

Boston Borough Council

Minutes of a meeting of the **Regulatory & Appeals Committee** held in the Committee Room - Municipal Buildings, West Street, Boston, PE21 8QR on Tuesday, 11th March, 2025 at 2.00 pm.

Present:

Councillor Chris Mountain, in the Chair.

Councillors Councillor Lina Savickiene (Vice-Chairman), John Baxter, James Cantwell, Neil Drayton, Stuart Evans, Paul Gleeson, Patricia Marson, David Scoot and Stephen Woodliffe.

Officers:

Senior Licensing Officer and Democratic Services Officer.

6 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Richard Austin BME and Councillor Helen Staples.

7 Declarations of Interest

No declarations of interest were received.

8 Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 17th December 2024 were approved and signed by the Chairman.

9 Public Questions

No questions were received.

10 Animal Welfare Licensing Policy

The Senior Licensing Officer presented a report which provided information about the responses received following the consultation on the proposed Animal Welfare Licensing Policy.

The Regulatory & Appeals Committee convened on 17th December 2024 to consider a draft Animal Welfare Licensing Policy which set out the principles which the Council would apply when accepting applications, inspecting premises, making decisions on applications, and exercising its' statutory duty in the monitoring of licensed premises. The Committee determined to commence consultation and invite representation on the proposed policy, with any comments being referred to a future meeting of the Regulatory & Appeals Committee for consideration.

The consultation commenced 6th January 2025 and ran for a period of six weeks with stakeholders and the general public invited to submit comments. At the close of the consultation period, three comments had been received. Copies of those comments were

attached at Appendix 1 within the report. The final draft of the policy was attached at Appendix 2 within the report.

Members discussed the report and commented as follows:

- On questioning the low-level response to the public consultation exercise, the Senior Licensing Officer advised that the consultation had been sent to all licence holders and had also been available online for members of the public to comment.
- Referencing the ongoing procedure to require DBS checks, a number of members agreed the continuation, voicing support of the need to protect the animals and ensure their safety.
- The chairman sought a vote on the continuation of undertaking DBS checks on all applicants which was carried unanimously.

The recommendation was moved by Councillor David Scoot and seconded by Councillor James Cantwell

RESOLVED:

That Full Council be recommended to approve the proposed Animal Welfare Licensing Policy, attached as Appendix 2 within the report, for adoption and publication.

The Meeting ended at 2.11 pm.