

LONDON BOROUGH OF TOWER HAMLETS

MINUTES OF THE LICENSING COMMITTEE

HELD AT 6.35 P.M. ON TUESDAY, 31 MAY 2022

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

Members Present in Person:

Councillor Kamrul Hussain (Chair)
Councillor Leelu Ahmed
Councillor Saied Ahmed
Councillor Suluk Ahmed
Councillor Sabina Akhtar
Councillor Gulam Kibria
Choudhury
Councillor Peter Golds
Councillor Kabir Hussain
Councillor Amin Rahman
Councillor Rebaka Sultana

Members In Attendance Virtually:

Councillor Asma Begum
Councillor Shubo Hussain
Councillor Ahmodul Kabir

Other Councillors Present in Person:

Councillor Maium Talukdar (Deputy Mayor and Cabinet Member for Education and Lifelong Learning (Statutory Deputy Mayor))

Apologies:

Councillor Faroque Ahmed
Councillor Abdul Wahid

Officers Present in Person:

Agnes Adrien (Head of Litigation, Legal Services)
Ibrahim Hussain Licensing Officer
Tom Lewis (Team Leader - Licensing Services)
David Tolley (Head of Environmental Health and Trading Standards)
Simmi Yesmin (Democratic Services Officer, Committees, Governance)

1. ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIR

The Chair, asked for nominations for the position of Vice-Chair of the Licensing Committee for the municipal year 2022/2023.

The Chair proposed Councillor Peter Golds for the position. This was seconded by Councillor Amin Rahman and Councillor Sabina Akthar.

There were no further nominations.

The Licensing Committee;

Resolved

That Councillor Peter Golds is elected as Vice-Chair of the Licensing Committee for the municipal year 2022-2023.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of disclosable pecuniary interest.

3. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING(S)

The minutes of the Licensing Committee held on 15th March 2022 were agreed as a correct record of proceedings.

4. ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION

4.1 Licensing Committee, Terms of Reference, Membership, and Quorum

Simmi Yesmin, Democratic Services Officer, introduced the report and stated that this report set out the Terms of Reference, Membership and Quorum of the Licensing Committee and the schedule of dates for the Municipal Year 2022/2023.

The Licensing Committee;

Resolved

1. That the Terms of Reference, Membership and Quorum as set out in Appendices 1 of the report be noted.

4.2 Establishment of Licensing Sub Committees, Terms of Reference & Meeting Dates

Simmi Yesmin, Democratic Services Officer introduced the report and stated that the report set out the Terms of Reference and meeting dates for the Licensing Sub-Committee for the Municipal Year 2022/2023.

Ms Yesmin stated the report was seeking to determine the number of Licensing Sub-Committee chairs and asked members to either nominate themselves or others for the position.

The following Members were put forward to be Chairs for the Licensing Sub-Committees:

- Councillor Kamrul Hussain
- Councillor Peter Golds
- Councillor Sabina Akhtar
- Councillor Suluk Ahmed
- Councillor Rebaka Sultana
- Councillor Said Ahmed
- Councillor Leelu Ahmed
- Councillor Shubo Hussain

The Licensing Committee;

Resolved

1. That Licensing Sub-Committee's Terms of Reference and Schedule of meetings attached as Appendix 1 to the report be noted.
2. The establishment of Licensing Sub-Committees to determine applications where representations have been made was agreed.
3. Agreed to appoint eight Licensing Sub-Committee Chairs.

4.3 Late Night Levy: Annual Review

Mr Tom Lewis, Team Leader of Licensing and Safety introduced the annual report for 2021/22 of the income received, and the expenditure and initiatives funded by the late night levy. He explained that the levy charge was set by Central Government and was based on the rateable value of the premises. It was noted that most premises in Tower Hamlets were rated as band B or C (£768/ £1259).

Mr Lewis highlighted the total income received by the levy in Year 4 (2021/22) which was £299,904.17 and detailed the committed and actual spend in Year 4 of £251,233.73 leaving an estimated surplus of £48,670.44 from year 4. It was also noted that the surplus from year 3 and year 4 estimated as surplus of £500,4448.45 into year 5.

The effects of the pandemic were noted, which meant that certain initiatives were reduced or stopped during parts of 2021/22. These included Street Pastors, Portable Toilets, Additional Street Cleaning, and the Conflict Awareness Training. However, due to the surplus this year there would be an increased roll out of the initiative for Additional Police Serials between June to 1st January, these are a unit of six PC and one PS operating 3 days per week in the summer and 2 days per week in the Autumn. It was also noted that having benchmarked with other London boroughs, officers would be exploring other possible initiatives that could be considered such as alcohol-free campaign, radio linked scheme for late night venues and additional safety campaigns and training. Mr Lewis then briefly explained the levy initiatives roles and outcomes as detailed in the report.

Members welcomed the report.

The Licensing Committee;

Resolved

1. The work achieved via the levy revenue, the income received, and the expenditure was noted.

The meeting ended at 7.15 p.m.

Chair, Councillor Kamrul Hussain
Licensing Committee