



LICENSING AND GAMBLING COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD IN THE SIRHOWY ROOM, PENALLTA HOUSE ON
THURSDAY, 13TH JULY 2017 AT 10.00 A.M.

PRESENT:

Councillor D.W.R. Preece - Chair

Councillors:

J. Bevan, W. David, M. Davies, K. Etheridge, Ms J. Gale, D.C. Harse, Mrs D. Price, J. Ridgewell, R. Whiting, L.G. Whittle, W. Williams

Together with:

M. McSherry (Licensing Manager), T. Rawson (Solicitor), S. Mock (Solicitor), R. Barrett (Committee Services Officer), J. Tyler (Administrative Assistant)

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors P.J. Bevan, M.P. James, and J. Simmonds (Vice Chair).

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest received at the commencement or during the course of the meeting.

3. IMPLEMENTATION OF IMMIGRATION ACT 2016 AND ASSOCIATED AMENDMENTS TO THE AUTHORITY'S STATEMENT OF LICENSING POLICY

The Licensing Manager presented the report, which outlined the implementation of the Immigration Act 2016 and the legislative changes it introduces to the Licensing Act 2003. The report recommended associated amendments to the Statement of Licensing Policy and sought the views of Members prior to its presentation to Council.

Members were advised that the Immigration Act 2016 amends the Licensing Act 2003 to introduce immigration safeguards in respect of particular licence types, which commenced on 6th April 2017. The changes also include Home Office Immigration Enforcement being listed as being a Responsible Authority and given powers of entry to licensed premises. The Statement of Licensing Policy that was approved by Council on 17th November 2015 therefore requires amendment to accommodate these changes.

It was noted that the new legislation places an obligation on the Council to check an applicant's immigration status and right to work in the UK for certain licence types. Members queried the associated costs and impact on workload arising from this legislation. It was confirmed that some minor amendments had been required to application forms, and that Officers are able to contact the UK Visas and Immigration helpline in the event of any eligibility queries. Members were also advised that any costs have been absorbed into existing budgets as part of normal Licensing requirements.

Following discussion on the content of the report, the Licensing and Gambling Committee noted the changes to the Licensing Act 2003 as a consequence of the Immigration Act 2016,

It was moved and seconded that the following recommendations be forwarded to Council for approval. By a show of hands, this was unanimously agreed.

RECOMMENDED to Council that:-

- (i) the changes to the Licensing Act 2003 as a consequence of the Immigration Act 2016 be noted;
- (ii) the Licensing Policy be amended to incorporate the relevant changes as a result of the Immigration Act 2016, and Home Office Immigration Enforcement be added to the list of Responsible Authorities.

The meeting closed at 10.08 a.m.