

**General Purposes and Licensing Committee  
28<sup>th</sup> July 2010**

**41 LICENSING OF SEXUAL ENTERTAINMENT VENUES**

Report ES10102

Concerns had been expressed about the way in which lap dancing venues and other similar sexual entertainment venues were licensed. Presently such venues were defined as 'Regulated Entertainment' under the Licensing Act 2003 which effectively limits the grounds on which 'representations' can be made to the four licensing objectives set out in the Act.

The Home Office undertook consultation on proposals based on a private Members Bill to remove the licensing of lap dancing venues from the remit of the Licensing Act 2003.

The Government's proposals were included in the provisions of the Policing and Crime Act 2009 which sets out a new licensing regime for 'sexual entertainment venues'. This would bring the licensing of lap dancing and pole dancing clubs etc. under the regime set out in the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1982 and would allow for wider grounds for objection and refusal including the nature of the locality.

As Schedule 3 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1982 has already been adopted, Member approval was sought to adopt the provisions of Section 27 Policing and Crime Act 2009 as they amend Schedule 3 to include Sex Entertainment Venues.

It was suggested by one Member that no sexual entertainment venues should be permitted within the Borough. The Chairman commented this would be discussed at the next meeting of the Committee when a further report would be submitted.

**RESOLVED to recommend to full Council to resolve to adopt the provisions of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1982 as amended by Section 27 Policing and Crime Act 2009 with effect from 1 January 2011 to require the licensing of sex entertainment venues.**

**It was further AGREED that the Committee receive further reports:**

- 1) To consider whether to set a limit on the number of sex establishments (sex shops, sex cinemas and sex entertainment venues);**
- 2) On adopting standard licensing conditions; and**
- 3) On the appropriate fee.**