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Bridgend County Borough Council

Swyddfeydd Dinesig, Stryd yr Angel, Pen-y-bont, CF31 4WB / Civic Offices, Angel Street, Bridgend, CF31 4WB



Rydym yn croesawu gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg. Rhowch wybod i ni os mai Cymraeg yw eich dewis iaith.

We welcome correspondence in Welsh. Please let us know if your language choice is Welsh.



Cyfarwyddiaeth y Prif Weithredwr / Chief Executive's Directorate
Deialu uniongyrchol / Direct line /: 01656 643148 / 643694 / 643513
Gofynnwch am / Ask for: Democratic Services

Ein cyf / Our ref:
Eich cyf / Your ref:

Dyddiad/Date: Thursday, 15 May 2025

Dear Councillor,

LICENSING COMMITTEE

A meeting of the Licensing Committee will be held remotely - via Microsoft Teams on **Wednesday, 21 May 2025 at 09:30.**

AGENDA

1 Apologies for Absence

To receive apologies for absence from Members.

2 Declarations of Interest

To receive declarations of personal and prejudicial interest (if any) from Members/Officers in accordance with the provisions of the Members Code of Conduct adopted by Council from 1 September 2008.

3 Approval of Minutes

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To receive for approval the minutes of the Licensing Committee Meeting 11/09/2024

4 Appointment Of Licensing Sub-Committee(s) and Delegations To Officers

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5 Urgent Items

By receiving this Agenda Pack electronically you will save the Authority approx. £00.16 in printing costs

To consider any other item(s) of business in respect of which notice has been given in accordance with Rule 4 of the Council Procedure Rules and which the person presiding at the meeting is of the opinion should by reason of special circumstances be transacted at the meeting as a matter of urgency.

Note: This will be a Remote meeting and Members and Officers will be Remotely via Microsoft Teams. The meeting will be recorded for subsequent transmission via the Council's internet site which will be available as soon as practicable after the meeting. If you would like to view this meeting live, please contact cabinet_committee@bridgend.gov.uk or tel. 01656 643148 / 643694 / 643513 / 643159.

Yours faithfully

K Watson

Chief Officer, Legal and Regulatory Services, HR and Corporate Policy

Councillors:

H T Bennett

A R Berrow

S J Bletsoe

O Clatworthy

RJ Collins

C Davies

S Easterbrook

H Griffiths

RM James

P W Jenkins

M Lewis

J Llewellyn-Hopkins

J E Pratt

R Williams

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE LICENSING COMMITTEE HELD REMOTELY - VIA MICROSOFT TEAMS ON WEDNESDAY, 11 SEPTEMBER 2024 AT 09:30

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Present

Councillor M Lewis – Chairperson

S Easterbrook
RM James
S J Bletsoe

R Williams
RJ Collins
C Davies

J Llewellyn-Hopkins
H T Bennett

J E Pratt
A R Berrow

Present Virtually

Apologies for Absence

MJ Kearns and P W Jenkins

Officers:

Oscar Roberts
Kirsty Evans
Nick Dennison
Nimi Chandrasena

Business Administrative Apprentice - Democratic Services
Senior Licensing Officer
Solicitor
Democratic Services Officer - Support

Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations made.

Approval of Minutes

Decision Made	<u>RESOLVED:</u> That the Minutes of the Licensing Committee Meeting dated 22/05/24 were approved as a true and accurate record.
Date Decision Made	11 September 2024

