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**BRECKLAND COUNCIL**

**At a Meeting of the**

**GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE**

**Held on Wednesday, 16 November 2011 at 10.00 am in  
Norfolk Room, The Conference Suite, Elizabeth House, Dereham**

**PRESENT**

Mr R.W. Duffield (Chairman)	Mr S R Green
Mr S.G. Bambridge	Mrs S.M. Matthews
Mr C. S. Clark	Mrs A.L. Steward
Mr P.J. Duigan (Vice-Chairman)	Mr D.R. Williams JP
Mr B J English	

**Also Present**

Mr I. Sherwood	Mrs D.K.R. Irving
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**In Attendance**

Robert Walker	- Assistant Director of Commissioning
Jane Osborne	- Committee Officer

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**51/11 MINUTES**

The Minutes of the meeting held on 21 September 2011 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

**52/11 APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Quadling and Skull.

**53/11 DECLARATION OF INTEREST**

No declarations were made under this item.

Clr I Sherwood, Chairman of the Licensing Committee was present and would speak.

**54/11 LOCAL JOINT CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE**

The LJCC scheduled for 3 November 2011 was cancelled, so there were no Minutes to adopt.

**55/11 NEXT MEETING**

The arrangements for the next meeting, on 4 January 2012 at 10.00 a.m in the Norfolk Room were noted.

**56/11 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC**

**RESOLVED** that under Section 100(A) of the local Government Act 1972, the press and the public be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business on the grounds that it involved the disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraphs 1, 2 and 4 of Schedule 12A to the Act.

**57/11 ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH AND LICENSING SERVICE REVIEW**

The Assistant Director of Commissioning presented the report and explained the proposals, which due to the details it contained, had come direct to the General Purposes Committee and not through the LJCC with the agreement of both Chairmen, although Members had been given the time to comment. For the benefit of Members he explained the financial investment details that would go to Cabinet.

Members felt that if the proposed and current structures shown in Appendices A & B had been printed in colour, the information presented would have been clearer for the benefit of Members.

The Chairman of Licensing looked for assurances with regard to the proposal being critically reliant on the new software and hardware solutions. The Assistant Director of Commissioning stated the ICT system would be improved and enhanced and explained the proposals which covered the supply and management of it. Procurement would satisfy both authorities.

The Assistant Director of Commissioning and Members of the General Purposes Committee were not aware of the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Bill, which had not been taken into consideration with regard to the Environmental Health and Licensing Service Review, which concerned Members.

The Chairman of Licensing advised that the Act detailed additional work that would be put both onto the Licensing Committees and Licensing teams, and could affect the proposed model as detailed in the Report. The Assistant Director of Commissioning clarified that during the formal consultation period, there would be opportunities for information to be fed into it, and that if the proposed structure required to be changed it would go through HR and be presented back to General Purposes.

Cllr Williams believed that had the Report been presented to LJCC some of the concerns raised by Members would already have been discussed, and therefore reinforced the need to keep LJCC in the loop. The Chairman stated that he had requested that it did not happen again, and that reports went to LJCC.

Cllr Duigan proposed that the draft General Purposes Minutes were seen by Cabinet to allow them to get a flavour of discussions held by the Committee, which the Chairman agreed with. The Chairman of the Licensing Committee stated he would be happy to attend Cabinet to speak on the issues raised.

The Executive Member for Internal Services had passed on his concern

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with regard to how Item 3.1.1 in the report could be perceived with regard to the ICT Platform, and it was clarified that the ICT provision had not fallen down on the project.

CLlr Williams felt that future reports should contain details of performance benefits.

A Member felt that there were several areas within the report that needed to be "tidied up" with regard to grammar and phrasing; these were noted by the Assistant Director of Commissioning and he confirmed they would be changed.

**RESOLVED to : recommend to Cabinet that the proposed recommendations be adopted subject to an additional recommendation:**

That consideration of any legislative changes implemented by the Police Reform & Social Responsibility Bill 2010-2011 and the de-regulation of Regulated Entertainment, also be included in the new responsibilities as highlighted by the Chairman of the Licensing Committee in relation to the Licensing Team structure.

The meeting closed at 11.20 am

CHAIRMAN