



Subject:	Review of Entertainments Licensing Legislation
Date:	17th August, 2016
Reporting Officer:	Patrick Cunningham, Assistant Building Control Manager, ext. 6446
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Is this report restricted?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Is the decision eligible for Call-in?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

1.0	Purpose of Report/Summary of main Issues
1.1	To consider seeking an update from the Department for Communities regarding progress with the review of Entertainments Licensing legislation.
2.0	Recommendation
2.1	To agree that the Committee write to the Minister for Communities requesting an update on the review of Entertainments Licensing legislation and enquiring as to when the Department will be in a position to provide more detailed review proposals which will be the subject of a public consultation.
3.0	Main Report
	<u>Key Issues</u>
3.1	On 22nd July, 2014 the then Minister of the Environment, Mark H Durkan MLA, announced a review of the entertainment licensing regime as the current legislation has been in place for almost thirty years. He invited representatives from various interest groups (the Entertainment Licensing Review Group) to look at the current legislation and make recommendations on changes that they considered should be made.
3.2	Members are reminded that representatives of both Building Control and Legal Services have been closely involved in the review and played a key role in the Review Group set up by the Minister.
3.3	A response to the DoE's consultation on the review of Entertainments Licensing legislation was agreed by the Licensing Committee and forwarded to the Department on 26th June, 2015.

3.4	Members are reminded that, at your meeting on 20th January, you agreed that a letter be forwarded to the Minister for the Environment requesting an update on progress with the review.
3.5	In a response dated 1st March, the Minister advised that he had considered the comments made during the public consultation and would publish a Departmental Response in due course.
3.6	The Departmental Response, which consisted of a copy of the synopsis of responses received across the Province, was received on 10th March 2016 and advised that the Department would prepare further, more detailed, proposals which will be the subject of a public consultation later this year.
3.7	A copy of the Ministerial and Departmental Response is attached.
3.8	Following the May Assembly Elections, responsibility for the review of the licensing legislation now falls within the Department for Communities.
3.9	It is, therefore, suggested that the Committee may wish to write to Mr. P. Givan, Minister for Communities, requesting an update on progress with the review of Entertainments Licensing and when his Department will be in a position to commence a public consultation on more detailed proposals to amend the legislation.
	<u>Financial and Resource Implications</u>
3.10	There are no financial or resource implications associated with this report.
	<u>Equality or Good Relations Implications</u>
3.11	There are no equality or good relations issues associated with this report.
4.0	Documents Attached
	Copy of the Ministerial Response and The Departmental Response to the Consultation on the Report by the Entertainment Licensing Review Group on Entertainment Licensing