

NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE COUNCIL

LICENSING COMMITTEE

**URGENT ITEM
BEST BAR NONE FOR NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE**

1. OBJECT AND KEY POINTS IN THIS REPORT

- 1.1 To introduce the Best Bar None scheme to members of the Licensing Committee.
- 1.2 To consider proposals for the adaptation of the scheme for introduction in the area.

2. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 2.1 The Best Bar None scheme has been in operation across the country for a number of years. The scheme was developed in Manchester and looks to recognise good practice by the licensed trade.
- 2.2 An attempt was made to launch the scheme through the Nitesafe partnership a number of years ago. This was unsuccessful.
- 2.3 The Nitesafe partnership is made up of a number of key partners with the aim of reducing alcohol fuelled crime and disorder. These partners include Humberside Police, Humberside Fire and Rescue Service, Trading Standards, Safer Neighbourhoods, CCTV and Licensing.
- 2.4 As stated in paragraph 2.1, the Best Bar None scheme aims to recognise good practice in the licensed trade. It is proposed to adapt the scheme for use in North Lincolnshire. The original scheme required premises licence holders to apply to join the scheme and complete a self assessment. This assessment would then be followed up by an inspection by trained Best Bar None Assessors. Depending on the assessment, premises would be awarded either a Gold, Silver or Bronze award with one premises being identified as the winner.
- 2.5 The proposed adaptation would remove the application process. Premises would be assessed using the criteria set in the scheme,

which would identify risk and good practice. Following the assessment, a certificate would be awarded to the premises similar to the “Scores on the Doors” scheme used for food safety. Results would then be published.

- 2.6 Such a scheme would need to be carried out in partnership with other statutory organisation, such as the police and fire and rescue service, therefore it is proposed to manage the process through the Nitesafe partnership.

3. OPTIONS FOR CONSIDERATION

- 3.1 Option 1 – To accept the proposals.
- 3.2 Option 2 – To make changes to the proposals.

4. ANALYSIS OF OPTIONS

- 4.1 Option 1 – The acceptance of the proposals would allow good practice and risk to be identified and further develop the partnership working between the Statutory Organisations.
- 4.2 Option 2 – The proposals are fluid at the moment until consultation has been carried out. Suggestions would be useful in the progressing of the proposed scheme.

5. RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS (FINANCIAL, STAFFING, PROPERTY, IT)

- 5.1 Financial. The proposed scheme will be managed within current budgets.
- 5.2 There are no other implications from this scheme.

6. OTHER IMPLICATIONS (STATUTORY, ENVIRONMENTAL, DIVERSITY, SECTION 17 - CRIME AND DISORDER, RISK AND OTHER)

- 6.1 Statutory. The scheme will deal with premises licensed under the Licensing Act 2003, although it is a none statutory scheme.
- 6.2 Environmental & Section 17 – Crime and Disorder. The proposed scheme will aim to reduce the environmental impact and crime and disorder issues associated with licensed premises.

7. OUTCOMES OF CONSULTATION

- 7.1 The proposal has been brought to the attention of the Alcohol and Gambling Licensing Forum. Further discussions will be necessary to implement the scheme in full.

8. **RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 8.1 That the proposal be approved.
- 8.2 That a further report will be presented to the committee once the scheme has been finalised.

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Background Papers used in the preparation of this report – N/a