



## Licensing Committee

MINUTES of the OPEN section of the Licensing Committee held on Tuesday 11 February 2025 at 6.00 pm at Ground Floor Meeting Room G01A - 160 Tooley Street, London SE1 2QH

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**PRESENT:** Councillor Renata Hamvas (Chair)  
Councillor Jane Salmon  
Councillor Suzanne Abachor  
Councillor Sunil Chopra  
Councillor Barrie Hargrove  
Councillor Margy Newens  
Councillor Andy Simmons  
Councillor Charlie Smith  
Councillor Kath Whittam

**OFFICER SUPPORT:** Charlotte Precious, legal officer  
Wesley McArthur, licensing officer  
Andrew Weir, constitutional officer

### 1. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Ellie Cumbo, Sunny Lambe, Maria Linforth-Hall, Emily Tester and Ian Wingfield.

### 2. CONFIRMATION OF VOTING MEMBERS

Those members listed as present were confirmed as the voting members for the meeting.

### 3. NOTIFICATION OF ANY ITEMS OF BUSINESS WHICH THE CHAIR DEEMS URGENT

There were no late and urgent items.

The chair advised she would like to mention some things that the other members should think about in relation to the licensing policy, prior to the next committee

meeting.

The chair advised that she would also like to update the members regarding the Institute of licensing conference that she had attended.

#### **4. DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS AND DISPENSATIONS**

There were none.

#### **5. MINUTES FROM THE LICENSING SUB-COMMITTEES**

There were no amendments to the minutes.

##### **RESOLVED:**

That the minutes of the meeting held on 20 June 2023 be approved as a correct record and signed by the chair.

#### **6. THE GAMBLING ACT 2005: RENEWAL OF THE STATEMENT OF GAMBLING LICENSING POLICY 2025-2028**

The principal licensing officer presented the report. There was a brief discussion and members had questions for the principal licensing officer.

The committee made no further amendments to the gambling policy.

##### **RESOLVED:**

- a) That the Southwark statement of gambling licensing policy 2025-2028, provided in Appendix A be approved.
- b) That it be recommended that council assembly agrees to the publication of the Southwark statement of gambling licensing policy for 2025-2028, provided in Appendix A.

#### **7. THE LICENSING ACT 2003: REMOTE LICENSING SUB-COMMITTEE HEARINGS**

The legal officer presented the report.

There was a brief discussion and members had questions for the legal officer.

**RESOLVED:**

- a) That all full licensing committee meetings shall take place in person.
- b) That there shall be a combination of remote and in-person licensing sub-committee hearings as set out below in the amended option C:

**Option C: There is a combination of remote and in person hearings.**

This would include:

- Due to the powers available to a sub-committee includes a revocation of a premises licence, it is proposed that all reviews under the Licensing Act 2003 to be held in person. The only exemptions to this would be Section 53B interim steps hearings and representations against interim steps hearings, due to emergency nature of the applications and the very short statutory timeframe these applications need to be heard by.
- All other Licensing Act 2003 related applications licensing sub-committees to be held remotely.
- All non-Licensing Act 2003 related licensing sub-committees to return to be held in person. This would include hearings under the Gambling Act 2005, markets applications under the Food Act 1984 and special treatments licence applications under the London Local Authority Act 1990, which are low in number.
- For equality and for procedural fairness, any individual that has submitted a representation to any application and:
  - Is physically unable to attend a sub-committee hearing; or
  - Is unable to attend a sub-committee hearing due to reasons related to their religion and/belief;
  - Does not have access to the technology to attend a remote hearing

May request their attendance in their preferred format. This request must be made in writing within 15 working days before the meeting. The granting of any request will be at the discretion of the chair, in liaison with officers.

- c) That the proposed guidance on licensing sub-committee hearings, attached as Appendix A of the report be approved.

## **8. UPDATE ON RECENT APPEALS**

Debra Allday, the senior legal officer, was not present. Any updates on appeals would be circulated to members by email.

At this juncture the chair raised some points for the other members of the committee to consider.

As the proposed update to the licensing policy would be coming to the next committee meeting, the chair asked the members of the committee to think about any changes that they may wish to make to the policy.

The chair then gave the committee a brief summary of discussions from the Institute of Licensing conference, which she had recently attended.

The meeting ended at 6.55pm.

**CHAIR:**

**DATED:**