

GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE

MONDAY, 28TH JUNE, 2010

PRESENT: Councillor K Wakefield in the Chair

Councillors B Anderson(as substitute for J L Carter), S Bentley, A Blackburn, J Blake, S Golton, P Gruen, G Latty (as substitute for J Procter) and N Taggart

Apologies Councillors J L Carter and J Procter

1 Appeals against refusal of inspection of documents

There were no appeal against the refusal of inspection of documents.

2 Exempt Information - possible exclusion of the press and public

There were no resolutions to exclude the public.

3 Late items

There were no late items added to the agenda.

4 Declaration of Interests

No declarations of interest were made either under this item or at any stage during the meeting.

5 Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors J Procter and L Carter.

6 Minutes of the Previous Meeting

RESOLVED - That the minutes of the General Purposes Committee meeting held on 18th May 2010 be approved as a correct record.

7 Proposal to Change Licensing Arrangements

The Section Head Regulatory and Enforcement presented a report of the Assistant Chief Executive (Corporate Governance). The report informed Members of proposed amendments to the constitution relating to the Council's licensing arrangements and asked the Committee to consider and recommend the proposed amendments to full Council.

Members discussed the proposed rationalisation of licensing arrangements and highlighted the potential efficiency savings created by the merger of the

Licensing Committee and Licensing and Regulatory Panel specifically in relation to the reduction to only one Chair and one Chair's allowance.

RESOLVED – Members of the General Purposes Committee resolved to recommend to full Council that:

- (a) the functions listed in paragraph 3.4 of the report namely sex establishment licensing (lap dancing, sex cinemas and sex shops), hackney carriage and private hire licensing, the licensing of hypnotism and charitable collections should be agreed as functions which relate to the licensing functions of the Licensing Committee;
- (b) full Council should arrange for those matters to be referred to the Licensing Committee and for the Licensing Committee to discharge those functions on behalf of the authority with effect from 20 July 2010;
- (c) full Council approve the revised Terms of Reference at Appendix 3 to the report for the Licensing Committee to implement the decisions in 7.1.1 and 7.1.2 of the report;
- (d) references to the Licensing and Regulatory Panel be removed from the constitution;
- (e) a revised Article 8 and 8A should be drafted to reflect the new arrangements;
- (f) amendments be made to Council Procedure Rules to reflect the fact that there will be no substitution permitted between the Plans Panels and the Licensing Committee; and
- (g) Members note that the Licensing Committee may then delegate these powers to sub committees or to officers as permitted by the 2003 Act and may regulate its own procedure through the Licensing Procedure Rules.

8 Compulsory Training for Members of Standards Committee

The Senior Corporate Governance Officer presented a report of the Assistant Chief Executive (Corporate Governance). The report proposed amendments to Article 9 of the Constitution to reflect the recommendation that Members of the Standards Committee receive compulsory training in relation to chairing meetings, local assessment of complaints and hearings, prior to undertaking certain functions of the Standards Committee or its Sub-Committees.

Members sought clarity from the Monitoring Officer on the proposed abolition of the Standards Board regime, and the impact this may have on the Leeds City Council Standards Committee. However, Members welcomed the proposal to have compulsory training of Members of the Standards Committee on certain of its functions.

RESOLVED – The General Purposes Committee resolved to recommend to full Council to amend Article 9 as detailed in Appendix 1 of the report.

9 Work Programme

The Assistant Chief Executive (Corporate Governance) submitted a report notifying Members of the draft work programme for the 2010/11 municipal year.

RESOLVED - Members resolved to agree that the draft work programme for 2010/11 be noted.