

# Croydon Council

For General Release

<b>REPORT TO:</b>	<b>COUNCIL</b> <b>27 JANUARY 2014</b>
<b>AGENDA ITEM NO:</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>SUBJECT:</b>	<b>RESPONSES TO PETITIONS PRESENTED TO COUNCIL ON 2 DECEMBER 2013</b>
<b>LEAD OFFICER:</b>	<b>Julie Belvir, Director of Democratic and Legal Services</b>
<b>WARDS:</b>	<b>ALL</b>
<b>CORPORATE PRIORITY/POLICY CONTEXT:</b> This report is prepared in keeping with paragraph 3.22 of the Council Procedure Rules at Part 4A of the Constitution.	

## **1. RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 1.1 The Council is asked to note the response to the petition presented by Councillors at its last ordinary meeting as detailed in paragraph 4 of the report.

## **2. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

- 2.1 This report details Cabinet Member response to the petition presented to Council on 2 December 2013. All Members have the opportunity to ask questions on the responses to any of the petitions.

## **3. BACKGROUND**

- 3.1 Part 4A of the Constitution allows Councillors to present petitions to meetings of the Full Council.
- 3.2 The Constitution requires a response to that petition to be presented at this meeting.
- 3.3 A period of up to ten minutes is permitted for questions on the response to the petition.

## **4. RESPONSES TO PETITIONS**

- 4.1 Petitions presented to the Council meeting on 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2013, and the relevant Cabinet Member response, as follows:

- 4.2 A petition presented by **Councillor Susan Winborn** on behalf of residents:  
“We, the undersigned, are concerned citizens who urge Croydon Council to act now to influenced the increased use of police foot patrols to vigorously enforce the no drinking zones and control anti-social behaviour and also for the Croydon Council Licencing Committee to review alcohol licences that have been given to local retail stores and which are now resulting in increased anti-social behaviour and daily drinking by individuals in the area including within no-drink zones.”
- 4.3 **Response from Councillor Simon Hoar, Cabinet Member for Community Safety and Public Protection**
- 4.4 Designated Public Place Orders (no drinking zones) can only be enforced by the police. They were introduced as part of the Criminal Justice and Police Act 2001.

It is important to note that this is a discretionary power, so where alcohol is being consumed without causing a problem (e.g. a family picnic in the park) the police would be unlikely to take action. People are however required to hand over alcohol in their possession when requested to do so by a police officer. The police officer will generally dispose of the alcohol by pouring it away.

Tacking anti-social behaviour is a key priority for the Safer Croydon Partnership with Croydon Police already deploying high visibility patrols to the Town Centre on a daily basis to provide public reassurance.

During the summer months a multi-agency operation (Loch Derg) saw a significant reduction in the number of individuals drinking and begging in the town centre with several individuals prosecuted as well as assessing treatment services. A combination of enforcement and treatment is a proven intervention.

Some of the outcomes from Operation Loch Derg include; 32 arrests, 347 alcohol seizures and 34 fixed penalty notices issued. Compared with the same period previous year (April to August) there was a 6% reduction in theft, 9% reduction in shoplifting and 8% reduction in robbery,

Croydon Police continue to identify persistent offenders; those who persist with their behaviour will be targeted for further action, with applications for Asbo's for the worst offenders.

The Licensing Act 2003 enables local authority Licensing **Sub** Committees to review any premises licence (including retail shops and supermarkets) if they are found to be seriously compromising one or more of the four statutory licensing objectives (Prevention of Crime Disorder, Prevention of Public Nuisance, Public Safety and the Protection of Children from Harm). **The** Metropolitan Police are the primary responsible authority in respect of crime and disorder, and if the Licensing **Sub** Committee consider the representations to be justified then they can suspend or revoke a Premises Licence.

The statutory guidance to the Act also allows local authorities to amend their written statement of licensing policy to include Cumulative Impact Zones (CIZs), which are intended to control the **number** of licensed premises in certain areas where they are

seen to be compromising one or more of the four statutory licensing objectives.

Croydon Council has for a number of years had a town centre CIZ and recently designated another four areas, specifically with regard to off licences. The boundaries are as follows:

Existing town centre CIZ-

- i. Along Crown Hill, Church Street, Old Palace Road, Church Road, Charles Street, Wandle Road, West Street, Mason's Avenue, Edridge Road, The Croydon Flyover, Park Lane, Wellesley Road (to junction of Walpole Road/across to junction with Dingwall Avenue) and George Street and includes the premises on both sides of these roads.

Four new CIZ areas, relating specifically to off licences \_

- ii. Along the Brighton Road; South End; High Street, George Street corridor, from the Royal Oak Centre on Brighton Road, Purley to the junction of George Street and Cherry Orchard Road in Central Croydon
  - iii. Along the London Road / Streatham High Road corridor, in 3 sections; from the junction of London Road and Tamworth Road in West Croydon to the j/w Canterbury Road; from the j/w Broughton Road to the j/w Melrose Avenue and; from the j/w Northborough Road to the borough boundary with LB Lambeth (see Appendix 4)
  - iv. Along the Brigstock Road and High Street, Thornton Heath corridor, from the junction of Brigstock Road and London Road in Thornton Heath to the junction of High Street, Thornton Heath and Whitehorse Lane
  - v. Along the length of Central Parade, New Addington
- 4.5 A petition presented by **Councillor Gerry Ryan** on behalf of residents regarding traffic congestion in and around the Lodge Road area.
- 4.6 **Response from Councillor Phil Thomas, Cabinet Member for Highways and Environmental Services.**
- 4.7 Consideration will be given to upgrading the existing single yellow line to 9am to 5pm – Monday to Saturday waiting restrictions, in Lodge Road opposite the school. This will be reported to the next Traffic Management cabinet Committee meeting programmed for 11 February 2014

---

**CONTACT OFFICER:** Solomon Agutu, Head of Democratic Services and Scrutiny, x62920.

**BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS:** Petitions presented Cllr Winborn and Cllr Ryan