



Licensing Committee

Tuesday 23 May 2023 at 6.00 pm

Boardrooms 1 & 2 - Brent Civic Centre, Engineers Way, Wembley, HA9 0FJ

Please note that this meeting will be held in person with all members of the Licensing Committee required to attend in person.

The press and public are also welcome to attend this meeting in person. Please note the meeting is not scheduled for live webcast.

Membership:

Members

Councillors:

Ahmed (Chair)
Long (Vice-Chair)
Bajwa
Chohan
Collymore
Ethapemi
Hack
Lorber
Mahmood
Rubin

Please note the agenda has been republished to reflect the change in membership confirmed at the Annual Council meeting on 17 May 2023.

For further information contact: Devbai Bhanji, Governance Assistant
Tel: 020 8937 6841; Email: devbai.bhanji@brent.gov.uk

For electronic copies of minutes and agendas please visit:
[Council meetings and decision making | Brent Council](#)

Members are asked to note that the Mandatory Member Learning and Development Training session will follow straight after the Full Licensing Committee. This session will only be open to members of the Committee.

Notes for Members - Declarations of Interest:

If a Member is aware they have a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest* in an item of business, they must declare its existence and nature at the start of the meeting or when it becomes apparent and must leave the room without participating in discussion of the item.

If a Member is aware they have a Personal Interest** in an item of business, they must declare its existence and nature at the start of the meeting or when it becomes apparent.

If the Personal Interest is also significant enough to affect your judgement of a public interest and either it affects a financial position or relates to a regulatory matter then after disclosing the interest to the meeting the Member must leave the room without participating in discussion of the item, except that they may first make representations, answer questions or give evidence relating to the matter, provided that the public are allowed to attend the meeting for those purposes.

***Disclosable Pecuniary Interests:**

- (a) **Employment, etc.** - Any employment, office, trade, profession or vocation carried on for profit gain.
- (b) **Sponsorship** - Any payment or other financial benefit in respect of expenses in carrying out duties as a member, or of election; including from a trade union.
- (c) **Contracts** - Any current contract for goods, services or works, between the Councillors or their partner (or a body in which one has a beneficial interest) and the council.
- (d) **Land** - Any beneficial interest in land which is within the council's area.
- (e) **Licences**- Any licence to occupy land in the council's area for a month or longer.
- (f) **Corporate tenancies** - Any tenancy between the council and a body in which the Councillor or their partner have a beneficial interest.
- (g) **Securities** - Any beneficial interest in securities of a body which has a place of business or land in the council's area, if the total nominal value of the securities exceeds £25,000 or one hundredth of the total issued share capital of that body or of any one class of its issued share capital.

****Personal Interests:**

The business relates to or affects:

- (a) Anybody of which you are a member or in a position of general control or management, and:
 - To which you are appointed by the council;
 - which exercises functions of a public nature;
 - which is directed is to charitable purposes;
 - whose principal purposes include the influence of public opinion or policy (including a political party or trade union).
- (b) The interests a of a person from whom you have received gifts or hospitality of at least £50 as a member in the municipal year;

or

A decision in relation to that business might reasonably be regarded as affecting the well-being or financial position of:

- You yourself;
- a member of your family or your friend or any person with whom you have a close association or any person or body who is the subject of a registrable personal interest.

Agenda

Introductions, if appropriate.

Item **Page**

1 Apologies for absence and clarification of alternate members

2 Declarations of interests

Members are invited to declare at this stage of the meeting, the nature and existence of any relevant disclosable pecuniary or personal interests in the items on this agenda and to specify the item(s) to which they relate.

3 Minutes of the previous meeting 1 - 2

To approve the minutes of the previous meeting held on Tuesday 31 May 2022 as a correct record.

4 Licensing Sub-Committee Appointments and Decision-Making 3 - 8

This report fulfils the Committee's duty to review and determine the representation of political groups on its Sub-Committees and to make appointments in accordance with the wishes of the political groups concerned.

5 Appointment to Sub-Committees 9 - 10

To consider the appointments to be made in relation to those Sub Committees appointed by the Licensing Committee.

Members are asked to note the list of appointments have been attached.

