Katy Bourne
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Cllr M Marsh Chairman Licensing Committee Brighton & Hove City Council (via email)

ear Clr Yarsh

29 January 2016

Late Night Levy

I am writing ahead of the next meeting of the Brighton and Hove Licensing Committee, in which I understand you will be discussing the implementation of the Late Night Levy in the City.

I wanted to provide some assurances to how the money raised from the levy will be spent, as I understand there are concerns from the Committee that funds might be lost within the larger police budget or used exclusively for policing purposes.

My position is that any monies raised by the Late Night Levy will be allocated specifically for spend within Brighton & Hove, in the area it was collected for and for the benefit of the night time economy. I have agreed with both the Council's Chief Executive Geoff Raw and the Chief Constable Giles York that all spending decisions should be subject to the agreement and scrutiny of an Independent Advisory Panel, comprising representatives of the council, police, licensees and Brighton Business Crime Reduction Partnership. This is a best practice that other Late Night Levy cities such as Newcastle have adopted and proved very effective.

Whilst this is an advisory board, legislation requires the final recommendations to be approved by myself as Police & Crime Commissioner.

I hope that this letter provides helpful context and assurances for the Committee but please do not hesitate to contact my office if you would like to discuss this further.

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