

LICENSING ACT COMMITTEE

Chairmen of Licensing Act Sub-Committees 20 June 2013

Report of Licensing Manager

PURPOSE OF REPORT

To enable the Committee to make arrangements for the chairing of Licensing Act Sub-Committees during the forthcoming municipal year.

This report is public

- (1) That the Committee appoints for the new municipal year a number of members to chair the ad hoc sub-committees established to hear individual applications under the Licensing Act 2003 and the Gambling Act 2005.**

1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 The procedure for establishing sub-committees to deal with hearings under the Licensing Act 2003 was agreed at the Committee's meeting on the 14th February 2005. As Members are aware, each sub-committee must comprise three members of the Committee, and is convened by the Head of Governance, as and when required, from the fifteen members.
- 1.2 It was further agreed in 2005 that the then chairman and vice-chairman and three other named members be appointed as chairmen of the sub-committees, and that each ad hoc sub-committee would include one of these members who would act as the chairman.
- 1.3 This arrangement has continued, although in some municipal years, the Committee has nominated four rather than five chairmen.
- 1.4 For Members' information, there were five chairmen nominated for 2012/13, namely Councillors Paul Aitchison, Malcolm Thomas, June Ashworth, Mike Greenall and Roger Sherlock
- 1.5 It is always difficult to estimate in advance the workload of the sub-committees. In 2012/13, sub-committees met on twelve occasions.

2.0 Proposal Details

- 2.1 The Committee is now requested to consider the arrangements for the municipal year 2013/14, and to decide how many and which members to appoint to chair the sub-committees.

3.0 Details of Consultation

- 3.1 None

4.0 Options and Options Analysis (including risk assessment)

4.1 There is a need for the Committee to appoint sub-committee chairmen. Having four or five chairmen has worked well in previous years, but it is for the Committee to determine how many to appoint.

5.0 Conclusion

5.1 The Committee is recommended to appoint a number of its members to chair the sub-committee hearings.

CONCLUSION OF IMPACT ASSESSMENT

(including Diversity, Human Rights, Community Safety, Sustainability and Rural Proofing)

None.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The Independent Remuneration Panel (IRP) made provision for special responsibility allowances to be paid to the chairman and other Licensing Act Sub-Committee chairmen. The IRP's calculations were based on the Committee chairman and two other sub-committee chairmen receiving allowances. Dependent upon the number of sub-committee chairmen appointed, there could be up to four allowances paid (at £435 each) and this could be met from within the members allowances budgets. However, the fact that a member is only entitled to receive one special responsibility allowance means that there is leeway within the budgetary provision.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

The proposal is in accordance with the provisions of the Licensing Act 2003, which provides for the establishment of one or more sub-committees consisting of three members of the Committee, but makes no further provision as to how this should be arranged.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

None

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