

## LICENSING AND SAFETY COMMITTEE

18 NOVEMBER 2010

### LICENSING ACT 2003

## POLICE ANNUAL REPORT ON LICENSING MATTERS

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#### Summary

The purpose of this report is to present the Medway Police annual report on licensing matters to the Licensing and Safety Committee and for members to ask the police representative questions and make comments.

#### 1. Budget and Policy Framework

1.1 The Council's statement of Licensing Policy in respect of its functions under the Licensing Act 2003, asks that the Police present an annual report on licensing matters to Councillors.

#### 2. Background

2.1 The Council's Licensing Team works closely in partnership with Medway Police to deliver the statutory requirements of the Licensing Act 2003 and other licensing legislation.

2.2 As a responsible authority under the Licensing Act 2003, the Police comment on all applications for premises licences and where appropriate make representations. If these representations are unresolved, the Police present their objections to the Licensing Hearing Panel. The Police may also object to personal licence (authorisation to sell alcohol) applications and temporary event notices, where they consider the crime prevention objective within the Licensing Act would be undermined if the licence were granted.

2.3 The Council has established protocols with the Police on licensing enforcement issues. These provide for the targeting of resources towards high-risk premises and activities that require greater attention, while providing a lighter touch in respect of low risk premises that are well operated. All licence holders are expected to co-operate in order to promote the licensing objectives. Evidence of non-co-operation may

be considered sufficient grounds for review, suspension or revocation of any licence.

- 2.4 A copy of the report is attached at Appendix A for Members' consideration.

### **3. Risk Management**

- 3.1 It is important that the Licensing & Safety Committee is kept fully informed of issues relating to the police in respect of licensing matters.

### **4. Financial and legal implications**

- 4.1 There are no direct financial implications arising from this report
- 4.2 The Council has produced its Statement of Licensing Policy as required by the Licensing Act 2003 that requests that the Police make an annual report on licensing matters to the Council.

### **5. Recommendations**

- 5.1 That the annual Police report at Appendix A is considered by the committee and Members be invited to comment where appropriate.

### **Lead officer contact**

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### **Background papers**

1. Medway Council Statement of Licensing Policy
2. Annual Police Report (see Appendix A to report)