

# LICENSING COMMITTEE REPORT

PRIVATE
6 <sup>th</sup> January 2016
Statement of Licensing Policy
Customers and Communities

#### 1. Purpose

1.1 To allow the committee to consider the proposed Statement of Licensing Policy (SOLP) and approve it for adoption by full Council on 29<sup>th</sup> January 2016

#### 2. Recommendations

2.1 That the Committee approve that the draft Statement of Licensing Policy be approved for adoption of it by the Full Council on 29<sup>th</sup> January 2016.

#### 3. Issues and Choices

#### 3.1 Report Background

- 3.1.1. In accordance with Section 5 Licensing Act 2003, the Council, as Licensing Authority, is required to adopt a Statement of Licensing Policy every five years. The Council's current Statement of Licensing Policy was adopted in January 2011 and requires fresh adoption prior to February 2016. This report seeks approval of the statement to be submitted for consultation prior to consideration of adoption of the Statement of Licensing Policy.
- 3.1.1 At the last committee hearing of the 15<sup>th</sup> September this Committee approved the 12 week consultation process which ended on the 28<sup>th</sup> December 2015.
- 3.1.2 7 responses to the consultation were received attached at Appendix A. Where relevant these have been incorporated into the document
- 3.1.3 Also attached is a table of changes at Appendix B

3.1.4 The amended Statement of Licensing Policy is at Appendix C

## 3.2 Issues

3.2.1. If the Committee has any further amendments to make they will need to be incorporated into the document before submission to meeting services on 15<sup>th</sup> January..

## 3.3 Choices (Options)

- 3.3.1. In arriving at a decision the committee have the following choices:-
- 3.3.2 To request amendments to the Policy prior to approval
- 3.3.3 To approve the document for Full Council

#### 4. Implications (including financial implications)

#### 4.1 Policy

4.1.1 This policy document must be reviewed as required by Section 5 Licensing Act 2003.

#### 4.2 Resources and Risk (Financial)

4.2.1. The failure of the Authority to review, consult and publish the Statement of Licensing Policy every five years may result in a judicial review being brought against the Council.

# 4.3 Legal

- 4.3.1 The Statement of Licensing Policy Provides the framework in which the Licensing function is administered and the Council's adherence to the Licensing Act 2003.
- 4.3.2 The Licensing Act 2003 requires a statutory review of the Statement of Licensing Policy every 5 years. A review can be done if required before this period of time.
- 4.3.3 The Licensing Authority must have regard to the statutory guidance issued under Section 182 Licensing Act 2003 when drafting the policy and the latest version of the said guidance has been considered during the drafting of this policy.

#### 4.4. Equality

4.4.1. The decisions recommended through this paper have a remote or low relevance to the substance of the Equality Act. There is no perceived impact on end users.

# 4.6. Background Papers

.

4.6.1. Section 182 Guidance LA03 Northampton SOLP 2011 - 15

> Bill Edwards Senior Licensing Officer 01604 838986