

SOUTHEND-ON-SEA CITY COUNCIL

Meeting of Place Scrutiny Committee

Date: Monday, 17th June, 2024

Place: Committee Room 1 - Civic Suite

Present: Councillor C Mulroney (Chair)
Councillors S Badger (Vice-Chair), S Allen, M Borton, C Campbell,
T Cox, A Dear, M Faulkner-Hatt*, D Jones, R Longstaff, K Murphy,
S Nadeem, J Norman, M O'Connor, S Wakefield and J Warren
(*Substitute in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 30.)

In Attendance: Councillors D Cowan, L Hyde and A Jones
A Richards, A Penn, G Halksworth and T Row

Start/End Time: 6.30 pm - 7.25 pm

1 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Ferguson (substitute: Councillor Faulkner-Hatt).

2 Declarations of Interest

The following interests were declared at the meeting:

(i) Councillor Faulkner-Hatt – Minute No.7 (Review of the Council's Statement of Gambling Policy) – Disqualifying Interest (withdrew).

3 Questions from Members of the Public

The Committee noted the responses from the Cabinet Member for Climate, Environment and Waste to questions from Mr Whitby, Ms Cowdrey and Mr Webb. Copies of the questions and responses were tabled at the meeting. In the absence of Mr Whitby, a copy of the response will be sent to him.

4 Minutes of the meeting held on Monday, 12th February 2024

Resolved:-

That the Minutes of the meeting held on Monday, 12th February 2024 be confirmed as a correct record and signed.

5 Minutes of the special meeting held on Monday, 11th March, 2024

Resolved:-

That the Minutes of the Meeting held on Monday, 11th March 2024 be confirmed as a correct record and signed.

6 Licensing Act 2003 - Review of Statement of Licensing Policy

The Committee received a report by the Executive Director (Environment & Place), by way of pre-Cabinet scrutiny, that presented a draft revised Licensing Policy Statement, (attached at Appendix 1 to the submitted), as the basis for formal consultation and to allow the Council to follow their statutory obligation set out in the Licensing Act 2003.

The Committee discussed the report in some detail and asked a number of questions that were responded to by the Council's Regulatory Services Manager and the Cabinet Member for Planning, Housing, and the Local Plan on behalf of the Cabinet Member for Regeneration, Major Projects, and Regulatory Services.

The Committee was informed that the Council's Licensing Committee would be consulted on the draft Statement of Licensing Policy but that all responses to the consultation would be a matter for Cabinet to consider before the matter is referred to full Council for approval.

The Committee made a number of suggestions that could be included within the proposed draft revised Licensing Policy Statement. In summary, these included:

- When an application is made for a licence for any premises located in a zone where consumption of alcohol in a public place is not permitted, the applicants are advised to undertake a risk assessment and include control measures to address the promotion of the licensing objectives such as a suitably sized notice should be clearly displayed at the exit point(s) of the premises advising patrons that alcohol cannot be consumed in public place in that area;
- References should be included to measures to address other forms of spiking;
- Clarification that the 28 day consultation period referred to in Appendix C (Glossary of Terms) are calendar days not working days;
- Links to the relevant websites for the various bodies, groups and associations etc. referenced in the Statement of Licensing Policy should be included where possible;
- With reference to Minimising Waste under paragraph 12.7, consideration should be given to the development of a leaflet advising on measures to minimise waste and its impact.

Resolved:-

That, subject to the comments of the Scrutiny Committee outlined above, the report to Cabinet be noted.

Note: This is an Executive function
Cabinet Member: Councillor Gilbert

7 Review of the Council's Statement of Gambling Policy

The Committee received a report by the Executive Director (Environment & Place), by way of pre-Cabinet scrutiny, that presented a draft revised Gambling Policy Statement, (contained in Appendix 1), as the basis for formal consultation and to allow the Council to follow their statutory obligation set out in the Gambling Act 2005.

Resolved:-

That the report to Cabinet be noted.

Note: This is an Executive function
Cabinet Member: Councillor Gilbert

Chair: _____