

RIBBLE VALLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL REPORT TO LICENSING COMMITTEE

INFORMATION

meeting date: 15 JUNE 2021
title: LICENSING ENFORCEMENT UPDATE
submitted by: CHIEF EXECUTIVE
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1 PURPOSE

1.1 To inform Members of the current arrangements for licensing enforcement and ongoing issues.

1.2 Relevance to the Council's ambitions and priorities

- Community Objectives }
- Corporate Priorities } Consideration of these issues will promote the Council's aim to be a well managed Council.
- Other Considerations }

2 BACKGROUND

2.1 Members will recall that it had been hoped that the Council's recently appointed Planning and Licensing Enforcement Officer could attend the previous meeting, but that circumstances unfortunately prevented attendance. It is hoped that the Enforcement Officer will be present at this meeting.

2.2 Since the previous meeting, the part time Planning and Licensing Enforcement Officer has retired. His replacement is yet to be appointed.

3 ISSUES

3.1 Members will appreciate that the licensed trade has been going through a very quiet spell during lockdown and recovery from the Coronavirus pandemic. While some venues have continued to provide off-sales or delivery services, many premises have been closed altogether, reopening when their particular circumstances and premises would permit.

3.2 As the reopening has taken place, the Council's Licensing Enforcement and Covid Enforcement staff have undertaken visits to premises, largely on a proactive basis to support and advise. Some of these visits have been in company with the Police, with whom there is close collaboration.

3.3 While there have been certain complaints about licensed premises, these mainly fall within the powers of other agencies such as the Police or Environmental Health in respect of noise, which is not in breach of condition. Specific breaches of licence conditions have been relatively rare, and such complaints have thus far been investigated and, where appropriate, advice has been given.

3.4 Ongoing meetings are taking place with licensees, individually and collectively, on an informal basis but the reintroduction of a Pubwatch type regime has been largely welcomed.

4 **CONCLUSION**

4.1 Committee is asked to note the content of this report.

STEPHEN BARKER
SOLICITOR

MARSHAL SCOTT
CHIEF EXECUTIVE

For further information please ask for Stephen Barker, extension 3216.