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THIS IS A MEETING WHICH THE PUBLIC ARE ENTITLED TO ATTEND

3rd March 2021

Dear Sir/Madam

STATUTORY LICENSING COMMITTEE

A meeting of the Statutory Licensing Committee will be held in Virtually via Microsoft Teams on Monday, 8th March, 2021 at 2.00 pm.

Yours faithfully

Michelle Morris
Managing Director

AGENDA

Pages

1. SIMULTANEOUS TRANSLATION

You are welcome to use welsh at the meeting a minimum notice period of 3 working days is required should you wish to do so. A simultaneous translation will be provided if requested.

We welcome correspondence in the medium of Welsh or English. / Croesawn ohebiaith trwy gyfrwng y Gymraeg neu'r Saesneg.

Municipal Offices
Civic Centre
Ebbw Vale
NP23 6XB

Swyddfeydd Bwrdeisiol
Canolfan Dinesig
Glyn Ebwy
NP23 6XB

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lle gwell i fyw a gweithio

2. APOLOGIES

To receive.

**3. DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS AND
DISPENSATIONS**

To receive

**4. LICENSING ACT 2003 STATEMENT OF LICENSING
POLICY REVIEW 2021**

3 - 8

To consider the report of the Team Manager – Trading
Standards and Licensing.

To: Councillor D. Hancock (Chair)
Councillor W. Hodgins (Vice-Chair)
Councillor D. Bevan
Councillor G. L. Davies
Councillor M. Day
Councillor J. Hill
Councillor C. Meredith
Councillor K. Rowson
Councillor K. Pritchard
Councillor T. Smith
Councillor B. Thomas
Councillor G. Thomas
Councillor D. Wilkshire
Councillor B. Willis
Councillor L. Winnett

All other Members (for information)
Manager Director
Chief Officers

Agenda Item 4

Executive Committee and Council only

Date signed off by the Monitoring Officer:

Date signed off by the Section 151 Officer:

Committee: Statutory Licensing Committee

Date of meeting: 8th March 2021

Report Subject: Licensing Act 2003 Statement of Licensing Policy
Review 2021

Portfolio Holder: Statutory Licensing Committee

Report Submitted by: Steve Osborne, Team Manager – Trading
Standards and Licensing

Report Written by: Steve Osborne, Team Manager – Trading
Standards and Licensing

Reporting Pathway								
Directorate Management Team	Corporate Leadership Team	Portfolio Holder / Chair	Audit Committee	Democratic Services Committee	Scrutiny Committee	Executive Committee	Council	Statutory Licensing Committee
23.2.21								8.3.21

1. Purpose of the Report

- 1.1 This report seeks approval to consult on a revised Licensing Act 2003 Statement of Licensing Policy recently formulated in partnership with Gwent Licensing Authorities.

2. Scope and Background

- 2.1 The Licensing Act 2003 stipulates that each licensing authority publish a Licensing Policy which sets out the manner in which the Council will consider applications for licences in accordance with the Act. The Act also stipulates that the Council must review this policy every five years following consultation with various stakeholders and interested parties. The Council must consider any representations received, and determine if any changes are required to be made to the existing policy.
- 2.2 The current policy came into force in October 2016 and therefore the new updated policy must be implemented before October 2021.

2.3 Licensing Officers have been working in collaboration with the other Licensing Authorities in Gwent, including Gwent Police and the Health Board, in order to revise the policy in preparation for a formal policy review.

2.4 The Policy has now been formulated in draft version and it is therefore proposed that a consultation is undertaken with relevant licence holders under the Licensing Act 2003, Responsible Authorities, "Other Persons" such as interested parties (to include Councillors) and other groups and organisations. The matter will then be reported back to the Statutory Licensing Committee for consideration at the conclusion of the consultation.

2.3 Members may recall that a timetable for the review was reported to the Committee in February 2020, however, due to the ongoing Covid 19 pandemic, the process was delayed. In the meantime, all four other licensing authorities have now published their revised policies and Blaenau Gwent is now in a position to resume the process. An amended timetable is attached at **Appendix 1**.

3. Options for Recommendation

3.1 (Option 1 – Preferred Option)

That Members approve a consultation on the revised draft Statement of Licensing Policy, in accordance with the Licensing Act 2003. Following the consultation, the matter will be reported back to Licensing Committee to formally consider the draft Policy and consultation responses.

3.2 Option 2

That Members do not approve the consultation required under the Licensing Act 2003.

4. Evidence of how does this topic supports the achievement of the Corporate Plan / Statutory Responsibilities / Blaenau Gwent Well-being Plan

4.1 Links to the Corporate Plan and the Well-being plan are covered in any reports implementing or varying any area of work delivered

by the Licensing Team, and there are therefore no direct links to this report.

5. Implications Against Each Option

- 5.1 Budgetary implications - Only relatively minor financial implications are associated with the proposal to enter into a consultation on the policy. These are to cover postage costs and staff time.
- 5.4 Reputational risk – There are no reputational risks in approving the preferred option to consult on the Policy.
- 5.5 Legal implications – The Council is legally obliged to review its Statement of Licensing Policy in accordance with the Licensing Act 2003.
- 5.6 Resources – The global pandemic has placed the Authority under unprecedented pressures requiring flexibility from staff to help bolster the response to the pandemic while maintaining essential services such as licensing. There are however no resource implications in respect of this proposal other than responding to the demands on service during the consultation period.

6. Supporting Evidence

- 6.1 There is no relevant supporting evidence to include.

7. Monitoring Arrangements

- 7.1 Collation and reporting of consultation responses that may be received will be undertaken in due course.

Background Documents /Electronic Links

None

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APPENDIX 1

Licensing Act 2003 Proposed Policy Review Timetable

Feb 2021	Finalise draft policy and model pool of conditions in line with other Gwent LAs
8 March 2021	Report to Statutory Licensing Committee – Approval of Statutory Licensing Committee for consultation
March - May 2021	Consultation period
June 2021	Report to Statutory Licensing committee – responses to consultation and approval of final draft version of policy
End June 2021	Final amendments to draft version of policy
July/Sept 2021	Full Council for ratification of decision to approve final draft version of policy
Sept 2021	Publication of Licensing Act Policy
1 st Oct 2021	Commencement of Licensing Act Policy 2021

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