

CHILTERN DISTRICT COUNCIL
LICENSING AND REGULATION COMMITTEE - 2nd DECEMBER 2010

Background Papers, if any, are specified at the end of the Report

LICENSING ACT 2003 – STATEMENT OF LICENSING POLICY

Contact Officer: Ian Snudden 01494 732057

RECOMMENDATIONS

That Members consider the amended Statement of Licensing Policy and approval of the final policy and recommend it for approval by Full Council.

Report

- 1 The draft Statement of Licensing Policy was presented to the Licensing and Regulation Committee on 29th July 2010 and formal consultation has since taken place.
- 2 A table summarising the responses is detailed in **Appendix 9.1** and the amended Statement of Licensing Policy is presented in **Appendix 9.2**.

Special Saturation Policy

- 3 Central Government Guidance recommends that any adopted saturation policies are reviewed as to whether the policy is still valid. Therefore Members were asked to consider whether the saturation policies relating to Old Amersham and Chalfont St Peter should remain in place or not.
- 4 Officers were asked to review the boundaries of the cumulative impact areas and also to consider whether The Greyhound Inn should be included within the cumulative impact area of Chalfont St Peter. No representations were received in connection with this property and to date there is no evidence to suggest a need for the premises to be included.
- 5 Similarly, no representations have been received either for the removal, change or continuation of either of the Special Saturation Policies. However a letter was received concerning the advertising of premises licence applications in cumulative impact areas. This is appended as **Appendix 9.3**. The requirements for advertising applications are stipulated within the legislation and statutory guidance and random checks are made to ensure compliance. Where applicants have failed to comply with the requirements, they have generally been required to re-advertise and the consultation period has been extended so that no person has been prejudiced. All relevant applications are also required

to advertise in a local newspaper and all applications are advertised on the Chiltern DC website.

- 6 Paragraph 8.94 allows for licensing authorities to notify residents living in the vicinity of premises by circular of premises making an application, but this is not a statutory requirement. As members will appreciate any notification scheme will entail a cost in terms of administrative costs and postage and therefore it is recommended that the cost of administering such a scheme outweighs the benefit to be gained.
- 7 With the increasing requirement to reduce the costs incurred in delivering services the licensing team are currently investigating opportunities to better use the web site, twitter, emails and SMS messaging. Should Members consider that the council should notify residents in the vicinity of premises that a variation or change to a licence is requested the team can explore these low costs methods of notifying the community rather than issue letters to neighbouring premises. Any change to procedures will then be brought in following piloting of the approach and with the agreement of the portfolio holder and Chairman of this committee.

Background Papers: None
