

# LICENSING COMMITTEE

Tuesday, 13 December 2016 at 7.00 p.m.

The Council Chamber, 1st Floor, Town Hall, Mulberry Place,  
5 Clove Crescent, London, E14 2BG

The meeting is open to the public to attend.

**Members:**

**Chair:** Councillor Rajib Ahmed  
**Vice-Chair:** Councillor Peter Golds  
Councillor Khales Uddin Ahmed  
Councillor Amina Ali  
Councillor Sirajul Islam  
Councillor Mahbub Alam  
Councillor Shah Alam  
Councillor Dave Chesterton  
Councillor Suluk Ahmed  
Councillor Denise Jones  
Councillor Harun Miah  
Councillor Md. Maium Miah  
Councillor Joshua Peck  
Councillor Candida Ronald  
Councillor Vacancy

**Ward Represented**

Lansbury;  
Island Gardens;  
Bromley North;  
Bow East;  
Bethnal Green;  
St Dunstan's;  
Mile End;  
Blackwall & Cubitt Town;  
Spitalfields & Banglatown;  
St Katharine's & Wapping;  
Shadwell;  
Canary Wharf;  
Bow West;  
Blackwall & Cubitt Town;

[The quorum for this body is 3 Members]

**Contact for further enquiries:**

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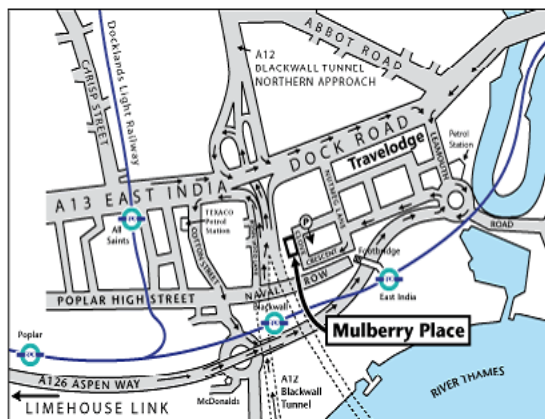
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## **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

### **1. DECLARATIONS OF DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTEREST (Pages 1 - 4)**

To note any declarations of interest made by Members, including those restricting Members from voting on the questions detailed in Section 106 of the Local Government Finance Act, 1992. See attached note from the Monitoring Officer.

<b>PAGE NUMBER</b>	<b>WARD(S) AFFECTED</b>
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### **2. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING (TO FOLLOW)**

To confirm the minutes of the meeting of the Licensing Committee held on 13.09.16 as an accurate record of the proceedings.

### **3. ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION**

- |  |                |
|--|----------------|
| <b>3.1 Application to Increase Licence Fee for the Tattoo Collective Event</b> | <b>5 - 12</b>  |
| <b>3.2 Community Alcohol Partnership and Best Bar None Review 2016/17</b>      | <b>13 - 30</b> |

### **4. ANY OTHER BUSINESS THAT THE CHAIR CONSIDERS URGENT**

#### **Next Meeting of the Licensing Committee**

Tuesday, 21 March 2017 at 7.00 p.m. to be held in The Council Chamber, 1st Floor, Town Hall, Mulberry Place, 5 Clove Crescent, London, E14 2BG

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# Agenda Item 1

## **DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS - NOTE FROM THE MONITORING OFFICER**

This note is for guidance only. For further details please consult the Members' Code of Conduct at Part 5.1 of the Council's Constitution.

Please note that the question of whether a Member has an interest in any matter, and whether or not that interest is a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest, is for that Member to decide. Advice is available from officers as listed below but they cannot make the decision for the Member. If in doubt as to the nature of an interest it is advisable to seek advice **prior** to attending a meeting.

### **Interests and Disclosable Pecuniary Interests (DPIs)**

You have an interest in any business of the authority where that business relates to or is likely to affect any of the persons, bodies or matters listed in section 4.1 (a) of the Code of Conduct; and might reasonably be regarded as affecting the well-being or financial position of yourself, a member of your family or a person with whom you have a close association, to a greater extent than the majority of other council tax payers, ratepayers or inhabitants of the ward affected.

You must notify the Monitoring Officer in writing of any such interest, for inclusion in the Register of Members' Interests which is available for public inspection and on the Council's Website.

Once you have recorded an interest in the Register, you are not then required to declare that interest at each meeting where the business is discussed, unless the interest is a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest (DPI).

A DPI is defined in Regulations as a pecuniary interest of any of the descriptions listed at **Appendix A** overleaf. Please note that a Member's DPIs include his/her own relevant interests and also those of his/her spouse or civil partner; or a person with whom the Member is living as husband and wife; or a person with whom the Member is living as if they were civil partners; if the Member is aware that that other person has the interest.

### **Effect of a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest on participation at meetings**

Where you have a DPI in any business of the Council you must, unless you have obtained a dispensation from the authority's Monitoring Officer following consideration by the Dispensations Sub-Committee of the Standards Advisory Committee:-

- not seek to improperly influence a decision about that business; and
- not exercise executive functions in relation to that business.

If you are present at a meeting where that business is discussed, you must:-

- Disclose to the meeting the existence and nature of the interest at the start of the meeting or when the interest becomes apparent, if later; and
- Leave the room (including any public viewing area) for the duration of consideration and decision on the item and not seek to influence the debate or decision

When declaring a DPI, Members should specify the nature of the interest and the agenda item to which the interest relates. This procedure is designed to assist the public's understanding of the meeting and to enable a full record to be made in the minutes of the meeting.

