams across Cynon, Rhondda and Taf areas for the period. Members learned that officers had worked closely with licensees for upcoming events, including an Ale and Gin festival in Treorchy and Pontypridd Big Weekend, to ensure safety and success. It was pleasing to learn the attendance and engagement at pub watch meetings for the period had been positive, with a decrease in the number of complaints received. The Service Director was also pleased to announce the following test purchases exercises undertaken by Licensing and Trading Standards for potential alcohol sales to under 18's, no sales were made.

The Service Director advised Members that the Licensing Authority were part of a recently set up working group to discuss the introduction of an Alcohol Treatment Centre in Pontypridd. Although discussions were in the early stage, the centre would be led primarily by NHS, in the hope to alleviate the pressures on A&E. Members were interested to learn more about potential dates and the officer assured them that further updates would be provided in the near future.

Speaking of the Public Spaces Protection Order in Aberdare and Pontypridd Town Centres, the Service Director advised that the majority of instances had occurred in Pontypridd. Members learned that there had been 44 warnings to date, and five individuals who were referred to South Wales Police for further action following continued breaches. One Member questioned the difference between the County Borough PSPO and the specific PSPO imposed on Aberdare and Pontypridd parks. The Service Director explained that the County Borough PSPO states that it is an offence to consume alcohol in public spaces if it causes anti-social behaviour, but the specific PSPO for the Pontypridd and Aberdare Town Centres includes defined exclusion zones which prohibit the consumption of alcohol in public spaces. If a person does not surrender their alcohol to Enforcement Officers, then it is considered an offence for which a fixed penalty notice can be issued. Speaking of specific concerns at the Member's local park, the Service Director advised that in the first instance, the

Licensing Authority could review the issue and undertake work with the Friday Night Squad and Youth Engagement Team, before considering implementing a specific PSPO. It was explained that when considering the implementation of a specific PSPO, officers would need to gather sufficient evidence, which would show that the area is experiencing different problems to other areas. An example of this was a survey conducted at Aberdare and Pontypridd Town Centres, where local residents indicated that they felt unsafe at the parks.

Before concluding, the Service Director advised the Committee that the Licensing Authority were in the process of drafting the Licensing Act Statement of Policy, which was due for renewal in January 2020. The officer advised that a special meeting of the Committee would be called for July 2019, to provide Members with sufficient opportunity to be consulted upon.

It was **RESOLVED:-**

- a) To note the contents of the report in respect of the **Licensing Act 2003** and;
- b) To note the contents of the report in respect of the **Gambling Act 2005**.

6 To consider passing the under-mentioned Resolution:

It was **RESOLVED** that the press and public be excluded from the meeting under Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended) for the following items of business on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraph 13 of Part 4 of Schedule 12A of the Act.

7 Licences and Registrations issued under the provision of Delegated Powers for the period 18.02.19 - 26.05.19:

The Service Director, Public Protection provided the Committee with details of licences and registrations issued during the period of the 18th February 2019 and 26th May 2019.

Following discussions, it was **RESOLVED** to note the content of the report.

This meeting closed at 4.50 pm

**CLLR A FOX
CHAIR.**