

Subject:	Managing the Night Time Economy		
Date of Meeting:	Licensing Committee 29 June/2017		
Report of:	Executive Director Neighbourhoods Communities and Housing		
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Ward(s) affected:	All		

FOR GENERAL RELEASE

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT AND POLICY CONTEXT

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to appraise members of what actions have been taken, in partnership with others in the City, to work together to ensure the night-time economy is managed in a way which supports a safe and pleasant environment.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 2.1 That Licensing Committee note the contents of this report
- 2.2 That Licensing Committee agrees that the Safe in the City Partnership Board retains accountability for managing violence and crime in relation to the night time economy.
- 2.3 That Licensing committee receives updates on the strategy and action plan.

3. CONTEXT/ BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 3.1 The City centre night-time economy is an important part of the character of the city and it attracts many visitors. Its contribution to the economic wellbeing of the city is significant and is a source of work for many people. However a busy night-time economy is not without drawbacks, and the effects of alcohol, drugs and the density of people are two factors, among others, which can spark aggression and create high demand on services including the police, ambulance service and A&E departments.
- 3.2 In March 2016 licensing committee was asked to consider the introduction of a late night levy in the City which could have helped to fund ancillary services. These include Safe Space, Beach Patrol, Business Crime Reduction Partnership, Taxi Marshalls and Street Pastors, which help to keep the night time economy

safe. These services have been self-supported or funded by various means. Due to potential changes to the levy proposed at that time by central Government committee decided not to introduce a levy which may have been able to support these services.

- 3.3 The co-ordination of these services both operationally and strategically has not been subject to review in recent times. Changes in crime recording practices by the police have resulted in more violent crime being recorded in relation to the night-time economy, although there is no apparent evidence of an increase in the prevalence of violent crime.
- 3.4 In February 2017 a workshop was convened with stakeholders to explore options for managing the night-time economy going forward including how to support and govern these ancillary services.
- 3.5 At the same time the Safe in the City Partnership was conducting a strategic assessment on all crime and disorder. This also highlighted concerns in managing the night time economy and resulted in it featuring as a priority in the Community Safety Strategy which runs from April 2017 to March 2020.
- 3.6 This will enable robust governance of this agenda with clear lines of accountability. Accompanying the strategy is an action plan which be managed by a lead officer. Many of the ideas and proposals that came from the workshop are now included in the action plan.
- 3.7 This will also enable key decision makers to make informed decisions about how to fund and support this area of work in the future. This will include any opportunities to help the ancillary support services to seek funding or become self- sustaining.

4. ANALYSIS & CONSIDERATION OF ANY ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

- 4.1 The Community Safety Strategy has yet to be adopted by Full Council but has been agreed by the Safe in the City Partnership Board, and the NICE Committee the strategy includes the proposed work on managing the night time economy.
- 4.2 If this work is not carried forward within the strategy the status quo could be maintained with current varied funding for ancillary services, this may risk the future of these services.

5. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT & CONSULTATION

- 5.1 Included in the body of the report, including the workshop held in February and the Community Safety Strategy consultation on the 30th of November 2017

6. CONCLUSION

- 6.1 The implementation of the Community Safety Strategy with a priority managing the night-time economy is considered to be the most effective and efficient means of providing governance and support for the night-time economy with

updates and progress reported to Licensing committee as necessary, to ensure a joined up approach is maintained.

7. FINANCIAL & OTHER IMPLICATIONS:

Financial Implications:

- 7.1 The governance and support for the night time economy will be provided by the implementation of the Community Safety Strategy. The financial implications of this will be reported to Neighbourhoods, Communities and Equalities Committee and then to Full Council.

*Finance Officer Consulted: Monica Brooks
17/05/17*

Date:

Legal Implications:

- 7.2 There are no direct legal implications arising from the report.

Lawyer Consulted:

Rebecca Siddell

Date: 30/05/17

Equalities Implications:

- 7.3 There are no equalities implications

Sustainability Implications:

- 7.4 None

Any Other Significant Implications:

- 7.5 None

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

Appendices:

1. Relevant chapter of the Community Safety Strategy 2017-2020
2. Draft Action plan

Documents in Members' Rooms

1. None

Background Documents

1. None