Where you have a DPI in any business of the authority which is not included in the Member's register of interests and you attend a meeting of the authority at which the business is considered, in addition to disclosing the interest to that meeting, you must also within 28 days notify the Monitoring Officer of the interest for inclusion in the Register.

### **Further advice**

For further advice please contact:-

Graham White, Acting Corporate Director of Law, Probity & Governance & Monitoring Officer,  
Telephone Number: 020 7364 4800


## APPENDIX A: Definition of a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest

(Relevant Authorities (Disclosable Pecuniary Interests) Regulations 2012, Reg 2 and Schedule)

Subject	Prescribed description
Employment, office, trade, profession or vacation	Any employment, office, trade, profession or vocation carried on for profit or gain.
Sponsorship	<p>Any payment or provision of any other financial benefit (other than from the relevant authority) made or provided within the relevant period in respect of any expenses incurred by the Member in carrying out duties as a member, or towards the election expenses of the Member.</p> <p>This includes any payment or financial benefit from a trade union within the meaning of the Trade Union and Labour Relations (Consolidation) Act 1992.</p>
Contracts	<p>Any contract which is made between the relevant person (or a body in which the relevant person has a beneficial interest) and the relevant authority—</p> <p>(a) under which goods or services are to be provided or works are to be executed; and</p> <p>(b) which has not been fully discharged.</p>
Land	Any beneficial interest in land which is within the area of the relevant authority.
Licences	Any licence (alone or jointly with others) to occupy land in the area of the relevant authority for a month or longer.
Corporate tenancies	<p>Any tenancy where (to the Member's knowledge)—</p> <p>(a) the landlord is the relevant authority; and</p> <p>(b) the tenant is a body in which the relevant person has a beneficial interest.</p>
Securities	<p>Any beneficial interest in securities of a body where—</p> <p>(a) that body (to the Member's knowledge) has a place of business or land in the area of the relevant authority; and</p> <p>(b) either—</p> <p>(i) the total nominal value of the securities exceeds £25,000 or one hundredth of the total issued share capital of that body; or</p> <p>(ii) if the share capital of that body is of more than one class, the total nominal value of the shares of any one class in which the relevant person has a beneficial interest exceeds one hundredth of the total issued share capital of that class.</p>

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Non-Executive Report of the:  <b>Licensing Committee</b>  13 <sup>th</sup> December 2016	
<b>Report of:</b> David Tolley, Head of Environmental Health and Trading Standards Directorate of Communities Localities and Culture	<b>Classification:</b> Unrestricted
<b>Application to Increase Licence Fee for the Tattoo Collective Event</b>	

<b>Originating Officer(s)</b>	David Tolley
<b>Wards affected</b>	Spitalfields and Banglatown

## 1 SUMMARY

- 1.1 This is a report requesting the setting of a non-standard licence fee for the Tattoo Collective which is a 3 day event due to take place at The Old Truman Brewery on the 17<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> February 2017. It will involve around 150 Tattooists from around the UK providing tattoos to members of the public over the 3 days. A special treatment licence is required for the premises. A one-off license fee is requested, to ensure cost recovery, so that Officers can carry out the relevant checks, inspections, and if needed, corrective actions to ensure that the event is safe and the risk associated with blood borne viruses are managed.
- 1.2 Officers will be liaising with the organiser to assess their plans and risk assessments and arrangements for infection control leading up to the event. The event has the same organisers as the London Tattoo Convention which is held each year at Tobacco Dock in Wapping Lane.
- 1.3 Reasons for the setting of a non-standard licence fee:-
  - The standard fees are set on a costs recovery basis. There is an annual increase to ensure that fees are kept in line with the on-cost to the Council in processing the applications including recovering the costs of the administration, pre-event checks and verification. In respect of the Tattoo Collective, due to the nature of the event, officers provide additional advice and guidance to the Event Organiser.
  - The venue capacity for the event is 2500 persons at any one time for the 3 days and therefore there is an increased risk of the spread of infection due to the huge volume of visitors undergoing some sort of skin piercing activity. There is therefore an increased cost to the Council compared to when

issuing a standard special treatment licence as officers will work with the event organisers prior to the event, and attend the event to enforce licence conditions throughout.

- 1.4 Following an approach to hold the Tattoo Collective Event at The Old Truman Brewery on the 17<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup> February 2017 a decision of the Licensing Committee is required to set a non-standard fee of £1,916.

## **2 RECOMMENDATION**

The Licensing Committee is recommended to –.

- 2.1 Agree that a non-standard application fee for a massage and special treatment licence for the 2017 Tattoo Collective event be set at £1,916.

## **3. REASONS FOR THE DECISIONS**

- 3.1 To ensure that the Council fulfils its statutory responsibility, the Licensing Committee is being given the ability to consider and comment on the adoption of an enhanced Massage and Special Treatment Licence fee to ensure appropriate cost recovery.

## **4. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS**

- 4.1 The Committee may determine not to increase the relevant fees.

## **5. DETAILS OF REPORT**

- 5.1 The Policy Strategy Committee on the 13th October 1992 adopted the provisions of the London Local Authorities Act 1991 ('the Act') relating to Special Treatment premises, section 10(1) allows the Local Authority to make regulations prescribing standard conditions applicable to all classes of its special treatment licences. Appendix 1 sets out the calculation used to determine the fee.
- 5.2 The Act enables a system of licensing by borough councils to be applied to establishments used for Special Treatments. Such establishments are defined as premises used, intended to be used or represented as being used, for gain or reward, and for the reception or treatment of persons requiring massage, manicure, acupuncture, tattooing, cosmetic piercing, chiropody, light electric or other Special Treatments of a like kind, or vapour, sauna or other baths, and where the special treatment is not carried out by or under the supervision of a medical practitioner or a bona fide member of a body of health practitioners.

