

**DRAFT STATEMENT OF LICENSING POLICY**

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**1.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to seek Members approval of the Draft Statement of Licensing Policy in order that it may be circulated for consultation.

**2.0 BACKGROUND**

- 2.1 Section 5 of the Licensing Act 2003 requires a Licensing Authority to prepare and publish a statement of its Licensing Policy every three years.
- 2.2 The Council's Statement of Licensing Policy was first published in January 2005 and was reviewed and published in December 2007. The Policy is now due to be reviewed and published no later than December 2010.
- 2.3 Amendments have been made to the current Statement of Licensing Policy in accordance with updated Guidance issued under Section 182 of the Licensing Act 2003 and a revised Best Practice Framework produced by the Local Authorities Coordinators for Regulatory Services (LACORS). Additional information is also provided relating to the Temporary Event Notice procedure and the Licence Review process and an appendix provides a list of useful contacts. The draft also takes account of changes in legislation, including: the smoking restrictions that apply to premises and the change that provides that Members may make representations and request that the Licensing Authority review a Premises Licence or Club Premises Certificate.
- 2.4 The Draft Statement of Licensing Policy attached in Appendix 1 will be circulated to the following consultees. Amendments made to the Policy have been highlighted.
- The Chief Officer of Merseyside Police
  - The Chief Fire Officer
  - The Chief Officer of Mersey Regional Ambulance Service
  - The Director of Technical Services
  - Local Safeguarding Children Board
  - Wirral Trading Standards
  - Environmental Health (Health & Safety and Pollution Control)
  - Residents of Wirral, through random selection and Local Area Forums
  - National Breweries who have premises located in Wirral
  - British Beer & Pub Assn, North West Region
  - Musicians Union
  - Guild of Master Victuallers
  - Federation of Licensed Victuallers Associations
  - Cinema Exhibitors Association
  - British Retail Consortium
  - British Institute of Innkeeping
  - Bar, Entertainment and Dance Association
  - Association of Licensed Multiple Retailers

### **3.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

3.1 There are no financial implications arising out of this report.

### **4.0 STAFFING IMPLICATIONS**

4.1 There are no staffing implications arising out of this report.

### **5.0 EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES IMPLICATIONS**

5.1 The draft policy contains a clause (15.1) recognising the need to eliminate unlawful discrimination and promote equality of opportunities..

### **6.0 COMMUNITY SAFETY IMPLICATIONS**

6.1 Effective control of Licensing Legislation can assist in raising standards and improve the perception of community safety.

### **7.0 LOCAL AGENDA 21 IMPLICATIONS**

7.1 There are no Local Agenda 21 implications arising out of this report.

### **8.0 PLANNING IMPLICATIONS**

8.1 Section 10 of the draft policy refers to planning and building control issues and licensed premises.

### **9.0 ANTI-POVERTY IMPLICATIONS**

9.1 There are no anti-poverty implications arising out of this report.

### **10.0 SOCIAL INCLUSION IMPLICATIONS**

10.1 There are no social inclusion implications arising out of this report.

### **11.0 LOCAL MEMBER SUPPORT IMPLICATIONS**

11.1 The report affects the whole Borough.

### **12.0 BACKGROUND PAPERS**

12.1 There are no background papers.

### **13.0 RECOMMENDATIONS**

13.1 The purpose of this report is to seek Members approval of the Draft Statement of Licensing Policy in order that it may be circulated for consultation.

Bill Norman  
Director of Law, HR and Asset Management

This report was prepared by Margaret O'Donnell who can be contacted on 691 8606.