

REPORT TO: LICENSING BOARD - 20TH JUNE, 2002
REPORT ON: CONDITIONS ATTACHED TO ENTERTAINMENT LICENCES
REPORT BY: CLERK TO THE LICENSING BOARD
REPORT NO: 551-2002

1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

To advise members of proposed amendments to the conditions attached to Entertainment Licences.

2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that the Board

- 2.1 Agree that the minimum charge remain at £2.50;
- 2.2 Agree to attach the new condition as outlined in Paragraph 6.4 below to all Entertainment Licences (Discos);
- 2.3 Attach the condition to Regular Extension of the Permitted Hours, thereby allowing the condition to be attached to all premises in a shorter timescale than if it were only attached to licences i.e. a maximum period of one year as opposed to three;
- 2.4 Agree that a voluntary code of conduct be introduced; and
- 2.5 Remit to the Clerk to consult and report thereon to a future meeting.

3.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial implications.

4.0 LOCAL AGENDA 21 IMPLICATIONS

None.

5.0 EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES IMPLICATIONS

None.

6.0 MAIN TEXT

- 6.1 Board members will be aware that for a number of years it has been the practice to review the minimum charge for entry to Discos which is currently set at £2.50.
- 6.2 There is no intention to raise the charge this year. However it is intended to review the conditions attached to the Entertainment Licence/Regular Extension which impose the charge. This is in light of complaints of alleged breaches of the condition and in response to several queries from licensees regarding special events, promotions etc.
- 6.3 The existing condition is as follows:-
 - (i) A minimum charge for entry to the premises, applicable to persons of 18 years of age and over, should be charged. This charge shall be fixed by the Licensing Board at its meeting in June of each year for the year beginning 1st July and ending 30th June; and
 - (ii) The above minimum charge shall not be offset in any way through the issue of Complimentary Tickets, Vouchers or any other means.

6.4 It is proposed that the new condition be as follows:-

- (i) A minimum charge for entry to the premises, applicable to persons of 18 years of age and over, must be charged. This charge shall be fixed by the Licensing Board at its meeting in June of each year for the year beginning 1 July and ending 30 June; and
- (ii) The above minimum charge shall not be offset in any way. For the avoidance of doubt, off-setting the minimum charge includes, but is not limited to:-
 - (a) The issue of complimentary tickets or vouchers; and
 - (b) The advance purchase of tickets granting entry on more than one evening.

6.5 The wording of the new condition clarifies the "off-setting" of the minimum charge.

6.6. In addition, it is intended that a consultation exercise be conducted over the summer with the Licensed Trade regarding the introduction of a voluntary code of conduct. This was previously discussed at a Forum Meeting in April, 2002.

6.7 The code will include agreement on the sale of alcohol at discounted prices and happy hours and other matters relating to binge drinking especially by young persons.

6.8 Depending upon the outcome of the consultation and the actual code of conduct itself the above condition may have to be reviewed at some time in the future.

7.0 CONSULTATION

Licensed Trade and Forum Members will be consulted regarding the voluntary Code of Conduct.

8.0 Signature Date
Clerk to the Licensing Board