- 5.3 The purpose of the legislation is to allow controls to be applied to such premises through enforceable terms and conditions relating to public order, safety, cleanliness, hygiene and the qualifications of staff. Applications for licences must be made in the manner prescribed by the Council.
- 5.4 No premises shall be used as an establishment for Special Treatment without holding a Special Treatment Licence, and in accordance with any conditions attached to such a Licence. Further an applicant for the grant, renewal or transfer of a license shall pay such a reasonable fee as determined by the Council.
- 5.5 A special treatment licence application has been made to hold a Tattoo Collective event at The Old Truman's Brewery.
- 5.6 A Special Treatment Licence will be required to hold the event and which will enable conditions to be set.
- 5.7 The event will attract around 150 tattooists from around the UK, who will be offering tattoos to members of the public, mainly by appointment. The event is to be held over three days and will be opened for about 10 hours a day on the 17th, 18th and 19th February 2017.
- 5.8 The capacity of the venue is approximately 2500 persons.
- 5.9 Food outlets will be located in separate areas within the venue.
- 5.10 This is the first time that the event will be held but the organisers have held 12 London Tattoo Convention events in the past.
- 5.11 It has been estimated that the Council's time commitment for determining the licence and monitoring the event will be 30 hours to include pre planning and post event meetings and advice, administration and vetting the paperwork and hours of attending and monitoring the event. This equates to a total cost of £1,916. Monitoring is required due to the high-risk nature of the event in controlling blood borne diseases, the control of clinical waste and the general public safety at the event.

## **6. COMMENTS OF THE CHIEF FINANCE OFFICER**

- 6.1 This report seeks approval to recover the administrative and enforcement costs associated with the proposed Tattoo Convention to be held at Tobacco Dock. This will increase the current Tattoo licence fee from £322 to £1,916 for the sole purpose of recovering the Council's costs associated with providing 30 hours monitoring of the convention. As a comparison the Tattoo licence fee was increased to £2,866 in September 2017 to cover the costs of providing 62.5 hours monitoring for a previous convention. The total charge will be credited to the Environmental Health Budget to offset the additional costs incurred.

## **7. LEGAL COMMENTS**

- 7.1 This report is seeking to have the Licensing Committee set the application fee for a massage and special treatment licence for the London Tattoo Convention at £1,916.
- 7.2 Special treatments licences are granted in accordance with Part II of the London Local Authorities Act 1991 (as amended). Section 7(6) of that Act provides that an applicant for the grant, renewal or transfer of a license shall pay such a reasonable fee as determined by the Council.
- 7.3 The Council has determined standard fees but such standard fee is not reasonable for this application based upon the time commitment required for officers to properly process the application; monitor the event and the event clear up; and provide advice both during and after the event. Based on these reasons, the setting of a non-standard fee for this application is reasonable in all circumstances.
- 7.4 Further the Council has a duty under the Local Government Act 1999 to make arrangements to secure continuous improvement in the way in which its functions are exercised, having regard to a combination of economy, efficiency and effectiveness. This is referred to as the Council's best value duty. The determination of a a non-standard fee is in accordance with this duty.
- 7.5 In its consideration of whether to increase the fee, the Council must have due regard to the need to eliminate unlawful conduct under the Equality Act 2010, the need to advance equality of opportunity and the need to foster good relations between persons who share a protected characteristic and those who do not (the public sector equality duty). There is some information in the report relevant to these considerations in paragraph 8 below.

## **8. ONE TOWER HAMLETS CONSIDERATIONS**

- 8.1 The event assists with Community Cohesion within the area.

## **9. BEST VALUE (BV) IMPLICATIONS**

- 9.1 By agreeing to a single fee for the event rather than pursuing and licensing each individual tattooist administrative efficiencies can be gained that maximise use of officer time in respect of the oversight of the event.

## **10. SUSTAINABLE ACTION FOR A GREENER ENVIRONMENT**

- 10.1 There are no adverse impacts identified.

## **11. RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS**

- 11.1 The licence fee proposed covers the council's cost of full and proper licence functions in relation to this event. The licensing regime seeks to secure protection for the public. The level of licence fee will enable Environmental Health to scrutinise the event and to control the event through the imposition of licence conditions ensuring that all relevant costs are covered. If the recommendation is not agreed then the Council would be effectively subsidising the event as it would not be recovering its costs in respect of these duties. This might then be considered a grant in which case the matter may then need to be referred to the DCLG Commissioners.

## **12. CRIME AND DISORDER REDUCTION IMPLICATIONS**

- 12.1 The enforcement of licence conditions should contribute to a well-run and orderly event.
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### **Linked Reports, Appendices and Background Documents**

**Linked Report** – None

#### **Appendices:**

Appendix One: Fees Calculation

#### **Local Government Act, 1972 Section 100D (As amended)**

#### **List of "Background Papers" used in the preparation of this report**

List any background documents not already in the public domain including officer contact information.

NONE.

