

Licensing Committee

Tuesday, 7th March, 2017

PRESENT: Councillor B Selby in the Chair

Councillors R Downes, J Dunn, B Flynn,
G Hussain, G Hyde, A Khan and
G Wilkinson

111 Appeals Against Refusal of Inspection of Documents

There were no appeals against refusal of inspection of documents.

112 Exempt Information - Possible Exclusion of the Press and Public

That, in accordance with Regulation 4 of The Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Meetings and Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2012, the public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following parts of the agenda designated as exempt on the grounds that it is likely, in view of the nature of the business to be transacted or the nature of the proceedings, that if members of the public were present there would be disclosure to them of exempt information so designated as follows:-

Policing and the Night Time Economy – The report (verbal presentation) was deemed exempt from publication in accordance with Access to Information Rule 10.4 (3) as it included information relating to any action taken or to be taken in connection with the prevention, investigation or prosecution of crime. In those circumstances, the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighed the public interest in disclosing the information. (Minute No. 119 refers)

113 Late Items

There were no late items of business

114 Declaration of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests

There were no declarations of disclosable pecuniary interests were made at the meeting.

115 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors: N Buckley, M Coulson, B Gettings, J Heselwood and C Townsley.

116 Minutes of the Previous Meeting

RESOLVED – That the minutes of the previous meeting held 7th February 2017 were accepted as a true and correct record.

Draft minutes to be approved at the meeting
to be held on Monday, 3rd April, 2017

117 Matters Arising from the Minutes

There were no issues raised under matters arising.

118 Leeds City Centre Evening & Night Time Economy

The Head of Elections, Licensing and Registration submitted a report which provided an update of the partnership working within the evening and night time economy and the work underway to reduce crime and anti-social behaviour, in particular within those areas identified by as red zones within the City Centre Cumulative Impact Policy.

The Chair introduced and welcomed to the meeting Andrew Cooper, Chief Executive, Leeds Business Improvement District (Leeds BID); Karen Butler, (Leeds BID); Sean Walker, BACIL Manager; Clair McCall, Area Community Safety Co-ordinator, Environments and Housing Directorate; Chief Inspector Chris Matthews, Inspector Andy Berriman and Sergeant David Shaw from West Yorkshire Police.

Prior to discussion of the report Members viewed the Leeds BID team video "Welcome to Leeds"

In addressing the report the Chief Executive, (Leeds BID) reported that Leeds had been successful in achieving Purple Flag status for excellence in managing its evening and night time economy. He said Purple Flag was a nationally recognised accreditation and illustrated the safe, well managed and diverse offer of Leeds during the early evening and night time economy.

The Chief Executive, Leeds BID said success had been achieved through effective, collaborative working and strong partnerships and this was reflected in the feedback received from the Assessor.

Referring to the "next steps", the following actions were identified:

- Driving positive improvements within the evening and night time economy
- Key issues include transport, resident engagement, customer information, curation of a sustainable customer service/ welcome for ENTE, a purple manual for businesses
- Opportunity to engage a wider and new customer base
- Consumer Campaign – First Phase Spring 2017

Members then heard from representatives from partner agencies, including; West Yorkshire Police, BACIL, LCC City Centre Management and Community Safety, who provided an overview and update of the work underway.

Commenting on Operation Capital and the Members joining Police on night time patrols of the city centre. Members were of the view that the visits had been

beneficial in highlighting strengths and weaknesses associated with the night time economy.

Reference was made to possible problems of late night dispersal and issues around plying for hire.

In responding the Chief Executive (Leeds BID) said that ideally he would like to see more Taxi Marshall's operating in the city centre but this would have to be done in conjunction with the Police. Engagement with the Taxi and Private Hire Trade and Members of the public via the Communication Plan may also assist in getting a message out.

Members congratulated the Leeds BID Team and their partners on achieving the Purple Flag accreditation for the City.

Members welcomed the wider marketing/ collaboration opportunities, particularly for national chains operating in the Purple Flag area, following the awarding of the accreditation.

A number of Members referred to the issue of transport, commenting that public transport to and from the city centre was poor after 6.00pm. Buses to Otley, for example, only ran hourly. Shops were now open until 8.00pm, thousands of workers were employed throughout the night time economy, many of these customers/ workers required public transport to get home but it could be difficult.

It was suggested that Leeds was bidding to become European Capital of Culture 2023 and a good transport network would be required if the bid was to be successful. It was suggested that the Leeds BID Team and European Capital of Culture 2023 Bid Team work together with a view to bringing forward proposals for improving the transport network.

In responding the Chief Executive (Leeds BID) said that public transport (buses and trains) had been identified as a weakness, the challenge was now to seek improvement and working with the European Capital of Culture 2023 bid team would be explored.

The Chair thanked the Leeds BID Team and representatives from the partner agencies for their attendance and contributions.

RESOLVED –

- (i) To receive and note the information from Partner Agencies
- (ii) That the key issues of transport and resident engagement be pursued as a priority with proposals coming forward
- (iii) That a further report be brought back to the September meeting of this Committee which provides an update on the key issues, in particular

discussions with the European Capital of Culture 2023 Bid Team around proposals for improving the transport network.

119 Policing and the Night Time Economy

Members received a Presentation from Sergeant Dave Shaw, West Yorkshire Police, who spoke about Policing and the night time economy.

A summary of the issues/ incidents involving licensed premises principally in City Centre was presented.

(Due to the confidential nature of the information being presented, this part of the meeting was held in closed session)

The Chair thanked Sergeant Shaw for his attendance and presentation commenting that the session had been informative and interesting.

RESOLVED –

- (i) That the contents of the presentation be noted
- (ii) That a further presentation on policing and the night time economy be scheduled for September 2017.

120 Licensing Committee Work Programme

Members considered the contents of the Licensing Committee Work Programme for 2017.

RESOLVED – To approve the contents of the Licensing Committee Work Programme for 2017

121 Date and Time of Next Meeting

RESOLVED – To note that the next meeting will take place on Monday 3rd April 2017 at 10.00am in the Civic Hall, Leeds.