

Cheltenham Borough Council
Social and Community Overview and Scrutiny Committee -
3 July 2003

Night Time Economy Community Group

Appointments of Chairman and Vice Chairman

Report of the Assistant Director Public Protection

1. Summary and recommendation

- 1.1 On 24 July 2002 Cabinet considered a report entitled "Crime and Disorder - alcohol related activities". Cabinet in turn referred the matter to Social and Community Overview and Scrutiny Committee.
- 1.2 At its meeting on 3 October 2002 the Social and Community Overview and Scrutiny undertook to establish a Community Group with the Chairman and Vice Chairman of Scrutiny Committee filling the roles of Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Community Group.
- 1.3 The Community Group has met on several occasions and is moving forward on implementing various actions together with formulating a longer term strategy for dealing with the effects of the Town's night-time economy.
- 1.4 With recent changes in the Chairmanship of Overview and Scrutiny Committees this Overview and Scrutiny Committee needs to consider the position of the Chairmanship of the Community Group. The current Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Community Group held their positions by virtue of their status as Chairman and Vice Chairman of Overview and Scrutiny Committee.
- 1.5 **I therefore recommend that Committee considers who it wishes to act as Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Community Group.**

2. Background

- 2.1 The status of the Chairmanship of the Community Group is detailed in Section 1 of this report. Committee is now requested to consider the Chairmanship in light of recent changes to chairmanships of Overview and Scrutiny committees.
- 2.2 Committee would appear to have three options:
 1. To appoint the new Chairman and Vice Chairman of this Committee as Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Community Group. Committee should, however, be aware that as both the Chairman, Councillor Mrs Regan and the Vice Chairman, Councillor Mrs Ledoux are members of Licensing Committee there may be a perceived conflict of interest between their roles on Licensing Committee and the Community Group.

2. The Committee could appoint two Members from within its ranks.
 3. The Committee could ask Councillors Smith and Morris to remain as Chairman and Vice Chairman of the group.
- 2.3 There is considerable merit to option 3 as both Councillors have been fully involved with the group since its inception and are up to speed with the current activities of the group.

3. Implications

- | | | |
|-----|---|---|
| 3.1 | Financial | None as a direct consequence of this report. |
| 3.2 | Legal | A potential conflict of interests could exist if option 1, para. 2.2 is pursued. |
| 3.3 | Personnel | None as a direct consequence of this report. |
| 3.4 | Equal opportunities, social justice and anti-poverty | The work of the night-time economy community group contributes to the council's equal opportunities and social justice strategies by working towards improving the access and safety of town centre facilities for all sections of the community. |
| 3.5 | Environmental | The work of the night-time economy working group contributes to improving the environmental quality of the town centre. |

Background Papers

Contact Officer

George Rowlinson, Assistant Director, Public Protection, 01242 264214,
George.Rowlinson@cheltenham.gov.uk

Accountability

Councillor Lloyd Surgenor
Cabinet Deputy, Environmental and Public Protection