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# APPENDIX 1

## Tattoo Collective- Old Truman's Brewery - Massage and Special Treatment Licence Fee


There will be around 150 tattooists operating at the tattoo collective over the 3 days. The cost of administration of the licensing process is estimated at:

Cost of Training and consistency	£ 293
Management and Policy Development	£ 190
Licensing Committee and Policy	£ 242
IT Support and development	£ 190
Enforcement Officer (s) time (See detail in table below)	£ 958
Administration costs (See detail in table below)	£ 43
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£1,916</b>

Process	Officer	Administration Officer
Receipt of application, dealing with the fee		<b>(Officer rate £21.60)</b> 1 hour
Application Review Organisers procedural documentation, correspondence Pre Event planning Meetings / post event debrief	<b>(Officer rate £31.95)</b> 10 hours (Officer 1) 5 hours (Officer 1)	
Consultation – (Emergency Service)	1 hour (Officer 1)	
Inspection	5 hrs (Officer 1) 5 hrs (Officer 2)	
Officer Administration Issue Licence Inform consultees	2 hours (Officer 1) 1 hour (Officer 1) 1hour (Officer 1)	
Administration of licence	(30 hours @ £31.95)  <b>Total £958.50</b>	1 hour  (2 hours @ £21.60)  <b>Total £43.20</b>

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<p><b>Non-Executive Report of the:</b></p> <p><b>Licensing Committee</b></p> <p><b>13<sup>th</sup> December 2016</b></p>	
<p><b>Report of: David Tolley, Head of Environmental Health and Trading Standards</b></p> <p><b>Directorate of Communities Localities and Culture</b></p>	<p><b>Classification:</b></p> <p><b>Unrestricted</b></p>
<p><b>Community Alcohol Partnership and Best Bar None Review 2016/17</b></p>	

## 1.0 SUMMARY

- 1.1 This report provides an update on the progress of the Community Alcohol Partnership (CAP) initiative in Mile End as well as an update on the Best Bar None (BBN) Scheme within the borough.
- 1.2 The aim of both the CAP and the BBN is to seek to lower alcohol related crime and anti-social behaviour within the Borough.
- 1.3 A Licensing Projects Officer, within the Environmental Health and Trading Standards Service, has been separately funded to work on both these initiatives, which started in August 2015.

## 2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 Note that it is intended for the CAP in the Mile End area to continue and to be further developed so as to assist in longer term strategies for Mile End: as the CAP is the only intervention that has had any successful engagement with both business and the public to reduce alcohol related nuisance and increase business compliance.
- 2.2 Note that subject to a positive evaluation of the CAP, to identify other areas within Tower Hamlets that would benefit from the introduction of a CAP.
- 2.3 Note that the Best Bar None (BBN) Award is to continue to be funded so as to gain greater status in the Borough and to encourage even more participants to celebrate high standards and success in Tower Hamlets.
- 2.4 Note that the BBN Award is to partner with a social media tourism company, subject to the agreement of the [Communications Team], to highlight BBN achievements within the Borough and to encourage and promote tourism within the borough.

### 3.0 BACKGROUND

- 3.1 The first CAP area focused on Bethnal Green and St Peter's ward where the main issue of concern identified was that of underage sales by Off-licences in the area. The CAP referred these premises to a responsible retail training scheme that was being run by the Environmental Health and Trading Standards Service to address the concern.
- 3.2 Between November 2015 and December 2015, a CAP survey was undertaken across Tower Hamlets to gauge residents' views on alcohol related crime and anti-social behaviour.
- 3.3 The results of this CAP survey indicated Mile End as an area that suffered from public alcohol consumption, which was visible both on weekdays and weekends, and revealed a case of under-reporting of anti-social behaviour (ASB) within this area. This was because residents believed that change was not possible in Mile End. (**See Appendix 1**). The survey also highlighted that adults were the main cause of discomfort but with young people becoming involved with drinking and ASB.
- 3.4 As a result of the survey and the information relating to crime within the area, the Community Alcohol Partnership (CAP) scheme was set up in Mile End.
- 3.5 Activity under the CAP was intended to complement the existing work of retailers and key stakeholders but without increasing resources in the longer term. Shared goals can then be achieved by all the organisations and agencies working together alongside the local community. This is because by working together far more can be achieved than working in isolation or in a silo culture.

#### Best Bar None Award

- 3.6 The Best Bar None (BBN) Award seeks to raise standards within premises that are licensed for on sales of alcohol. Applicants wishing to achieve the award are required to demonstrate to assessors that they are above the minimum standard for compliance with Licensing and Health and Safety legislation, and are at least broadly compliant with Food Safety legislation.
- 3.7 BBN also provides practical methods that uphold the four licensing objectives and aid in the prevention of alcohol related ASB. The sustained improvement and management of the venues across the Borough therefore encourages an environment where public nuisance is not tolerated.
- 3.8 The system of assessment and awards is highly sought after by businesses and premises will be allocated into certain categories according to their overall score. Premises with outstanding and highest scores are acknowledged as the best in their respective categories during an award ceremony.

### Engagement

- 3.9 Intelligence both from the survey and other areas has identified a youth cohort as one of the main groups responsible for the alcohol and drug related ASB in Mile End. The CAP Partnership therefore tailored its approach to address these local issues and it is this partnership model that has succeeded in engaging with these youth groups. The CAP strategy involves taking a particular cohort off the streets through supporting and introducing structured sessions, and employment opportunities.
- 3.10 Through the CAPs own engagement with the youths, it identified that they enjoyed playing football. Based on this information, the CAP liaised with Sports Development as well as Celtic Football Club and secured that football could be played on the Mile End Leisure Centre's outdoor pitch. This saw an average of 20 young people per session engage with this activity. This gave the youths something to become engaged in other than alcohol and ASB.
- 3.11 The CAP also approached both the Rapid Response Team (RRT) and Sports Development and identified problems that were hindering the RRT from being able to effectively engage with these youths. This was mainly the location of the RRT Bus being deployed too far from the ASB Hotspot on Burdett Road. Burdett Road is a Red Zone managed by Transport for London and therefore the CAP approached TfL and secured parking permits for the RRT bus for two months free of charge.
- 3.12 The CAP identified that the youth cohort did not move far from their area in Mile End and therefore Youth Centres were too far away for them to travel to. Therefore, the CAP approached a local resource in the ASB hotspot, East London Tabernacle (ELT), that runs youth sessions on Monday. ELT has a general rule of allowing only young people that are residents of the E3 postcode and up to the age of 19 to attend these youth sessions and which therefore excluded this youth cohort. The CAP successfully negotiated with the ELT to engage the youth cohort by temporarily giving an exemption to this general rule thereby allowing them to attend the youth sessions.
- 3.13 The CAP opened discussions with East End Homes and negotiated a Service Level Agreement with them allowing the Southern Grove Centre to be used for youth sessions for two nights a week free of charge to the youth cohort.

