

TONBRIDGE & MALLING BOROUGH COUNCIL

LICENSING & APPEALS COMMITTEE

13 January 2011

Report of the Legal Services Partnership Manager

Part 1- Public

Delegated

1 RELAXATION OF LICENSING HOURS FOR THE ROYAL WEDDING

1.1 Home Office Consultation

- 1.1.1 The Home Office have just published a consultation document in connection with licensing hours for the forthcoming Royal Wedding. I have attached the consultation as Annex 1. The following is a quote from the Home Office statement which was released at the start of the consultation:-

“On 29 April 2011, the nation will celebrate the Royal Wedding of Prince William and Kate Middleton. To mark the occasion, the government has declared the day a public holiday.

Many pubs and other licensed premises may wish to open later over that weekend to take advantage of the celebrations and the long weekend.

Currently, licence holders have to apply for a Temporary Event Notice (TEN) to extend their opening hours for a limited period. However, these are subject to annual limits and may be refused if the police object on the grounds of crime and disorder.

The Royal Wedding is a time of national celebration and the government wants everyone to be able to participate. For this reason, the government is considering temporarily extending the opening hours of licensed premises in England and Wales to 1am on Friday 29 April and Saturday 30 April.

This consultation asks for your views on this temporary extension.”

The Government have allowed only two weeks for replies to this document. Members views are sought on the consultation.

1.2 Legal Implications

- 1.2.1 As set out in the Home Office statement, those licensed premises whose permitted hours of operation do not extend to 1:00 am, and who wish to remain open longer than their permitted time to celebrate this occasion, would have to apply individually for a Temporary Event Notice to be able to trade lawfully.

1.3 Financial and Value for Money Considerations

- 1.3.1 Although there is the potential loss of the fee for the Temporary Event Notice this is a fixed amount of £21 per notice and it would not cover the extra time and resources that potentially could need to be committed to this exercise if the Government proposal is not supported. There are approximately 350 licensed premises within the Borough.

1.4 Risk Assessment

- 1.4.1 Without the relaxation in the permitted hours some premises may be tempted to remain open longer than they should and it could be difficult to monitor which premises may be acting unlawfully.

1.5 Equality Impact Assessment

- 1.5.1 See 'Screening for equality impacts' table at end of report

1.6 Recommendations

- 1.6.1 Members are asked to consider the consultation document and determine their response to each of the 7 questions.

Background papers:

contact: Ian Henderson

Nil

Adrian Stanfield
Legal Services Partnership Manager

Screening for equality impacts:		
Question	Answer	Explanation of impacts
a. Does the decision being made or recommended through this paper have potential to cause adverse impact or discriminate against different groups in the community?	No	This consultation affects everyone equally.
b. Does the decision being made or recommended through this paper make a positive contribution to promoting equality?	No	See above
c. What steps are you taking to mitigate, reduce, avoid or minimise the impacts identified above?	N/A	

In submitting this report, the Chief Officer doing so is confirming that they have given due regard to the equality impacts of the decision being considered, as noted in the table above.