

Report to:	LICENSING COMMITTEE
Relevant Officer:	Mark Towers, Director of Governance and Partnerships
Date of Meeting:	4 October 2022

FORMATION OF A PUBLIC PROTECTION SUB-COMMITTEE

1.0 Purpose of the report:

1.1 Members are requested to consider the formation of a Public Protection Sub-Committee for the remainder of Municipal Year 2022/23.

2.0 Recommendation(s):

2.1 To agree to the formation of a politically balanced Public Protection Sub-Committee with a membership of 5.

2.2 Subject to the approval of 2.1 above, to note the membership of the proposed Sub-Committee as informed by the Group Leaders as Councillors Farrell, Hunter, Hutton, D Scott and Wilshaw.

2.3 That the functions assigned to the Public Protection Sub-Committee continue to be those as set out in Part 3 of the Council's Constitution.

2.4 To consider whether or not to appoint at this meeting, the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Public Protection Sub-Committee.

2.5 To request the Public Protection Sub-Committee to consider the start time of its future meetings.

3.0 Reasons for recommendation(s):

3.1 Following the recommended confirmation of the Committee structure at the Council meeting on 21 September 2022, if the Licensing Committee wishes to delegate functions to a Public Protection Sub-Committee such a body needs to be created.

3.2 Is the recommendation contrary to a plan or strategy adopted or approved by the Council? No

3.3 Is the recommendation in accordance with the Council's approved budget? Yes

4.0 Other alternative options to be considered:

4.1 Not to create a Public Protection Sub-Committee which would mean that all the functions previously delegated would remain the responsibility of the Licensing Committee.

5.0 Council priority:

5.1 The relevant Council priority is

- “Communities: Creating stronger communities and increasing resilience”

6.0 Background information

6.1 The Council at its meeting on 21 September 2022 considered the political balance and agreed to recommend to the Licensing Committee the re-appointment of a politically balanced Public Protection Sub-Committee with a membership of 5. The functions assigned to the Sub-Committee are as set out in Part 3 of the Council’s Constitution. The Council recommended that the Sub-Committee continues to meet on a monthly basis.

6.2 The functions of the Licensing Committee under the Licensing Act 2003 would continue to be discharged by panels consisting of 3 members of the Licensing Committee. Members are reminded that these Panels are appointed as required by the Head of Democratic Governance.

6.3 If the Committee agrees to the creation of a Public Protection Sub-Committee, it should also consider whether it wishes to appoint a Chairman and Vice-Chairman at this meeting or to leave the appointments for consideration by the Sub-Committee itself.

6.4 In line with the decision at its annual meeting on 18 May 2022 and previous years the Council did not agree a set meeting time for the Public Protection Sub-Committee as given the length of the previous meetings it is considered that 6pm may on occasion not be suitable. The Public Protection Sub-Committee would be asked to agree that meetings start at 6pm except where the business to be transacted will in the view of officers take significantly longer than two hours when a revised start time will be agreed after consultation with the Chairman and Vice-Chairman.

6.6 Does the information submitted include any exempt information? No

7.0 List of Appendices:

7.1 None.

8.0 Financial considerations:

8.1 None.

9.0 Legal considerations:

9.1 This Committee was reconstituted at the meeting of the Council on 21 September 2022 and as such the Public Protection Sub-Committee has to be reconstituted for the remainder of this Municipal Year, in order for it to carry out its duties.

10.0 Risk management considerations:

10.1 None.

11.0 Equalities considerations:

11.1 None.

12.0 Sustainability, climate change and environmental considerations:

12.1 None.

13.0 Internal/external consultation undertaken:

13.1 None.

14.0 Background papers:

14.1 None.