Licensing Chairs report to full Council 24th February 2016

Since my last report a Licensing Sub-Committee has met on two occasions and Licensing Committee once.

On the 23rd November 2016 a sub-committee met to consider two applications. A premise licence application for Lamb Stores, 2 Lamb Street, Kidsgrove. The committee were persuaded that the conditions put forward by the Police and Trading Standards and agreed by the applicant should be sufficient to meet the objections set out in petition submitted by residents. The Premise Licence was granted.

A vary a premise licence for the Albion Inn, 99 High Street, Newcastle. The application was to extend the terminal hour for the sale of alcohol and other licensable activities to 4am on Friday and Saturday. The application was refused.

On the 16th December 2016 a sub-committee met to consider a Premise Licence application for Whitmore Hall Estate.

The application was for licence to hold a music festival on land belonging to Whitmore Hall Estate.

After listening to evidence from local councillors, residents and the applicant the sub-committee went on a site visit before making their decision. The application was refused.

On the 21st January 2016 the Licensing Committee met to consider:-

A Premise Licence application for Embassy Grind Ltd. 45 King Street, Newcastle.

Staffordshire Police submitted representations on the basis that to grant the application would undermine the licensing objective relating to crime and disorder.

After discussions between the applicant and the police several conditions were agreed to be put on the licence.

The committee approved the conditions and granted the application.

Immigration Bill - New Licensing Powers.

The Government has published the Immigration Bill that places additional responsibilities on Licensing Authorities to take action where licence holders are found not to be entitled to work in the UK.

The Bill sets out proposed amendments to the Licensing Act 2003 to add new sections and sub-sections regarding Premise Licences and Personal Licences. The committee will receive further updates when they are available.

Relaxation of Late Night Refreshment Licensing.

The committee received a presentation on the new rule relating to Late Night Refreshments.

The committee were asked to consider whether to pursue a policy that:

- (a) Exempts certain categories of premises from requiring a licence for hot food or drink after 23.00.
- (b) Designates areas where premises do not need a Premise Licence to sell hot food or drink after 23.00.
- (c) Stipulate that during periods between 23.00 and 05.00 premises may trade freely for the provision of hot food and drink without the need for a licence.

It was proposed and agreed that the committee recommends to full Council that the granting of any exemptions should be delegated to the Licensing Committee.

The committee deferred making a decision to a future meeting where officers will provide further information.

Temporary Event Notices.

The committee were given an update on the number of Temporary Event Notices that can be issued each year for the same area or premises. From the 1st January 2016 the permitted number of TEN's has increased from 12 to 15.

Trevor Hambleton Chair of Licensing