
Licensing Committee

Report of the meeting held on 5th November 2008

Matters for Information

**4. ALCOHOL, ENTERTAINMENT AND
LATE NIGHT REFRESHMENT LICENSING**

The Committee has received an overview of the scale of the impact of the Licensing Act within the District, following the compilation of statistical information for the Department of Culture, Media and Sport on the number of licences and certificates in force in the District and the number of applications received in 2007/2008. Over 50% of the licences issued by the Council for alcohol consumption on the premises permitted live music, contrary to suggestions nationally that live music venues have decreased in numbers as a result of the Act. The number of personal licences administered by the Council rose by 18% in 2007/08 but as such licences have nationwide validity, this does not present an accurate reflection of personal licence holders currently authorising sales of alcohol in the District.

The Committee also has been updated on the national statistics recently published by the DCMS which show that the number of premises licences have increased by 6% in the year to 31st March 2008 and the number of personal licences by 19%.

5. ALCOHOL DISORDER ZONES

The Committee has received a report on the new powers available to the Council to designate alcohol disorder zones. Members have been advised that the use of such measures is intended to be a last resort when problems relating to alcohol consumption were incapable of being attributed to an individual licensed premises and could not be dealt with by any other means. The Panel has noted that ADZs can be used only to address alcohol related nuisance or disorder issues and cannot be applied to problems caused by late night food outlets or litter.

J M Sadler
Chairman