

**Subject:** Licensing: Health Impact Assessment  
**Date of Meeting:** 14 April 2010  
**Report of:** The Director of Strategy and Governance  
**Contact Officer:** Name: Giles Rossington Tel: 29-1038  
E-mail: Giles.rossington@brighton-hove.gov.uk  
**Wards Affected:** All

### FOR GENERAL RELEASE

#### 1. SUMMARY AND POLICY CONTEXT:

- 1.1 A Health Impact Assessment (HIA) of the impact of flexible licensing hours in Brighton & Hove was recently undertaken. This was reported to Licensing Committee on 26 November 2009. Licensing Committee referred the HIA on to the Health Overview & Scrutiny Committee (HOSC) for information.
- 1.2 The 26.11.09 report to Licensing Committee (including the Licensing HIA) is attached as **Appendix 1** to this report; an extract from the minutes of the 26.11.09 Licensing Committee meeting is attached as **Appendix 2** to this report; further statistical information supplied by the Head of licensing is attached as **Appendix 3** to this report.

#### 2. RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 2.1 That members:
- (1) note the content of this report and its appendices (in particular the HIA of flexible licensing hours);
  - (2) consider whether the information contained in the HIA might usefully influence elements the HOSC work programme/HOSC ad hoc panel planning.

### 3. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 3.1 The Licensing Act (2003) significantly altered the manner in which alcohol licenses are granted, and effectively led to a rapid increase both in the number of premises licensed for on and/or off sales and in the hours during which these premises could open for business.
- 3.2 There is a good deal of debate as to whether the 2003 Act has had a generally positive or negative impact, with longer licensing hours offering a greater opportunity for hazardous drinking and anti-social behaviour, but also to some extent mitigating the worse aspects of the pre-2003 system (e.g. the stresses placed on services by a blanket 11pm closing time). The issue is further complicated because it is evident that the increase in hazardous drinking pre-dates the 2003 Act, but not nearly so easy to establish whether a move to more flexible licensing has exacerbated or ameliorated the underlying problem. The city Health Impact assessment is, in part, an attempt to provide a local answer to this and related questions.
- 3.3 More information on this issue may be found in the appendices to this report.

### 4. CONSULTATION

- 4.1 No formal consultation has been undertaken in preparing this report.

### 5. FINANCIAL & OTHER IMPLICATIONS:

#### Financial Implications:

- 5.1 None to this report for information.

#### Legal Implications:

- 5.2 None directly.

Lawyer Consulted: Oliver Dixon; Date: 01/03/10

#### Equalities Implications:

- 5.3 None directly, but members may wish to refer to the implications in the original report to Licensing Committee (**Appendix 1**).

#### Sustainability Implications:

- 5.4 None directly, but members may wish to refer to the implications in the original report to Licensing Committee (**Appendix 1**).

#### Crime & Disorder Implications:

- 5.5 None directly, but members may wish to refer to the implications in the original report to Licensing Committee (**Appendix 1**).

Risk and Opportunity Management Implications:

- 5.6 None directly, but members may wish to refer to the implications in the original report to Licensing Committee (**Appendix 1**).

Corporate / Citywide Implications:

- 5.7 None directly, but members may wish to refer to the implications in the original report to Licensing Committee (**Appendix 1**).

## **SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION**

### **Appendices:**

1. Licensing HIA report to the Licensing Committee 26.11.09
2. Extract from the minutes of Licensing Committee 26.11.09
3. Additional information supplied by the Head of Licensing.

### **Documents in Members' Rooms:**

None

### **Background Documents:**

The Licensing Act (2003)

