

REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF CITY SERVICES

LICENSING COMMITTEE – 31 OCTOBER 2011

LICENSING ACT 2003 AND GAMBLING ACT 2005 – REGULATORY ACTIVITY QUARTERLY REPORT JULY/SEPTEMBER 2011

1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To advise the Committee of the regulatory activity undertaken by Council officers in the period between July and September 2011 with regard to the Licensing Act 2003 and Gambling Act 2005.

2.0 DESCRIPTION OF DECISION

- 2.1 The Committee is requested to note the contents of the report.

3.0 INTRODUCTION/BACKGROUND

- 3.1 Under the Licensing Act 2003, Sunderland City Council has responsibility for licensing alcohol, regulated entertainment and late night refreshment within its area. This encompasses the determination, grant, administration and enforcement of premises licences, club premises certificates, personal licences and temporary event notices.
- 3.2 Under the Gambling Act 2005, Sunderland City Council has responsibility for licensing premises which provide facilities for gambling within its area. This encompasses the determination, grant, administration and enforcement of premises licences, gaming permits, lottery registration, occasional use notices and temporary use notices.

4.0 CURRENT POSITION

Licensing Act 2003 - Premises Licences

- 4.1 The Licensing Section processed eight applications for the grant of a new premises licence. The section also processed five applications to vary a premises licence.
- 4.2 The Licensing Section also processed seven applications for minor variations to premises licences, twenty two applications to transfer a premises licence and thirty one applications to vary the designated premises supervisors at licensed premises.
- 4.3 Additionally, two applications for reviews of premises licences were referred to Licensing Sub-Committees for consideration.

Personal Licences

- 4.4 The Licensing Section received and granted thirty three applications for a personal licence.

Temporary Event Notices

- 4.5 The Licensing Section received sixty nine temporary event notices.

Inspections

- 4.6 Officers from the Licensing Section carried out eight inspections of licensed premises. Two of these visits were to ensure that operators are complying with their licence conditions and a further six were as a result of complaints received about the premises.

Underage Sales

- 4.7 Officers from the Trading Standards Section sent child volunteers to attempt test purchases of alcohol at six licensed premises. As a result of these visits a number of fixed penalty notices were issued and prosecution reports are currently under consideration in relation to three instances of selling alcohol to persons under eighteen.

Gambling Act 2005

- 4.8 The Licensing Section processed two applications for the grant of new bingo premises licences. The section also processed two applications to vary bingo premises licence.

5.0 REASONS FOR THE DECISION

- 5.1 To advise the Committee of the regulatory activity of Council officers with regard to the Licensing Act 2003 and Gambling Act 2005 in the period from 1 July to 30 September 2011.

6.0 ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

- 6.1 None.

7.0 RELEVANT CONSIDERATIONS

- 7.1 None.

8.0 GLOSSARY

- 8.1 None.

9.0 LIST OF APPENDICIES

- 9.1 None.

10.0 BACKGROUND PAPERS

- 10.1 None.