



Report of Head of Elections, Licensing and Registration

Report to Licensing Committee

Date: 5th September 2017

Subject: Leeds City Centre Evening & Night Time Economy

Are specific electoral Wards affected?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
If relevant, name(s) of Ward(s):	City & Holbeck	
Are there implications for equality and diversity and cohesion and integration?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Is the decision eligible for Call-In?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Does the report contain confidential or exempt information?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
If relevant, Access to Information Procedure Rule number:		
Appendix number:		

Summary of main issues

1. This report provides the Licensing Committee with an overview of the partnership working and improvements within the city centre evening and night time economy in support of the licensing objectives and Purple Flag accreditation.

Recommendations

2. That Licensing Committee hear from representatives of the Purple Flag partnership.

1 Purpose of this report

- 1.1 To present to the Licensing Committee an update of Purple Flag and the evening and night time economy (ENTE).

2 Background information

- 2.1 In November 2016 Members of the Licensing Committee were presented with the annual review of the cumulative impact areas for the City Centre.
- 2.2 Members were concerned to hear that the West Yorkshire Police crime statistics for the preceding 12 months demonstrated that violent crime and theft had increased significantly in the red zone areas of the city centre and continued to be problematic.
- 2.3 Furthermore Licensing Members have joined the West Yorkshire Police during Operation Capital on Saturday evenings. The Members witnessed the vibrancy of the city centre in to the early hours of Sunday morning, and the effective partnership working, but also identified the high demands on police resources.
- 2.4 In March 2017 the Members considered a report and heard from partners of the collective work underway to improve the experience and safety of visitors and residents of the City during the evening and night-time economy.
- 2.5 Members requested a further update report in six months' time.

3 Main issues

- 3.1 In January 2017 the City was awarded Purple Flag status for the management of the evening and night-time economy. Purple Flag is a town and city centre award, similar to the Blue Flag for beaches, which aims to raise the standard and broaden the appeal of town and city centres between the hours of 17:00 & 05:00. Areas awarded the Purple Flag are recognised for providing a vibrant and diverse mix of dining, entertainment and culture while promoting the safety and wellbeing of visitors and local residents.
- 3.2 The Purple Flag award is attributed to the partnership working between Leeds City Council, LeedsBID, BACIL (Business Against Crime In Leeds), Leeds Pubwatch, West Yorkshire Police, Safer Leeds, British Transport Police, West Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service, WYCA (West Yorkshire Combined Authority), Leeds Teaching Hospitals Trust, Forward Leeds, Leeds Street Angels, Public Health England, and Visit Leeds.
- 3.3 The Purple Flag is assessed annually. The accreditation addresses 5 key themes: Wellbeing, Movement, Appeal, Policy Envelope and Place. Sub groups have been established to lead on each theme, enabling the progress of actions by October 2017 in line with the renewal date.

3.3.1 Wellbeing:

This theme addresses safety; care; regulation; services; partnership and perceptions, and by implication the sub group considers on street presence.

Members will hear that as well as a review of police resourcing, partnership funding has been secured to allow a year-round evening on street ambassador service that will operate each Friday and Saturday night from 22:00 to 04.30 and 05.30 respectively.

Under the Wellbeing banner, the following training opportunities are also to be made available to the licensed trade:

Safeguarding:

The scope of this training is to include child sexual exploitation (CSE), domestic violence, people trafficking and sexual harassment. This is being developed by key partners including the West Yorkshire Police, Safer Leeds, Children's Services/Leeds Safeguarding Children Board, Entertainment Licensing and BACIL.

The intentions are to create a team of trainers to deliver ENTE training, the teams consisting of police and volunteers. In addition to training sessions there will be an E-Learning Package, and yearly campaigns targeting both staff and customers in the ENTE.

Alcohol and Substances:

Provided by Forward Leeds, this is free training in relation to alcohol and substances and will provide staff in the ENTE with the necessary knowledge, skills and confidence to deal with such matters. The training has been offered to Leeds Pubwatch members across the whole city.

Counter Terrorism

The North East Counter Terrorism Unit in partnership with Leeds City Council, West Yorkshire Police and BACIL have and continue to provide workshops for the licence and retail trade, including the distribution of information and guidance that is disseminated further via BACIL and Pubwatch.

3.3.2 Movement:

Addresses the choices available to people on arrival, departure, how easily and safety they are able to move around the city centre, looking at public transport options, car parking provision, pedestrian routes, crowd management, the level of information available to users and partnership support through businesses operating in the ENTE

3.3.3 Appeal:

Addresses the choice and presentation of the offer in the city centre across food and drink, pubs and bars, late night venues, early evening activity, public buildings and culture to ensure there is a mix of activity across the ENTE, to attract a wide audience.

3.3.4 Policy Envelope:

Scrutinises the data, strategy, co-ordination, leadership, partnership and community focus across the ENTE.

3.3.5 Place:

Looks at the location, diversity, clarity, animation, design and identity of a place.

3.4 Representatives from the Purple Flag Task Group, including LeedsBID, BACIL, West Yorkshire Police, WYCA and Leeds City Council will be at the meeting to provide Members with a further update.

3.5 Members will recall that in September 2016 welfare representatives of Leeds Beckett University came before Full Council with their deputation concerning sexual harassment within the City's bars and clubs, seeking the Council's support to the provision of consent education and training within the ENTE.

3.6 Members will hear that the Leeds University and Beckett University Student Unions are now working collaboratively with proposals to offer awareness training opportunities to those premises frequented by students.

4 Corporate Considerations

4.1 Consultation and Engagement

4.1.1 There are no implications for consultation and engagement. This report is for information purposes.

4.2 Equality and Diversity / Cohesion and Integration

4.2.1 There are no implications for equality and diversity, cohesion and integration.

4.3 Council Priorities and Best Council Plan

4.3.1 The licensing regime contributes to the following Best Council Plan 2015-20 outcomes:

- Improve the quality of life for our residents, particularly for those who are vulnerable or in poverty;
- Be safe and feel safe
- Make it easier for people to do business with us.

4.3.2 The licensing regime is linked to the Best Council Plan objectives:

- Supporting communities and tackling poverty, and
- Becoming a more efficient and enterprising council
- Promoting sustainable and inclusive economic growth
- Building a child friendly city

4.4 Resources and value for money

4.4.1 There are no implications for resources and value for money.

4.5 Legal Implications, Access to Information and Call In

4.5.1 There are no legal implications, and this report is not subject to access to information and call in requirements.

4.6 Risk Management

4.6.1 There are no risks associated with this report.

5 Conclusions

5.1 This report is to provide Members with an overview of the partnership working within the night time economy.

6 Recommendations

6.1 That Licensing Committee considers the information from partner agencies.

7 Background documents¹

7.1 There are no unpublished background documents that relate to this matter.

¹ The background documents listed in this section are available to download from the Council's website, unless they contain confidential or exempt information. The list of background documents does not include published works.