

Report of the Licensing and Regulatory Committee – Item for Decision

Executive/Lead Members: Councillor Federica Smith-Roberts – Lead Member for Communities, Housing and Culture and Councillor Simon Carswell – Chair of Licensing and Regulatory Committee

Division and Local Member: All

Lead Officers: Jack Godley – Senior Licensing and Business Support Officer

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1. Summary

- 1.1 This report sets out the Licensing and Regulatory Committee’s recommendation to Council arising from their consideration of the report at the Licensing and Regulatory Committee meeting on 14 September 2023.

Note: The references in this report to Paper A relate to the relevant report considered by the Licensing and Regulatory Committee containing specific recommendations for Full Council to consider and are appended to this report for reference.

- 1.2 **Paper A (Statement of Licensing Policy)** was considered at the Licensing and Regulatory Committee meeting on 14 September 2023. The Licensing and Regulatory Committee endorsed Paper A and agreed for this to be reported to Full Council to consider and approve.

The report requests the approval of a new Statement of Licensing Policy.

Under the Licensing Act 2003 (the 2003 Act), Somerset Council as Licensing Authority must determine a Statement of Licensing Policy that supports and guides our administration and enforcement of the provisions of that Act, for each five-yearly period.

Somerset Council is a Licensing Authority for the purposes of section 3 of the 2003 Act. It must publish a valid policy to carry out any function under the 2003 Act, during each relevant period. During the five-year period, the policy must be kept under review and the Licensing Authority may make such revisions to it as it considers appropriate.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 **Statement of Licensing Policy** – see Paper A and its appendices that the Licensing and Regulatory Committee considered and endorsed at its meeting in September 2023.

The Council is recommended to approve the Statement of Licensing Policy.

3. Options considered and consultation undertaken

- 3.1 Options considered and details of consultation undertaken in respect of the recommendations set out above are set out in the reports and appendices within Paper A.

4. Implications

- 4.1 The legal implications are that the Council must publish a Statement of Licensing Policy under the Licensing Act 2003.

The community implications are that the Licensing Policy would improve public safety and protect communities.

The health and wellbeing implications are addressed as part of the consultation.

5. Background Papers

- 5.1 These are set out within Papers A and its appendices.
- 5.2 Appendix 1 - Draft Statement of Licensing Policy 2023 - shows the amendments approved by the Licensing and Regulatory Committee on 14 September 2023.