

**LONDON BOROUGH OF TOWER HAMLETS**

**MINUTES OF THE LICENSING COMMITTEE**

**HELD AT 6.30 P.M. ON THURSDAY, 12 SEPTEMBER 2019**

**COMMITTEE ROOM 1, 1ST FLOOR, TOWN HALL, MULBERRY PLACE,  
5 CLOVE CRESCENT, LONDON, E14 2BG**

**Members Present:**

Councillor Ehtasham Haque (Chair)

Councillor Shah Ameen

Councillor Shad Chowdhury

Councillor Peter Golds

Councillor Leema Qureshi

**Apologies**

Councillor Faroque Ahmed

Councillor Sufia Alam

Councillor Mohammed Ahbab Hossain

Councillor Eve McQuillan

Councillor Victoria Obaze

Councillor Mohammed Pappu

Councillor Zenith Rahman

Councillor Dan Tomlinson

**Officers Present:**

Agnes Adrien

– (Head of Litigation, Legal Services)

David Tolley

– (Head of Environmental Health and  
Trading Standards)

Farhana Zia

– Senior Committee Services Officer

**1. DECLARATIONS OF DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTEREST**

There were no declarations of disclosable pecuniary interest.

**2. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING(S)**

The minutes from the Licensing Committee meetings of 21<sup>st</sup> May and 11<sup>th</sup> July 2019 were agreed and approved to be an accurate record of the meeting.

**3. ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION**

**3.1 The London Local Authorities Act 1991 The Tattoo Convention 2019**

Mr David Tolley, Head of Environmental Health and Trading Standards introduced the Tattoo Convention report. He stated the Tattoo Convention

was a three day event which was due to take place at Tobacco Dock on the 27<sup>th</sup>, 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> September 2019. The event had run from the same location for a number of years and involved around 300 Tattooists from around the world providing tattoos to members of the public over the 3 days.

A special treatment licence is required for the event and this is why this report is before the Committee. Mr Tolley informed Members the Licensing Team were seeking an increase in the licencing fee, in order to ensure the recovery of costs. Licensing Officers would carry out relevant checks, inspections and if needed corrective actions to ensure the event is safe and the risks associated with blood borne viruses are managed.

In response to questions from Members the following was noted:

- The annual fee for a special treatment licence is £354.40. This is the fee charged for a fixed location premises such as a nail bar, tattoo shop or massage shop.
- For the tattoo convention a fee increase in line with our costs and inflation at 4.8%, means a total of £3,154.00 is being proposed. This cost covers the cost of administration of the licence fee and enforcement costs. The Council cannot charge more than this as it cannot make a profit. It can only recover the cost of administration. Appendix 1 gives a breakdown of the costs.

The Members of the Licensing Committee **RESOLVED** to **AGREE**

1. That the application fee for a massage and special treatment licence for the 2019 Tattoo Convention event be set at £2,141.00.
2. That the licence for the Tattoo Convention be issued, with a separate enforcement fee of £1013 be charged.

### **3.2 Gambling Policy 2019 - 2022**

Mr David Tolley, Head of Environmental Health and Trading Services presented the Gambling Strategy 2019-2022 report. He stated the report was a statutory report which set out the process and procedure involved for granting a gambling licence. Mr Tolley said the Gambling Policy had been reviewed in line with the Gambling Act 2005 and required agreement of Cabinet and Full Council before adoption. Mr Tolley said the policy had been updated following consultation with interested parties, included the betting industry and local residents.

Mr Tolley informed Members no gambling licence had been granted since 2014. Following changes in planning, planning permission is now required for the opening of a gambling shop. In addition the law relating to fixed odd betting terminals had been revised by the government, which meant the winnings from the terminals had been greatly reduced. Consequently the number of betting shops in the borough (there are currently seventy-eight) are

likely to shrink as gambling moves to an online platform. Mr Tolley said the Council had a robust policy and were pro-active in making checks with the Police and police cadets.

In response to questions from Members the following was noted:

- The policy sets out the process in attaining a gambling licence. It does not cover the social concerns about gambling such as gambling addiction. London Council's and/or the Local Government Association have campaigned about this issue and have influence in this area.
- Local Area profiles are provided in the strategy to give operators a better idea of the locality and to take into consideration their social responsibility, when setting up a betting shop.
- In response to if a mapping exercise could be provided showing the location of the 78 betting shops and their proximity to schools, Mr Tolley referred Members to Annex 1, which showed the locations of gambling premises. Mr Tolley reiterated the policy sets out the process of applying for a gambling licence and did not address the social concerns around the saturation of gambling shops in the High Street. Those concerns would be best dealt with by Public Health.

The Members of the Committee **RESOLVED** to **AGREE**:

1. The review of the Gambling Policy 2019-2020 and provided comments on the policy as stated above.

**London Local Authorities Act 1991 Hearing to consider a renewal application for a special treatment licence for**

This application was withdrawn by the Applicant and therefore no longer required consideration by the Licensing Committee.

**London Local Authorities Act 1991 Hearing to consider a revocation of the special treatment licence for**

This application was withdrawn by the Applicant and therefore no longer required consideration by the Licensing Committee.

The meeting ended at 7.03 p.m.

Chair, Councillor Ehtasham Haque  
Licensing Committee