### Youth Employment Project (YEP).

- 3.14 The YEP is a CAP initiative that offers young people a Level 1 qualification in employability. This is provided by the Gateway Housing STEP programme and which is followed by work experience with Sainsbury's in Whitechapel. The need for employment and training opportunities after this work experience

was required. The CAP therefore partnered with Skillsmatch to offer support towards its range of modern apprenticeships.

- 3.15 The CAP has made use of social media, such as Instagram and Twitter, in publicising these opportunities and their progress. So far, 5 young people have participated in the YEP over the summer holidays. They completed the course and then moved on to 2 weeks practical work experience at Sainsbury's.
- 3.16 Young people have therefore received practical benefits including increased confidence as well as customer and sales skills. All the young people were mentored by senior members of staff at Sainsbury's and worked in a number of different departments so as to obtain as much experience as possible. One young person was subsequently offered a part time position and the Sainsbury's manager has reported that he is pleased with the project and progress of the young people.

#### *Aesthetic Improvements to the Mile End Park*

- 3.17 Project Regenerate is based on the Broken Window Theory and the document Decent Parks Decent Behaviour. This is that if a park is neglected and contains crime, then the residents will not use the park and will also feel bad about their area.
- 3.18 The CAP sought to improve part of Mile End Park to change and improve the local perception of their area. The CAP approached Ecotalent. This is a scheme for young people to receive accreditation on projects focused on improving the environment. The CAP presented the need to improve Mile End Park and requested their help. This was agreed and on a weekly basis, 4 Young People undertook volunteer work on Saturdays cleaning and clearing a highly visible and neglected part of Mile End on the corner of Mile End Road and Burdett Road.
- 3.19 This corner is a thoroughfare for pedestrians, cyclists, motorists, students and residents. This work produced a very visible improvement in Mile End street scene and therefore gave a positive message to the community. The young people also received their accreditations and the costs for project were provided by Ecotalent.

#### *Education*

- 3.20 The CAP learned that having workshops prioritised for Mile End was difficult as there were not enough providers to cover the Tower Hamlets area. Therefore, the CAP created A Drop Down Day product around alcohol awareness which was modelled on guidance from the Alcohol Education Trust. The CAP then offered this free to Schools and Youth Groups within the Mile End Area. This consisted of an assembly talk on alcohol awareness

followed by exercises tailored made by the CAP. 2 of 4 assemblies have been completed for year 9 of St Paul's Way Academy consisting of 243 young people.

- 3.21 Two Youth centres have also signed up for a National Alcohol Awareness week sessions to be run by the CAP.

Responsible retailing programme

- 3.22 The CAP has been able to offer Off Licenses in Mile End and the surrounding area Responsible Retail Training. 26 Premises have been offered training. 18 refused but 8 accepted. This Training is due to commence in January 2017.

Enforcement

- 3.23 The CAP introduced Challenge 25 and issued free posters to the Off Licenses in Mile End and its surrounding wards. Following the introduction of this the CAP carried out compliance testing in August 2016. This was followed by a test purchase operation with Trading Standards for underage sales in September 2016.

- 3.26 The results for the Compliance test showed that of the 22 Tested, 17 Passed, and 5 Failed. Premises who failed were then sent warning letter and offered of training. Results for the test purchase operation by Trading Standards resulted in 30 premises visited with, 30 Passes, and 0 Fails. This indicates an improvement amongst the Off Licenses within Mile End and surrounding area.

Tackling ASB

- 3.27 The Urban Adventure Base (UAB) is a youth club based within Mile End Park. At night the building attracts regular groups who gather with alcohol and drugs leaving the paraphernalia behind and which the Youth Club have to clear in the morning. The CAP went into the UAB and assisted them in to effectively using their CCTV system to record evidence of this ASB activity and for this evidence to be provided to the Safer Communities Tasking Group. The Tasking Group then requested THEO patrols for 4 weeks which led to:

- a. 17 patrols from 26th September to 24th October 2016
- b. 8 CSAS name and address request
- c. 3 CSAS alcohol seizures
- d. 1 Cannabis warning

- 3.28 As a result the littering of drug and alcohol has stopped outside Youth Centre and the groups have stopped congregating outside the UAB.

### Results

- 3.30 The CAP has successfully engaged with both organisations and youths within the Mile End area resulting in diversionary and employment activities/opportunities. This has resulted in the removal of the youths from the area and provided them with activities away from alcohol and ASB. It has also decreased under aged sales of alcohol within the area, and which has in turn helped enforcement teams tackle long standing ASB issues. Initial reports are that all these measures have worked to reduce alcohol related ASB within the Mile End area and the CAP intends to resurvey in January 2017 and it is estimated that this will demonstrate the CAPs successes and show a marked difference on the target area.

