

DURHAM COUNTY COUNCIL

At a Meeting of **General Licensing and Registration Committee** held in Committee Room 2, County Hall, Durham on **Wednesday 23 April 2014 at 10.00 am**

Present:

Councillor C Carr (Chairman)

Members of the Committee:

Councillors E Bell (Vice-Chairman), A Batey, D Bell, J Bell, J Blakey, D Boyes, P Crathorne, B Graham, O Gunn, J Hart, D Hicks, A Hopgood, I Jewell, T Nearney, L Marshall, D Stoker, A Surtees and A Willis

Also Present:

C Rudman – Licensing Manager
C Greenlay – Principal Solicitor, Litigation

1 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors B Alderson, I Geldard, B Glass, C Hampson, K Hopper, J Lee, J Maitland and P May.

2 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest received.

3 Minutes

The Minutes of the meeting held on 17 October 2013 were agreed as a correct record and were signed by the Chairman.

4 Licensing (Policy) Fee Setting for Sex Establishments and Sexual Entertainment Venues

Consideration was given to the report of the Head of Environment, Health and Consumer Protection Service regarding proposed new fees relating to the licensing of sex establishments and sexual entertainment venues (for copy see file of Minutes).

In discussing the report Members were informed that the granting of licences had to be cost-neutral and were advised of the factors taken into account in the calculation of the proposed fees which would be reviewed on an annual basis. On-costs were included in the calculation.

The Committee was also provided with the fee levels set by other local authorities in the region, some of which had imposed a different fee for each class of premises. The fee proposed by Durham County Council covered all forms of sex establishments and sexual entertainment venues, and was deemed to be reasonable when measured against these other local authorities.

Resolved:

That the proposed Sexual Entertainment Licensing Fee of £3517 be approved and recommended to Council for adoption.