

REPORT TO: Executive Board

DATE: 15 November 2007

REPORTING OFFICER: Council Solicitor

SUBJECT: Licensing Act 2003 Statement of Licensing Policy

WARDS: Boroughwide

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

To recommend the Council to adopt the Statement of Licensing Policy attached to this report.

2. RECOMMENDED: That the Council adopt the Statement of Licensing Policy considered at its meeting on 20 September 2007.

3. SUPPORTING INFORMATION

- 3.1 The Licensing Act 2003 requires the Council to adopt a Statement of Licensing Policy and to review the policy every three years. Prior to any review the Council must carry out a consultation exercise. The review of the Council's existing policy must be completed by January 2008. The Statement of Licensing Policy sets out the broad approach of the Council in its approach to its licensing functions under the 2003 Act.
- 3.2 On 20 September 2007 the Council authorised a consultation exercise to be undertaken to review the Councils Statement of Licensing Policy (Minute EXB 38).
- 3.3 A consultation exercise was then undertaken in respect of the draft statement. The consultation period ended on 19 October 2007.
- 3.4 Only one response was received to the consultation exercise and this was from the British Beer and Pub Association. They commented that they welcome this Councils positive approach to the licensing of the sale of alcohol and the provision of public entertainment and in particular its recognition of the cultural and social contribution that the trade has to make and also its importance as a local employer. They further commented that the draft policy has also recognised one of the key principles of the Licensing Act 2003 namely that each application is treated on its own merits.

4. POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Once adopted, the statement of licensing policy will be used by applicants and the Regulatory Committee in accordance with the Licensing Act 2003.

5. OTHER IMPLICATIONS

There are no other implications arising out of this report.

6 IMPLICATIONS FOR THE COUNCILS PRIORITIES

6.1 Children and Young People in Halton

There are no new implications arising out of this report.

6.2 Employment Learning and Skills in Halton

There are no new implications arising out of this report.

6.3 A Healthy Halton

There are no new implications arising out of this report.

6.4 A Safer Halton

There are no new implications arising out of this report.

6.5 Halton's Urban Renewal

There are no new implications arising out of this report.

7. RISK ANALYSIS

N/A

8. EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY ISSUES

N/A

9 LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS UNDER SECTION 100D LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972

This report is based on the Licensing Act 2003 and the written responses to the consultation exercise. In addition the DCMS and LACORS web-sites have provided background information.