### Best Bar None Update

- 3.31 Last year 10 venues applied for the award and to date 27 venues have applied.
- 3.32 This year the BBN Officer has been successful in gaining the support of both Canary Wharf and the Truman Brewery who have agreed to be partners to help boost promotion and recognition of the scheme.
- 3.33 BBN Terms and Conditions were introduced this year which gave clear rules for applicants wishing to apply to enter the award. This led to re-rating requests to improve low Food Hygiene Rating Scheme (FHRS) Scores. This has allowed the Borough's Best Bar None to improve relationships between other Teams within Environmental Health and Trading Standards and assist venues in improving food hygiene as well as giving them opportunities for greater training opportunities. It has also led to partnership working and promotion of the Food for Health Award.
- 3.34 Best Bar None has also been added to the proposed Town Centre Strategy to enhance its visibility. A common issue for the Town Centre Team and Best Bar None is the touting which has now become a long running issue in Brick Lane. To assist with this Best Bar None has for the first time offered Restaurants who are licensed to sell alcohol to apply for this award. 13 restaurants have applied and this should raise standards of compliance within these premises and assist in reducing touting within Brick Lane.

## **4.0 COMMENTS OF THE CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER**

- 4.1 This report provides an update on the progress of the Community Alcohol Partnership initiative and the Best Bar None Scheme. The initial reports have shown that the measures in place have achieved reductions in tackling alcohol, Anti-Social Behaviour, and touting issues. This has also resulted in improved partnership working.

- 4.2 Both these initiatives are funded on an annual basis from the Drug and Alcohol Action Team (DAAT) core budget that is not supported from the public health allocation. The resources support the fixed term post of a Licensing Project Officer within the Environmental Health and Trading Standards Service.
- 4.3 The CAP scheme is evaluated both at the beginning and end of the year. Subject to a positive evaluation at the year end that considers measures specific to a reduction in alcohol related ASB, it is being recommended that the CAP be extended or replicated to other areas of the borough. Subject to the resources remaining in place to support the funding of post in the future, the costs can be contained within the existing resources.

## **5.0 LEGAL COMMENTS**

- 5.1 Community Alcohol Partnerships (CAP) is a Community Interest Company whose aim is to tackle underage drinking and the resulting harm to local communities. A combination of enforcement, education, engagement of the community and local businesses, and provision of appropriate positive activity for young people is the hallmark of the CAP model. CAP is the national co-ordinating organisation for the establishment of local Community Alcohol Partnerships which can be set up in any area with evidence of an underage drinking problem. Within Tower Hamlets, the current CAP is for Mile End and the report provides an update on the progress of the CAP.
- 5.2 As to setting up fresh CAPs, once an area has been identified, it is important that the issues of concern are known and that there is proper planning before any commencement. It is essential to build evaluation (pre- and post-) into any action plan as evaluation is a mandatory part of any CAP scheme. It is also important to bring together a number of agencies working to reduce alcohol related harm to young people and associated anti-social behaviour as well as involving local alcohol retailers.
- 5.3 As to Best Bar None Scheme, this is a National Award Scheme supported by the Home Office and aimed at promoting responsible management and operation of alcohol licensed premises. The Scheme's purpose is:
- Reduce alcohol related crime and disorder
  - Building a positive relationship between licensed trade, police and local authorities
  - Reduces harmful effects of binge drinking
  - Improves knowledge and skills of enforcement and regulation agencies, licensees and bar staff to help them responsibly manage licensed premises
  - Process of becoming recognised by BBN includes meeting minimum standards and culminates with a high profile award night with category winners and an overall winner
  - Responsible owners are recognised and able to share good practice with others

- Highlight how operating more responsibly can improve the profitability of an individual business and attractiveness of a general area

5.4 In its consideration of this Report, the Council must have due regard to the need to eliminate unlawful conduct under the Equality Act 2010, the need to advance equality of opportunity and the need to foster good relations between persons who share a protected characteristic and those who do not (the public sector equality duty).

## **6.0 ONE TOWER HAMLETS CONSIDERATIONS**

6.1 No adverse impacts have been identified

## **7.0 BEST VALUE (BV) IMPLICATIONS**

7.1 Partnership identifies greater synergies between various Services and is outcome focussed.

## **8.0 SUSTAINABLE ACTION FOR A GREENER ENVIRONMENT**

8.1 There are no adverse impacts identified

## **9.0 RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS**

14.1 The Council will be at risk of legal challenge if its decision making process on compliance testing not transparent and evidentially based.

## **10.0 CRIME AND DISORDER REDUCTION IMPLICATIONS**

10.1 One of the key licensing objectives is to prevent licensed premises from being a source of crime and disorder. The CAP and BBN supports and assists with crime and disorder reduction by controlling those who manage premises open to members of the public and imposing conditions on relevant premises licences

## **Linked Reports, Appendices and Background Documents**

### **Linked Report – None**

Appendices:

Appendix One: Summary of Mile End Residents Survey

### **Local Government Act, 1972 Section 100D (As amended)**

### **List of “Background Papers” used in the preparation of this report**

**List any background documents not already in the public domain including officer contact information.**

NONE.



# TOWER HAMLETS

## Community Alcohol Partnership (CAP)

### Briefing

### Dec 2015



## Source

### CAP 2 Mile End

#### Do you have a public drinking problem around your residential area?

Do you have a public drinking problem around your residential area?	%	
Yes	55%	32
No	36%	21
Don't know	9%	5
	100%	58

Many people acknowledge a public drinking problem however, there were a strong number across the borough believe that the main issue is drugs. Some pockets of Tower hamlets have hardly any drinking issues that they are aware of. These places are Island Gardens and Canary Wharf.

