

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

1. 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;

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