

DECISION ITEM

REPORT OF	MEETING	DATE	ITEM NO
HEAD OF GOVERNANCE	PUBLIC PROTECTION COMMITTEE AND LICENSING COMMITTEE	13 MARCH 2024	6
TRAINING STANDARDS			

PUBLIC ITEM

This item is for consideration in the public part of the meeting.

RELEVANT LEAD MEMBER

This item is within the remit of Lead Member for social wellbeing (Councillor Chris Dixon).

PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

The Local Government Association and the Institute of Licensing have jointly released a training standard for councillors engaged in licensing decisions. It includes a basic requirement for all members involved in licensing matters. Despite lacking statutory force, adherence to this standard is recommended as it signifies the commitment and expertise expected in licensing decision-making. The committee is urged to endorse the standard and implement recommended actions to ensure members meet training requirements.

RECOVERABILITY

This decision is recoverable under section 7 of part 3 of the constitution.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Endorse the training standard for licensing councillors issued by the Local Government Association and Institute of Licensing; and
2. Ask the Head of Governance to secure that training is available to members of the committee to enable them to meet the basic standard.

REPORT

THE TRAINING STANDARD

1. The Local Government Association and the Institute of Licensing have jointly published a training standard for councillors who are involved with making licensing decisions (which in this context means applications covered by both the Licensing Committee and the Public Protection Committee). The training standard comprises a 'basic standard', which all members with a role in determining licensing matters are expected to meet, together with a summary of 'other opportunities for further development'. The training standard can be accessed [here](#).
2. The training standard does not carry any statutory force. Nevertheless, it represents an important indication of degree of commitment and expertise that those determining licensing applications should possess. It is possible that nonconformity with the training standard might be used to support future challenges to individual

decisions. The committee is therefore asked to endorse the standard and make the recommendations set out above to ensure, as far as possible, that members of the committee meet the training standard.

- While the training standard would also apply to members of the Licensing Committee, there is no need for that committee to consider this report as membership of that committee is identical to the membership of this committee.

CORPORATE PRIORITIES	
Economy – To create a vibrant and healthy economy	
Environment – To deliver services customers expect	✓
Efficiency – By spending money in the most efficient way	
Tourism – To create a great place to live and visit	

IMPLICATIONS	
Finance	Any training costs will be met from the existing approved Member Development budget.
Legal	The training standard is not directly enforceable. But it is possible that appellants against a licensing decision might use non-compliance with the training standard to try to show that the decision reached by a committee or panel is unreliable.
Community Safety	There are no implications arising directly from this report
Human Rights and Equalities	There are no implications arising directly from this report
Sustainability and Environmental Impact	Human rights and equalities are important factors in decision-making and would be covered by the training.
Health & Safety and Risk Management	There are no implications arising directly from this report

SUMMARY OF PREVIOUS DECISIONS
None

BACKGROUND PAPERS RELEVANT TO THIS ITEM		
Name of document	Date	Where available for inspection
Training standard for licensing councillors issued by the Local Government Association and Institute of Licensing		www.instituteoflicensing.org/news/local-government-association-and-institute-of-licensing-training-standard-published-dec-2023/

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