(Agenda republished to include the list of Sub Committee appointments on 18 May 2023)

Date of the next meeting: To be scheduled as required



- Please remember to **SWITCH OFF** your mobile phone during the meeting.
- The meeting room is accessible by lift and seats will be provided for members of the public.

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MINUTES OF THE LICENSING COMMITTEE

Held in the Conference Hall, Brent Civic Centre at 6.00pm on Tuesday 31 May 2022

PRESENT: Cllrs Ahmed (C), Long, Ethapemi, Chappell, Chohan, Rubin, Bajwa and Mahmood.

1. **Apologies for absence and clarification of alternate members**

Apologies were received from Cllr Georgiou.

2. **Declarations of interests**

There were no declarations of interest at the meeting.

3. **Minutes of the previous meeting**

RESOLVED that the minutes of the previous meeting, held on 4 May 2021, were approved and signed as an accurate record of the meeting.

4. **Licensing Sub Committee Appointments and Decision-making Arrangements**

The Committee received a report from the Director of Legal, HR Audit & Investigations which set out the Committee's duty to review and determine the representation of political groups on its Regulatory Sub Committee and to make appointments in accordance with the wishes of the political groups concerned.

The Committee noted:

1. that whilst the Licensing Committee had a statutory duty to review and determine the representation of political groups and allocation of seats on its Regulatory Sub Committee, there was no requirement to apply these rules to the Alcohol and Entertainment Licensing Sub Committee.
2. The political balance principles that would apply in relation to the allocation of seats to political groups on the Regulatory Sub-Committee, as detailed in section 3 of the report.

Having considered the proposals detailed within the report, the Committee **RESOLVED** to agree the allocation of seats to political groups on the Regulatory Sub Committee, in accordance with the political balance rules, as detailed within section 3.16 of the report (4 Labour: 1 Conservative) with the appointments to be made giving effect to the wishes of the political group(s) allocated the seats.

5. **Appointments to Licensing Sub Committees**

The Committee was asked to confirm the appointments to the Sub-Committees listed under Agenda 5, as had been reported to the Annual Council meeting on 18 May 2022.

RESOLVED to confirm the following appointments to each of the following Licensing Sub Committees:

ALCOHOL AND ENTERTAINMENT SUB-COMMITTEE

AHMED (C) - **LABOUR**
LONG (VC) - **LABOUR**
ETHAPEMI - **LABOUR**

SUBSTITUTE MEMBERS:

CHAPPELL, CHOCHAN, MAHMOOD, COLLYMORE, BAJWA, RUBIN, GEORGIU

REGULATORY SUB-COMMITTEE


AHMED (C) - **LABOUR**
LONG (VC) - **LABOUR**
ETHAPEMI - **LABOUR**
COLLYMORE - **LABOUR**
KANSAGRA - **CONSERVATIVE**

SUBSTITUTE MEMBERS:

CHAPPELL, CHOCHAN, MAHMOOD, BAJWA, RUBIN

The meeting closed at 6.12pm.

COUNCILLOR PARVEZ AHMED
Chair

 Brent	Licensing Committee 23 May 2023
	Report from the Corporate Director of Governance
Licensing Sub-Committee Appointments and Decision-making Arrangements	

Wards Affected:	All
Key or Non-Key Decision:	N/A
Open or Part/Fully Exempt: <small>(If exempt, please highlight relevant paragraph of Part 1, Schedule 12A of 1972 Local Government Act)</small>	Open
No. of Appendices:	None
Background Papers:	None
Contact Officer(s): <small>(Name, Title, Contact Details)</small>	Debra Norman Corporate Director of Governance Email: debra.norman@brent.gov.uk Tel: 020 8937 1578 Biancia Robinson Senior Solicitor (Governance) Email: biancia.robinson@brent.gov.uk Tel: 020 8937 1544

1.0 Summary

1.1 This report fulfils the Committee’s duty to review and determine the representation of political groups on its Regulatory Sub-Committee and to make appointments in accordance with the wishes of the political groups concerned.

2.0 Recommendations

That the Committee:

- 2.1 Agree the allocation of seats to political groups on the Regulatory Sub-Committee, in accordance with political balance rules.
- 2.2 Appoint Members and substitutes to each of its Sub-Committees under Item 5 of the agenda giving effect to the wishes of the political group(s) allocated the seats.