#### What gender are the people who are seen drinking?

The people you have seen drinking alcohol around your residential area (if any), are they often.....	%	
Female	0%	0
Male	47%	27
Mixed Male and female	48%	28
N/A	5%	3
	100%	58

Many people expressed that the drinkers were a mix of male and female 48%. 47% of people believed that the drinkers are just male. What is clear from the data is that it is not a large female drinking issue.

#### What kind of crowd?

The people you have seen drinking alcohol around your residential area (if any), are they often.....	%	
Alone	13%	7
Pairs	11%	6
In groups	70%	39
N/A	7%	4
	100%	56

## Age

The people you have seen drinking alcohol around your residential area (if any), are they often.....	%	0
Underage (Under 18)	2%	1
Adults	43%	23
Mixed Ages	48%	26
N/A	7%	4
	100%	54

From that statistic above, the drinking involves Adults at 43% and 48% of people indicated that it is a mixture of youth and adults. It is a very slim percentage 2% reporting that the drinkers are solely under aged drinkers.

## Ethnicity

Of what ethnicity do you believe the people you have seen drinking alcohol are from?	%	0
White British	28%	17
White Irish	0%	0
White Other White Background	0%	0
Mixed White & Black Caribbean	7%	4
Mixed White & Black African	0%	0
Mixed White & Asian	0%	0
Mixed - Other mixed groups	0%	0
Asian Indian	0%	0
Asian Pakistani	0%	0
Asian Bangladeshi	28%	17
Asian - Other Asian Background	3%	2
Caribbean	0%	0
African	0%	0
Other Black background	0%	0
Other ethnic groups	3%	2
Chinese	0%	0
Other ethnic Group	0%	0
Other - Not stated	25%	15
n/a	5%	3
	100%	60

The 3 highest percentages indicate the predominant ethnicities contributing to the public drinking are White British, Asian Bangladeshi and others not stated. It is important to note that many people who selected 'Other-Not stated' did so mainly because the group were a mixture

of ethnicities and not because they could not determine the ethnicity of the drinkers. So the category was chosen as it best described the group.

### Where are they often seen drinking?

The people who are seen drinking alcohol (if any), where are they often gathered?	%	
Outside their home	5%	4
Communal stair wells/hall ways	10%	9
Communal local parks	40%	35
Outside off licenses	9%	8
On the streets	34%	30
Other	0%	0
N/A	2%	2
	100%	88

The survey results indicate the public drinking is found mainly in a park area or on the local streets of Mile End.

This supports the initial premise that the park was a favoured spot to drink alcohol.

### Frequency

How frequent do you see alcohol being drank around your residential area (if any)?	%	
Very often	25%	13
Often	43%	23
Not very often	32%	17
	100%	53

When do you see alcohol being drank around your residential area (if any)?	%	
Weekday	13%	6
Weekends	17%	8
Both weekends and weekday	70%	32
	100%	46

The two highest statistics indicate that the public drinking is not seen 'very often' however the public drinking is seen both on the week days and weekends which means the public drinking is a continuous occurrence and not just an end of week/ payday pattern.

## Anti-Social Behaviour

How often do the people drinking alcohol cause anti- social behaviours?	%	0
Very Often	13%	7
Often	27%	15
Not very often	43%	24
Never	18%	10
	100%	56

From the stat above, the highest percentage indicates that anti-social behaviour caused by the public drinking witnessed occurred 'Not very often'. This can indicate that although there is continuous public drinking in the autumn and winter months, the anti-social behaviour does not occur prolifically.

This is supported in my discussions with the people I surveyed however, they revealed to me that they avoid the drinkers and that there is nothing that can be done when they are being anti-social. They do not believe that things can be changed for the better or that it is wrong. What is regularly revealed to me was that it was 'the way it is'. It is this general reason that supports the premise that there is a large case of under reporting in the Mile End Area.

Urban Adventure Base, a youth centre based in the Mile End Park Area accepts that there are many issues with anti-social behaviour. However, it was revealed that they do not report every incident and therefore a reliable record of proof does not exist.

## Types of Anti-Social Behaviour

Please describe the anti-social behaviours caused by people drinking around your residential area?	%	0
Noise (screaming/yelling)	28%	40
Violence	5%	7
Crime	6%	9
Smoking	19%	27
Drug use	15%	22
Littering of alcoholic containers	21%	31
Other	0%	0
None	6%	9
	100%	145

The information regarding the types of Anti-Social Behaviour the main issues are not violence or crime. The main causes are noise consisting of screaming and yelling. This is followed by smoking and drug use.

## How safe do you feel?

If you have experienced some form of anti-social behaviour around your residential area, please indicate on the scale of 1 to 10 how safe do you feel around your residential area?	%	0
1	0%	0
2	2%	1
3	7%	4
4	9%	5
5	13%	7
6	14%	8
7	7%	4
8	30%	17
9	9%	5
10	9%	5
Total	100%	56

The information indicates that, on the scale of 1-10, 55% of the people surveyed felt safe between 7-10. This leaves 45% of people feeling safe between 1-6 from a scale of 1-10. A percentage of 45% is large indicating that much work can be done to help improve the feeling of safety in the area.

## Summary

- Many people acknowledge a public drinking problem however, there were a strong number across the borough believe that the main issue is drugs.
- Many people expressed that the drinkers were a mix of male and female 48%. 47% of people believed that the drinkers are just male. What is clear from the data is that it is not a large female drinking issue.
- Public drinking involves Adults at 43% and 48% of people indicated that it is a mixture of youth and adults. It is a very slim percentage 2% reporting that the drinkers are solely under aged drinkers.
- The 3 highest percentages indicate the predominant ethnicities contributing to the public drinking are White British, Asian Bangladeshi and others not stated. 'Other-Not stated' was chosen because the group were a mixture of ethnicities and not because they could not determine the ethnicity of the drinkers.
- The survey results indicate the public drinking is found mainly in a park area or on the local streets of Mile End.
- Public drinking is not seen 'very often' however the public drinking is seen both on the week days and weekends which means the public drinking is a continuous occurrence and not just an end of week/ payday pattern.
- The information indicates that anti-social behaviour caused by the public drinking witnessed occurred 'Not very often'.
- A feeling of no possible change is shared by the people surveyed and under reporting occurs.

