

RIBBLE VALLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL REPORT TO LICENSING COMMITTEE

Agenda Item No. 8

meeting date: TUESDAY, 12 APRIL 2016
title: REFORMS TO THE LICENSING ACT 2003
submitted by: CHIEF EXECUTIVE
principal author: MAIR HILL - SOLICITOR

1 PURPOSE

1.1 To inform Committee of the proposed reform of the Licensing Act 2003.

1.2 Relevance to the Council's ambitions and priorities:

- Community Objectives - }
- Corporate Priorities - } The Council aims to be a well-managed authority
these proposals support that objective.
- Other Considerations - }

2. BACKGROUND

2.1 The Policing and Crime Bill was introduced to Parliament on 10 February 2016. The Bill proposes various amendments to the Licensing Act 2003 which are outlined below. The Bill has been published on the Parliament website, and Part 7 is the relevant part: <http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2015-16/policingandcrime.html>.

2.2 In celebration of the Queen's 90th birthday the Government have announced proposed relaxation of the licensing laws as detailed below on the weekend 11-12 June 2016. These are detailed below.

3. ISSUES

3.1 The Police and Crime Bill will, if approved, make the following amendments to the Licensing Act 2003:

- Amending the definition of alcohol to ensure that powdered alcohol and vapourised alcohol fall within the definition.
- Amending the summary review process to allow licensing authorities to keep interim steps in place between the review hearing and the outcome of any appeal. Also amending s.53B to limit the number of times a licensee can make representations against the interim steps before the review hearing.
- Giving licensing authorities the power to revoke or suspend a personal licence when someone is convicted of a relevant offence.
- Adding to the list of relevant offences.
- Removing the requirement to lay the 182 Guidance before Parliament when it is revised. (The guidance will retain its statutory status.)

3.2 The Government has also announced that on the weekend of the Queen's birthday (subject to the normal consultation processes) pubs which are licensed to trade until 11pm will be allowed to open to 1am on Saturday, 11 June and 1am on Sunday,

12 June. The Government will consult on the proposals with relevant parties including licensing authorities, industry and community groups in the normal way.

4 RISK ASSESSMENT

4.1 The approval of this report may have the following implications:

- Resources – No implications identified.
- Technical, Environmental and Legal –_No implications identified.
- Political – No implications identified.
- Reputation – No implications identified.
- Equality & Diversity – No implications identified.

5 CONCLUSION

5.1 Committee is asked to note the contents of the report.

MAIR HILL
SOLICITOR

MARSHAL SCOTT
CHIEF EXECUTIVE

BACKGROUND PAPERS

None.

For further information please ask for Mair Hill, extension 3216.

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