3.0 Detail

- 3.1 The Licensing Committee covers all the Council's licensing and registration functions, including being the Council's statutory licensing committee when discharging licensing functions under the Licensing Act 2003 and the Gambling Act 2005.
- 3.2 In practice, functions under the Licensing Act 2003 and the Gambling Act 2005 are discharged by the Committee's Alcohol & Entertainment Licensing Sub-Committee and officers.
- 3.3 As it also exercises the Council's other licensing and registration functions, the Committee (to that extent) is also classified as an ordinary committee of the Council.
- 3.4 ***Alcohol, entertainment and gambling licensing***
- 3.4.1 The Licensing Committee has established and operates a single three Member sub-committee called the Alcohol and Entertainment Licensing Sub-Committee.
- 3.4.2 The Sub-Committee comprises of the Chair, Vice-Chair of the main Committee along with one other Member appointed from within the main Licensing Committee membership. The remaining seven Members of the main Committee are then appointed as substitutes for this Sub-Committee, so that any of these can be selected whenever the need arises.
- 3.4.3 This Sub-Committee is chaired by the Chair or, in his/her absence, the Vice-Chair of the Licensing Committee. In the absence of the Chair or Vice-Chair, one of the three Sub-Committee Members chosen by the Sub-Committee will act as Chair.
- 3.4.4 In establishing the Sub-Committee, the main Committee approved (as amended) the following delegations:
- 'To consider and determine applications and other matters under the Licensing Act 2003 which cannot be determined by officers in accordance with section 10 of the Licensing Act 2003 or any other enactment and any other matter referred to it for determination by the Corporate Director Resident Services.'*
- 'To consider and determine applications and other matters under the Gambling Act 2005 which cannot be determined by officers in accordance with section 10 of the Licensing Act 2003, as applied by various provisions of the Gambling Act 2005 or any other enactment, and any other matter referred to it for determination by the Corporate Director Resident Services.'*
- 3.4.5 In addition, the Committee has approved the following delegations to the Corporate Director Resident Services:

'To consider and determine applications and other matters under the Licensing Act 2003 which can be determined by officers in accordance with section 10 of the Licensing Act 2003 or any other enactment.'

'To consider and determine applications and other matters under the Gambling Act 2005 which can be determined by officers in accordance with section 10 of the Licensing Act 2003, as applied by various provisions of the Gambling Act 2005 or any other enactment.'

- 3.4.6 Given the frequency of licensing hearings, appointing substitutes from the full membership of the Committee helps to ensure that, over a period of time, all available Committee Members will have the opportunity to decide contested applications and conduct hearings.

3.5 All other (non-executive) licensing and registration functions

- 3.5.1 The Licensing Committee has also established a further Sub-Committee known as the Regulatory Sub-Committee. This is comprised of five Members, with the remit to exercise all of the Committee's non-Licensing Act and Gambling Act functions.

- 3.5.2 This Sub-Committee is chaired by the Chair or, in his/her absence, the Vice-Chair of the main Licensing Committee and in the absence of the Chair or Vice-Chair, one of the five Sub-Committee Members acts as Chair.

- 3.5.3 When establishing the Sub-Committee, the main Licensing Committee approved the following delegations:

'To discharge all of the Licensing Committee's licensing and registration functions which do not relate to the Licensing Act 2003 or the Gambling Act 2005.'

- 3.5.4 Existing officer delegation arrangements, whether based on specific committee delegations or the Council's general scheme of officer delegations (as set out in Part 3 of the Constitution) will continue to apply in respect of these general licensing and registration functions.

Political balance

- 3.6 There is no legal requirement to apply political balance rules to the Alcohol and Entertainment Licensing Sub-Committee and it would be impractical to do so. The need for Licensing Act hearings is frequent, and sometimes urgent, and securing the availability of Members is not always straightforward. Therefore, maximum flexibility is essential.

- 3.7 As the main Committee has been constituted as an ordinary committee of the Council so that it can carry out additional functions, statutory political balance rules do apply to the main Licensing Committee.