- The main causes are noise consisting of screaming and yelling. This is followed by smoking and drug use.
- On a scale of 1- 10, 45% of people feeling safe between 1-6.

## Initial Conclusions

- There is a public drinking issue.
- The park is a favoured spot because residents will leave them alone.
- Therefore a group of adults and young people can be left alone to drink and do drugs openly without fear of reprisals.
- Adults are the main cause of public drinking as opposed to young people.
- Young people benefit from drinking with Adults.
- The residents stay clear of the anti-social behaviour because they do not believe that anything can change.
- There is a case of under reporting.
- Cases get worse in summer.
- They want some more presence of authority.

## CAP 1 and CAP 2 similarities and differences

Both CAP areas have:

- A public drinking problem.
- Drinkers are predominantly mixed ages and in groups.
- The issue is very frequent throughout the week and causes ASB .
- Police: In the survey's a request for a greater Police presence is very high. That or a Community officer to be visible in the community. This led me to ask the question 'why is the demand so high'? Over the last few months I've learned the following:
  - ASB of any kind is open in the community.
  - Drugs are a more prolific problem than drinking.
  - Adults are more responsible for the ASB.
  - Drug deals are visible to everyone.
  - There are no visible reprisals.
  - Low expectations of a better quality of life.
  - Lack of reporting because of the lack of confidence.

### CAP 1

- Residents feel less safe than residents in Mile End.
- ASB is very public.

### CAP 2

- Mile End Park contains the asb.

- Attracts under aged drinking and illegal drug taking
- Residents are less hopeful of change than residents in CIZ.
- ASB involves more Bangladeshi groups of males.

## What went well

- Building relationships to help survey residents :
  - Ideas Store
  - Mile End Centre
  - Tower Hamlets Housing Forum
  - Urban Adventure Base
  - St Paul's Way Centre
  - The common denominator in starting the relationship was going to the person highest up in the organisation as possible. Unfortunately, asking for help for small areas of the borough would not be attractive. However, inviting to present the knowledge gained in surveys for all areas was attractive. This allowed me access and use to the centres and ideas stores.
  - This allows future work to be very productive provided I share information and prove participation has resulted in a positive effect beneficial to their users.
- Youth Employment Project
  - Sainsbury's and Tesco's are very welcoming of rolling Work Experience for young people.
  - Tower Hamlets Career Service has been very welcoming of the Step Programme with work experience in Tesco's and Sainsbury's.
  - Spear are a potential partner that was very reticent on working together, however, I believe being patient with them have helped them feel more confident in approaching the prospect working with each other.
- Comms Plan
  - Introducing a plan of using social media for Licensing has helped with License applications being made public and for broadcasting the survey and the CAP.
  - A review is due to determine successes and potential ways to improve responsiveness amongst Twitter followers.
- Speaking with residents of Tower Hamlets
  - The information not included in the survey but verbally exchanged has revealed the lack of faith in the SNT, THEOs and Housing Associations.
- Surveying young people in Youth Centre.
  - Many surveys were completed amongst young people in Youth Centre's across the borough.



- Local knowledge throughout Tower Hamlets
  - Gained many leads to follow up on throughout Tower Hamlets.

## What could have been better

- Time
  - Time as a resource could have allowed more time to enhance relations to be more affected.
- Schools
  - Schools have become more tightly run around alcohol, drug and cigarettes. When proposing surveys to discover knowledge and helping the community outside the school walls are not attractive for schools to entertain, especially St Paul's Way Academy, which is the only secondary school in the Mile End CAP area.
- Comms Plan
  - Not responsive enough. Although 10k followers on Twitter account, not enough response to online survey.
- Tower Hamlets Housing Forum
  - Not responsive enough. Although most Tenant Associations take part in the THHF, I believe the invitation to survey had not made it from the chair to the residents.
- Surveying young people in Youth Centre.
  - Slight change required in questionnaire to allow us to identify target venues selling alcohol to young people.
  - Predominantly completed by Muslim young people who state they do not drink. Therefore really small data gained on trend of young people drinking and gaining access to alcohol.
  - Not had enough time to fully process data.
- St Paul's Way Centre
  - Not many Mile End residents used the centre or filled in the centre.
- Mile End Centre
  - Not many people from Mile End use the centre.
- Sainsbury's and Tesco's
  - Not responsive enough. Forwarded a question raised by Tower Hamlets Carrer service on providing a sandwich for young people and allowing young people with previous record to have work experience.

## Possible solutions

- Schools
  - Present to all schools with knowledge gained and explain their value in context to the issues in the borough.
- Communications Plan
  - Not Review with Stefan Swift.
- Tower Hamlets Housing Forum
  - Present results at meeting with THHF and explain the benefits for their tenants in informing residents.
- Surveying young people in Youth Centre.
  - Improve survey
  - Get rid of backlog
  - Survey in schools
- St Paul's Way Centre
  - Find another centre used by Mile End residents.
- Mile End Centre
  - Survey staff of Centre as residents of Mile End Centre
- Sainsbury's and Tesco's
  - Follow up.
- Time
  - Having developed relationships will help re-surveying
  - Develop more relationships in CAP areas in similar fashion