

## **NEW OR VARIATION APPLICATION HEARING PROCEDURE (PREMISES OR MEMBER'S CLUB)**

**NOTE:** References to the 'Applicant' may also apply to an existing licence holder if the hearing consideration relates to a licence already on issue (for example a variation)

1. The Council's Licensing Officer will present a report to the Sub-Committee outlining details of the application and reasons for the hearing including representations/objections made. The Licensing Officer may then, through the Chair, be questioned on his report by any party to the hearing.
2. The Applicant (and/or his advocate/representative) will then present their case in support of the application they have made. The Applicant calls any witnesses (if applicable). The Applicant and witnesses (if any) may then, through the Chair, be questioned by any party to the hearing.
3. Responsible Authorities (and/or his advocate/representative) will then present their case in support of their representations. The Responsible Authorities call any witnesses (if applicable). The Responsible Authorities and witnesses (if any) may then, through the Chair, be questioned by any party to the hearing.
4. REPEAT STEP 3 FOR EACH RESPONSIBLE AUTHORITY.
5. Other Persons objecting (and/or his advocate/representative) will then present their case in support of their representations. Other Persons call any witnesses (if applicable). Other Persons and witnesses (if any) may then, through the Chair, be questioned by any party to the hearing.
6. REPEAT STEP 5 FOR EACH OTHER PERSON OBJECTING.
7. The Chairman may then allow additional questioning/ clarification of any of the parties in the order indicated by him.
8. The Council's Licensing Officer gives any closing comments to the Sub-Committee.
9. The Applicant (and/or their advocate) gives any closing address to the Sub-Committee.
10. The Sub-Committee retires to deliberate in private session. All parties will then be called back into the meeting for the announcement of the decision and reasons for the decision will be given by the Chairman or Legal Advisor to the Sub-Committee (in some cases the Sub-Committee may decide to defer making a decision in accordance with any regulatory timeframe). The full written notification of the decision and rights of appeal will follow forthwith.

### **NOTES:**

- (a) The hearing will take the form of an informal discussion led by the Licensing Authority.
- (b) The Sub-Committee Chairman and, with his consent, any Member of the Sub-Committee may at any time question the Applicant, Responsible Authorities, Other Persons, Licensing Officer or any witnesses. The Sub-Committee Chairman may deviate from this procedure as he considers necessary or appropriate, to allow a discussion to flow and to allow all parties fair and equal opportunity to raise all points they may wish to make.
- (c) At all times during proceedings due regard shall be had to The Licensing Act 2003 (Hearings) Regulations 2005.