36. Gambling Act 2005 Statement Of Licensing Principles 2025-2028

Decision Made	<p>The Report was presented by the Senior Licensing Officer, the purpose of which was to ask the Committee to endorse the publication of the Council's Statement of Licensing Principles for the next triennial period 2025 to 2028, and to forward the policy to Cabinet and Council for final approval and publication in accordance with the regulations.</p> <p>She explained that the responsibility for licencing land-based premises as well as functions relating to issuing permits and regulations, rest with local authorities. It was expected that the local authority publish, on a three yearly basis, a statement of licencing principles governing the regulation, policy and the decision-making process relating to gambling premises. The Senior Licensing Officer stated that following a public consultation that followed the publishing of the Gambling White Paper by the Department for Culture, Media and Sport, the government published its conclusions and the proposals that would impact the sector. The proposals expected to impact the sector were listed as changes to casinos, gaming machines in adult gaming centres and bingo halls, cashless payments on gaming machines by removing the prohibition on the use of direct debit payment cards and finally raising the current fee cap that licencing authorities may charge premises in England and Wales by 15%.</p> <p>A discussion took place about the statistics expected to be provided by GAMCare, an independent charity providing information, advice and support to anyone affected by gambling harms. The charity had suggested gathering statistics from the National gambling helpline, which they operate to assist the authority in developing a local profile. As these statistics had not been received, the Senior Licensing Officer confirmed it would be pursued.</p> <p>There was a wider discussion between those present about the harm caused by the proposal to accept cashless payments on gaming machines. Several members voiced their concerns and dissatisfaction with the proposal and suggestions were made to explore the possibility of raising their concerns with the local MPs and/or the Department of Culture, Media and Sport.</p> <p>The Senior Licensing Officer responded that while the consultation of the White Paper on the subject had</p>
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	<p>now been completed, there was no reason that members concerns could not be voiced. She advised the the committee that she would go through the Government's consultation response to ascertain if there had been a specific response to the concerns raised by the members within this meeting.</p> <p><u>RESOLVED</u> : The Committee endorsed the proposed Statement of Licensing Principles as attached at Appendix A, to subsequently be forwarded to Cabinet and Council for final approval and publication in accordance with the regulations.</p> <p>It was agreed that the Senior Licensing officer would pursue the statistics expected from GAMCare and that she would update the Committee of the Government's consultation response to the concerns over the use of cashless payments.</p>
Date Decision Made	11 September 2024

37. Urgent Items

Decision Made	There were no urgent items.
Date Decision Made	11 September 2024

To observe further debate that took place on the above items, please click this [link](#)

The meeting closed at 09:49.

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Meeting of:	LICENSING COMMITTEE
Date of Meeting:	21 MAY 2025
Report Title:	APPOINTMENT OF LICENSING SUB-COMMITTEE(S) AND DELEGATIONS TO OFFICERS
Report Owner / Corporate Director:	CHIEF OFFICER – LEGAL AND REGULATORY SERVICES, HR AND CORPORATE POLICY
Responsible Officer:	KIRSTY EVANS TEAM MANAGER LICENSING
Policy Framework and Procedure Rules:	The report content has no direct effect upon the policy framework and procedure rules.
Executive Summary:	To propose the membership of the Licensing Committee and Sub-Committees following the Annual Meeting of Council 2025.

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to propose the membership of the Licensing Committee Sub-Committees following the Annual Meeting of Council 2025.

2. Background

- 2.1 At the annual general meeting of council on 14 May 2025 they will determine the membership of the Licensing Act 2003 and the Licensing Committees for the municipal year 2025/2026. At the date of publication of this report the membership has not been confirmed.

3. Current situation / proposal

- 3.1 The range of functions is set out within the Council's Constitution in Part 3 - Responsibility for Functions, relating to the Licensing Committee and Sub-Committees. These functions include taxi licensing, street trading, and other general licensing regimes as required. A separate report is being submitted in respect of the authority's Licensing Act 2003 and Gambling Act 2005 functions.
- 3.2 It is proposed that the Licensing Committee continues with the existing arrangements and approves the formation of two panels sitting on a rota basis, each consisting of

seven Members of the Licensing Committee and chaired by the Chairperson and Vice Chairperson of the Licensing Committee where possible.

- 3.3 In the event that the Chair or Vice Chair are not able to attend their respective sub-committee meeting, a chair will be elected from those in attendance.

4. Equality implications (including Socio-economic Duty and Welsh Language)

- 4.1 An initial Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) screening has identified that there would be no negative impact on those with one or more of the protected characteristics, on socio-economic disadvantage or the use of the Welsh Language. It is therefore not necessary to carry out a full EIA on this policy or proposal.

5. Well-being of Future Generations implications and connection to Corporate Well-being Objectives

- 5.1 The well-being goals identified in the Act were considered in the preparation of this report. It is considered that there will be no significant or unacceptable impacts upon the achievement of well-being goals/objectives as a result of this report.

6. Climate Change Implications

- 6.1 There are no climate change implications arising from this report.

7. Safeguarding and Corporate Parent Implications

- 7.1 There are no safeguarding and corporate parent implications arising from this report.

8. Financial Implications

- 8.1 There are no financial implications arising from the report.

9. Recommendations

- 9.1 The Committee is recommended to:
- Approve the formation of two panels sitting on a rota basis, each consisting of seven Members of the Licensing Committee and chaired by the Chairperson and Vice Chairperson of the Licensing Committee where possible. In the event that the Chair or Vice Chair are not able to attend their respective sub-committee meeting, a chair will be elected from those in attendance. These Licensing Sub-Committees will undertake licensing functions, including taxi licensing and street trading as set out in the Council's Constitution.

Background documents

None.