



**AGENDA ITEM:**

**COUNCIL: 16 April 2014**

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**Report of: Borough Solicitor**

**Relevant Managing Director: Managing Director (People and Places)**

**Contact for further information: Mrs J Brown (Extn. 5065)**

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**SUBJECT: LICENSING ACT 2003 – NIGHT TIME LICENSING OPTIONS**

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Wards affected: Borough wide

**1.0 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT**

1.1 As requested by the Licensing and Gambling Committee on 1 April 2014 to seek endorsement of Minute 25 A (IV) below, regarding the Development of Initiatives with Edge Hill University and offer of £5k match funding for the development of these initiatives.

**2.0 RECOMMENDATION**

2.1 That Minute 25 A (IV) of the Licensing and Gambling Committee, set out in paragraph 3.2 below, be endorsed.

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**3.0 BACKGROUND**

3.1 The report of the Assistant Director Community Services 'Licensing Act 2003 – Night Time Licensing Options', which was considered by Licensing and Gambling Committee on 1 April 2014, is attached at Appendix 1 to this report. Paragraph 4.3 of that report provides details of the Options considered by the Committee at the meeting.

3.2 The minute of the Licensing & Gambling Committee held 1 April 2014 reads as follows:-

**25. LICENSING ACT 2003 - NIGHT TIME LICENSING OPTIONS**

Consideration was given to the report of the Assistant Director Community Services as contained on pages 211 to 220 of the Book of Reports, the purpose of which was to provide Members with options and an action plan to address

concerns regarding night time anti-social behaviour in the Borough, including Ormskirk Town Centre.

The Commercial, Safety and Licensing Manager outlined the report and responded to questions from Members of the Committee. He also notified the Committee that he was in receipt of a letter from Norman Baker MP - Minister for Crime Prevention, dated 25 March 2014, as contained on pages 281 to 282 of the Book of Reports in response to the letter sent by the Assistant Director Community Services with regard to Early Morning Restriction Orders

RESOLVED: A. That the following options from those stated in paragraph 4.3 of the report and the associated Action Plan at Appendix 2, be approved:-

- I. Review of the Council's Licensing Policy with no additional funding.
- II. Review of the Council's Licensing Service Web Pages.
- III. Review of Licensing Fees.
- IV. Development of initiatives with Edge Hill University – That Council be asked to endorse the resolution that initiatives be developed with Edge Hill University and the Assistant Director Community Services be authorised to approach Edge Hill University with an offer of £5k match funding for the development of these initiatives.
- V. Improved taxi facilities at Edge Hill University.
- VI. Improved liaison between the licensed trade and the community.
- VII. Cumulative Impact Policy - Following the review of the Council's Licensing Policy at I above.
- VIII. Night Time Economy Study - That delegated authority be given to the Assistant Director Community Services in consultation with the Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Licensing & Gambling Committee to agree the Terms of Reference of the Study and that £5k be allocated for the delivery of this option.

B. That the Assistant Director Community Services be instructed to implement the chosen options as listed above.

Note1: The Chairman varied the order of business in order that this item was heard last, to allow for members of the public to attend.

Note 2: Councillor Mrs Stephenson declared a pecuniary interest in this item and therefore left the Chamber at consideration of this item.

#### **4.0 COMMENTS OF THE ASSISTANT DIRECTOR COMMUNITY SERVICES**

4.1 The initiatives to be developed with Edge Hill University provided in the report to the Licensing and Gambling Committee on 1 April 2014 were based on the experiences of Loughborough University. It is understood that this approach was developed in response to concerns of potential noise and disturbance from student activity within the local community. It is not stated that this approach has eliminated such problems, but it appears that additional community liaison

initiatives funded and operated by that university have helped to address the problem. The decision of the Licensing and Gambling Committee was to support the development of these initiatives with an offer of £5k match funding to Edge Hill University.

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### **Background Documents**

There are no background documents (as defined in Section 100D(5) of the Local Government Act 1972) to this Report.

### **Equality Impact Assessment**

An Equality Impact Assessment has been prepared for the attached report.

### **Appendices**

1. Report of the Assistant Director Community Services – Licensing Act 2003 – Night Time Licensing Options – Licensing & Gambling Committee – 1 April 2014