- 3.8 Accordingly, the Licensing Committee has been included as part of the review and determination of the representation of political groups on Council committees to be undertaken at the Annual Council meeting on 17 May 2023, with the one available opposition seat being allocated to the Liberal Democrats Group and the appointment of Members to be agreed, in accordance with the wishes of the political groups concerned.
- 3.9 In terms of the Regulatory Sub-Committee, this means that the Licensing Committee also has a statutory duty to review and determine the representation of political groups on this Sub-Committee as soon as practicable after the Full Council review. The Committee then has a duty to make appointments to the Sub-Committee giving effect to the wishes of the political group allocated seats.
- 3.10 The allocation of seats is determined by applying the political balance principles prescribed by the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 and supplemented by the Local Government (Committees and Political Groups) Regulations 1990. These principles are set out below and are designed to ensure that the political composition of committees and sub-committees, as far as reasonably practicable, replicate the political composition of Full Council.
- 3.11 The political balance principles are:
- (i) That not all the seats on the sub-committee are allocated to the same political group.
 - (ii) That the majority of the seats on the sub-committee are allocated to a particular political group if the number of persons belonging to that group is a majority of the Council's Membership.
 - (iii) Subject to paragraphs (i) and to (ii) above, that the number of the seats on the sub-committee which are allocated to each political group bears the same proportion to the number of all the seats on that sub-committee as is borne by the number of Members of that group to the Membership of the Council.
- 3.12 There is a 4th principle (that each political group is allocated the same proportion of the total seats across all the ordinary committees of the Council (38 in total) as the proportion of the members of the Council that belong to that group). This covers the appointment of ordinary committees and has been applied to those bodies at the Annual Council meeting. The legislation does not apply this principle to the appointment of sub-committees.
- 3.13 On the basis that the overall membership of the Council stands at 57, the composition of political groups as a percentage of overall membership is as follows:
- 49 Labour Group councillors – representing 85.97% of the total council membership;
 - 5 Conservative Group councillors – representing 8.77% of the total council membership;

- 3 Liberal Democrat councillors – representing 5.26% of the total council membership.
- 3.14 According to the political balance rules, a political group for this purpose is a group of two or more members.
- 3.15 As the main Licensing Committee has been constituted as an ordinary committee of the Council, the additional political balance principle set out in 3.12 above was applied to the allocation of seats on that body. This has resulted in the Opposition seat on the main Committee being allocated to the Liberal Democrats Group. However, the political balance rules applying to the appointment of the Regulatory Sub Committee requires this calculation to be based only on the size of the individual sub-committee. As a result, the available opposition seat is required to be allocated to the Conservative Group, based on the size of the group as a percentage of the Council's overall membership.
- 3.16 Based on a Regulatory Sub-Committee with five seats, that means the allocation of seats would be as follows:
- Labour Group - 4 seats; and
 - Conservative Group – 1 seat.
- 3.17 Subsequent to confirming the allocation of these seats, the Licensing Committee has a duty to make appointments to their specified sub committees giving effect to the wishes of the political group(s) allocated the seats. The appointments to each committee being made by the respective political groups will be set out within the paper listed as Item 5 on the agenda, which will be circulated in advance of the meeting.

4.0 Financial Implications

4.1 There are none arising directly from this report.

5.0 Legal Implications

5.1 These are addressed in the body of the report.

6.0 Equality Implications

6.1 None.

7.0 Consultation with Ward Members and Stakeholders

7.1 The allocation of seats on sub committees has been subject to consultation with each individual group on the Council

Report sign off:

Debra Norman

Corporate Director of Governance



APPOINTMENTS TO SUB COMMITTEES & OUTSIDE BODIES

Proposed Appointments to the Licensing Sub-Committees for the 2023-2024 Municipal Year

ALCOHOL & ENTERTAINMENT LICENSING SUB-COMMITTEE

AHMED (C)	LABOUR
LONG (VC)	LABOUR
ETHAPEMI	LABOUR

SUBSTITUTE MEMBERS:

To be drawn from remaining pool of Licensing Committee members

REGULATORY SUB-COMMITTEE

AHMED (C)	LABOUR
LONG (VC)	LABOUR
COLLYMORE	LABOUR
ETHAPEMI	LABOUR
KANSAGRA	CONSERVATIVE

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