

Report of Child Employment & Entertainment Team, Targeted Services

**Date:** 17<sup>th</sup> August 2022

**Report of:** Child Employment & Entertainment Team, Targeted Services

**Report to:** The Director Children & Families

Will the decision be open for call in? Yes No

Does the report contain confidential or exempt information? Yes No

## What is this report about?

### Including how it contributes to the city's and council's ambitions

- The Openness of Local Government Bodies Regulations 2014 which came into force on the 5<sup>th</sup> September 2014 requires Local Authorities to record decisions made by Officers in relation to the granting of a permission or licence.
- The regulations are specific to the information that must be recorded. This is provided in the attached appendices: Chaperone Licences, Child Performance Licenses and Children's Work Permits.

## Recommendations

- a) That the Director Children and Families publish the attached record of decisions made from May 2022 – November 2022.

## Why is the proposal being put forward?

- a) The purpose of the report is to present a written record of any decision which would otherwise have been taken by the Local Authority but has been delegated to an Officer.

## What impact will this proposal have?

**Wards Affected:**

Have ward members been consulted? Yes No

## What consultation and engagement has taken place?

- 1.1.1 Local dance and drama groups
- 1.1.2 Local employers & schools
- 1.1.3 Theatres and formal education provision i.e. Opera North, Grand Theatre, Northern Ballet
- 1.1.4 Production Companies/Houses i.e. ITV, BBC, Channel 4

- 1.1.5 Local and regional authorities
- 1.1.6 National Network for Children in Employment and Entertainment (NNCEE)
- 1.1.7 LCC Legal Department/Education Service/Safeguarding Service/LCC Licensing Services/West Yorkshire Police

### **What are the resource implications?**

- 2 The service needs to maintain high standards to meet its statutory obligations to issue work permits and safeguard young people by completing inspections .The service needs to work in partnership with employers, provide safeguarding training for chaperones (volunteers & professionals), and undertaking inspections of venues where children are performing and promoting the service with key agencies and partners including social media.
- 2.1 The service must work at pace as Production Companies/Casting Agents require performance licences to be issued within 10 working days. If these timescales are not met there is a danger in young people in the city missing out on performance and/or work opportunities.

### **What are the legal implications?**

- 3 The Openness of Local Government Bodies Regulations 2014 requires local government bodies to record and publish decisions as stated at 2.1 of this report. It is an offence to obstruct any person from inspecting written records and background papers, or to refuse a request for these documents. The offence is liable to summary conviction to a fine not exceeding level 1 on the standard scale (currently £200).
- 3.1 The service needs to maintain high standards to meet its statutory obligations to issue work permits and safeguard young people by completing inspections .The service needs to work in partnership with employers, provide safeguarding training for chaperones (volunteers & professionals), and undertaking inspections of venues where children are performing and promoting the service with key agencies and partners including social media.

### **What are the key risks and how are they being managed?**

- 4 The report is advisory, to record the decisions made as required by the regulations and as such there is no risk associated with the report.

### **Does this proposal support the council’s 3 Key Pillars?**

- Inclusive Growth
- Health and Wellbeing
- Climate Emergency

### **Options, timescales and measuring success**

#### **5 What other options were considered?**

- 5.1 Consultation and Engagement
- 5.2 Where required by the legislation licence and work permit applications are subject to consultation periods.

#### **6 How will success be measured?**

- 6.1 All children are treated equally and fairly in line with the Children and Young People’s plan 2013-2015 and employers are expected to provide risk assessments and follow Safeguarding procedures

**6.2** Tackling poverty, helping everyone benefit from the economy to their full potential

**6.3** Making Leeds the best city for children and young people to grow up in

**6.4** Improving the quality of lives and growing the economy through cultural and creative activities

**6.5** Keeping people safe from harm and promoting community respect and resilience

## **7 What is the timetable for implementation?**

**7.1** The service is required to work at pace as Production Companies/Casting Agents require performance licences to be issued within 10 working days. If these timescales are not met there is a danger of young people in the city missing out on performance opportunities.

**7.2** Work Permits not issued within 10 working days may result in a young person working without the correct permit, risk assessment being completed, working excessive and illegal hours in prohibited roles.

## **Appendices**

8 Appendix A – Chaperone Licenses

9 Appendix B – Performance Licenses

10 Appendix C – Work permits

## **Background papers**

11 None