



## **RHONDDA CYNON TAF COUNCIL**

Minutes of the hybrid meeting of the Licensing Act 2003 held on Tuesday, 10 September 2024 at 4.30 pm at Council Chamber, 2 Llys Cadwyn, Taff Street, Pontypridd, CF37 4TH/Zoom.

This meeting was live streamed, details of which can be accessed [here](#)

### **County Borough Councillors: -**

Councillor A Fox (Chair)

Councillor G Stacey    Councillor L Ellis  
Councillor G Holmes    Councillor G Hughes  
Councillor W Hughes    Councillor S Powderhill  
Councillor A O Rogers    Councillor J Turner

### **Officers in attendance**

Ms R Hope, Head of Service for Public Protection and Regulatory Services  
Mr M Owen, Assistant Licensing Manager  
Ms K Trilloe, Health Protection and Licensing Manager  
Mr O Williams, Senior Solicitor - Litigation

## **8 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absences were received from County Borough Councillors S. Bradwick and D. Evans.

## **9 DECLARATION OF INTEREST**

In accordance with the Council's Code of Conduct, there were no declarations made pertaining to the agenda.

## **10 HUMAN RIGHTS ACT 1998 AND CRIME AND DISORDER ACT**

It was **RESOLVED** to note that when Members determine the licensing and registration matters before them, they have a duty not to act in a manner that is incompatible with the convention on Human Rights and the Crime and Disorder Act.

## **11 MINUTES**

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the minutes of the 4<sup>th</sup> June 2024 as an accurate reflection of the meeting.

## 12 REVIEW OF LICENSING POLICY STATEMENT 2024 - 2030

The Assistant Licensing Manager provided the Committee with the report which is to consider revisions proposed by the Director of Public Health, Protection & Community Services to the Council's Statement of Licensing Policy for the period 2025 – 2030.

Members were advised that following acceptance at licensing committee on 4<sup>th</sup> June 2024 to engage in consultation, the draft licensing policy was open to comment between 10<sup>th</sup> June and 21<sup>st</sup> July 202, whereby the consultation was publicised in local newspapers, on the RCT consultation page, on RCT social media and direct to Responsible Authorities. Furthermore, that two Responsible Authorities commented, these being South Wales Police and Public Health Board, and also, there were 79 respondents to the general questionnaire online.

It was reported that consideration has been given to the police comments, and a number of minor amendments have been made to document, and also, that consideration was given to other comments within the police representation, including a query relating to a cumulative impact assessment (CIA) and late-night levy. Furthermore, that RCT Council does not currently have any areas which are believed to require a cumulative impact assessment, and to introduce this would require significant evidence of issues that do not promote the licensing objectives, which will take some time to gather from all Responsible Authorities as well as other departments such as Community Safety Officers. To date no request has been provided to warrant research into whether there is a need for a CIA.

Following consideration of the report, Members **RESOLVED**;

1. To note the responses received during the consultation period.
2. To agree the proposal of the Director of Public Health & Protection to submit the updated report to Full Council.

## 13 REVIEW OF THE LICENSING ACT 2003 & GAMBLING ACT 2005

The Head of Service for Public Protection and Regulatory Services provided the Committee with the report on relevant issues with regard to the Licensing Act 2003 and the Gambling Act 2005 for the 20<sup>th</sup> May 2024 to 18<sup>th</sup> August 2024 together with ancillary matters arising from the responsibilities charged to the Committee.

Member were advised that the number of TEN's have increased this period to 133 compared to 104 during the last reporting, which is usual for the summer period where festivals, sporting events, family events and charity events occur. Also, that the Bute Arms requested several TENS in preparation for a variation application to their licence. Furthermore, that the Eisteddfod also led to various premises requesting licensable

activities and extensions to their licence, due to the influx of those attending the area.

An analysis of the TEN's applications indicates, 63 for existing premises licences, 51 for permitted community events and 19 from Private Members Clubs.

The Head of Service for Public Protection and Regulatory Services reported that since the last Committee report, there had been one contested application for a Variation of Premises Licence which was Granted subject to the addition of the conditions proposed by the RA's along with the restriction of the sale of alcohol (off sales only) to Mon-Sun – 09:00hrs to 21:00hrs. Also, that no reviews and no Appeals have been determined during this period.

Members were referred to section 4.3 of the report, where the premises inspections and infringements were outlined. It was reported that the current performance level for inspected premises which is at 89.91%.

It was report that a new “speakeasy” hidden bar has successfully opened in Pontypridd, in time for the Eisteddfod and this premises was popular during the event timeframe and the owner of the business has joined the local Pubwatch scheme.

Members learned that a private members club in Llantrisant was visited in June following a nasty assault outside the premises, which South Wales Police were alerted to the assault and dealt with the criminal element of this, while Licensing Officers from both Local Authority and Police teams gave full advice to the Club Secretary to mitigate the risk of this happening again. Also, that this is not a premises the Authorities have any concerns with, and this was taken into account when advice was given.

The Head of Service for Public Protection and Regulatory Services reported that the following complaint, a takeaway premises in Pontypridd town centre has been subject to a test purchase of hot food after 23:00hrs, where they sold hot food past the terminal hour. Furthermore, that the owner of this business has been given advice from officers and has been to the Council offices for pre application advice previously, and therefore further action is now being considered.

Members were informed that a joint visit with Trading Standards was conducted at a premises following a number of complaints of anti-social behaviour, underage sales and alleged drug use/dealing. Also, that advice given and PLH/DPS has put measures in place, CCTV installed outside, regular monitoring outside, signage outside and agreement to close gates when busy. This will continue to be monitored.

Members were advised that officers have been heavily involved with the planning process for the Eisteddfod and attended many Safety Advisory

Group meetings throughout this year to ensure compliance with licensing legislation. Also, that during the 8 days of the event, in addition to attending both Maes A and Maes B, Licensing Officers attended the town centre and visited many of the existing licensed premises, offering guidance and advice when necessary. Moreover, that it is pleasing to report that there were minimal minor issues throughout the event and the town centre premises have reported excellent trade figures during the event.

In terms of the recovery of annual fees, Members were advised that the outstanding invoices are a common place and will be chased by officers. Members may note that the date of the above is July. The above figures will alter by the next committee.

The Head of Service for Public Protection and Regulatory Services referred Members to section 5.1 of the report and provided them with an update in terms of the Gambling Act 2005.

Furthermore, Members were provided a summary of existing permissions in relation to Trade profile Gambling.

Following consideration of the report, the Committee **RESOLVED**:

1. To note the contents of the report in respect of the Licensing Act 2003 which has been provided for information.
2. To note the contents of the report in respect of the Gambling Act 2005, which has been provided for information.

**14 TO CONSIDER PASSING THE UNDER-MENTIONED RESOLUTION:**

It was **RESOLVED** that the press and public be excluded from the meeting under Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended) for the following items of business on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraph 13 of Part 4 of Schedule 12A of the Act.

**15 LICENCES AND REGISTRATIONS ISSUED UNDER THE PROVISION OF DELEGATED POWERS FOR THE PERIOD: 20.05.24 - 18.08.24**

The Head of Service for Public Protection and Regulatory Services provided the Committee with details of licences and registrations issued during the period 20<sup>th</sup> May 2024 to 18<sup>th</sup> August 2024, and it was **RESOLVED** to note the content of the report.

**This meeting closed at 4.39 pm**

**Councillor A Fox  
Chair.**