Notes of Decisions Taken and Action

Safer Communities Board Office Holders

4 November 2004

Local Government House

Present

Chair: Cllr Dame Sally Powell (Hammersmith and Fulham LB) (Lab)

Deputy Chairs: Cllr Caroline Seymour (Hambleton DC) (Lib Dem) and Cllr Graham

Brown (Powys CC) (Ind)

Apologies: Cllr Ann Stribley (Poole BC) (Con)

Action

TO'F

 Consultation on Fee Levels to be Established by Regulation Under the Licensing Act 2003

The consultation was published on 4 November. It was noted that the bands for non-domestic rateable values had been reduced from 8 to 5 (page 9 of the consultation document). The implications of this were unclear as yet. The consultation was due to close on 23/12/2004.

The LGA was re-surveying local authorities for up-to-date casts/income, which would be submitted as evidence to the Department of Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS). The DCMS was to commission PriceWaterhouseCooper (PWC) or some other consultants to analyse the evidence. Office holders discussed possible assistance (including financial) that the LGA could give with this so as to ensure it was robust and impartial and it was suggested that officers discuss the matter with Brian Briscoe.

Office holders asked that:

- A letter be sent to John Prescott setting out the LGA's concerns that the proposals in the consultation paper would not provide for full recovery of costs, ensuring that consequently pressure was put on council tax, that the letter be sent on behalf of the Chairman of the LGA and that it be copied to Nick Raynsford and DCMS Ministers;
- A separate letter be sent to Tessa Jowell about the issue on behalf of the Chairman of the LGA;

TO'F

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A letter be sent to Pat McFadden on behalf of the Chair of the Labour Board explaining the implications of the fee levels on council Group tax if implemented as suggested in the consultation document Office Police Reform KF The White Paper was likely to be published on 10/11/04. Officers were asked to prepare a press release for approval by the office holders before the weekend. It was hoped that the LGA and APA could, as much as possible, agree a common position on the A review of Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership (CDRPs) was also to be launched at the same time as publication of the White Fire Services – LGA Member Arrangements Officers were asked to ensure that the consultation paper had been DR/JRa/CG brought to the attention of the Chairman of the LGA and that feedback from the consultation was provided for the Chair in advance of the Board meeting on 22 November. Gambling Bill TO'F Office holders were attending a ministerial meeting on 9/11/04. A briefing paper for the meeting would be circulated on 8/11/04. Safer Communities Board – Agenda for 22 November 2004 Office holders agreed: CG A reminder be sent to Members who had not responded to the Member Skills Audit; Closer Working with the Correctional System project be NE included as a separate agenda item and the Chairman of the Task Group be asked to give a short presentation; TO'F A letter be sent to the Chairman of the Environment Board requesting that relationship management for pollution control be included within its remit rather than the Safer Communities Board in view of the link with the Environment Agency, which was central to this issue; That appointments to outside bodies should be referred to CG office holders after initial discussion at the Board meeting;

Domestic Violence project be included as a separate agenda

A Chair's update report be included on the agenda.

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item; and