



## SCRUTINY TOPIC REGISTRATION

<b>Date:</b>	
<b>Name of person proposing topic:</b>	Dennis Parsons
<b>Contact:</b>	07540 398914
<b>Suggested title of topic:</b>	Improving race meeting impact on local residents
<b>What is the issue that scrutiny needs to address?</b>	
<p>A number of residents have complained about (a) the toilet habits of racegoers returning from race meetings; (b) parking arrangements, particularly the practice of taxis ignoring the temporary parking restrictions in streets near the racecourse while waiting to pick up fares after the races; and (c) arrangements for clearing litter.</p> <p>The last of these was not an issue for this year's Festival event probably thanks to the Council's new policy of requiring licences for distributing leaflets and other promotional material on the route.</p> <p>Temporary toilet provision is a Borough Council matter. We license temporary roadside bars. Should there be a condition that the bar fund a temporary toilet? They are currently provided only for the Festival. The scrutiny group should consider whether they should be provided for other events.</p> <p>Parking is a County matter. The issues are whether there is a sufficient enforcement effort regarding taxis waiting for fares at the end of racedays; and whether the restrictions should operate on additional days. They currently operate for the Festival and the Open. CBC Licensing have a relationship with the taxi firms and they could bring their influence to bear on the waiting issue.</p>	
<b>What do you feel could be achieved by a scrutiny review (outcomes)</b>	
<p>A scrutiny group could engage with the main players and come up with recommendations for improvements in the problem areas. Importantly, it would also demonstrate to those members of the public most directly affected that this Council takes their concerns seriously and is looking for positive action to ensure that all residents can enjoy the benefits that having the home of jump racing brings.</p>	
<b>If there a strict time constraint?</b>	It would be good to have any changes in place in time for the Open in November or, better still, the Showcase in October
<b>Is the topic important to the people of Cheltenham?</b>	Yes particularly those on the pedestrian routes between the racecourse and the town centre.
<b>Does the topic involve a poorly performing service or high public dissatisfaction with a service?</b>	Both
<b>Is it related to the Council's corporate objectives?</b>	
<b>Any other comments:</b>	

## OFFICER IMPLICATIONS (for office use only)

<b>Date:</b>	<b>14 June 2017</b>
<b>Officer name:</b>	<b>Louis Krog</b>
<b>Officer title:</b>	<b>Licensing Team Leader</b>
<b>Contact:</b>	<b>01242264217, <a href="mailto:louis.krog@cheltenham.gov.uk">louis.krog@cheltenham.gov.uk</a></b>

**Please give your comments on this proposed topics, for example is there any other similar review planned or in progress, are there any potential resources constraints etc**

Arrangements and planning relating to horse racing events and festivals span across a number of organisations including Cheltenham Borough Council, Gloucestershire County Council, Gloucestershire Constabulary and the racecourse.

The main focus of planning and resourcing in relation to horse racing events focusses primarily on the Festival in March as it is by far the biggest of the racing events.

There is however an emerging awareness that there has been continued growth in the popularity – and therefore attendance – of other racing events in the year particularly in November and January. For these racing meetings (i.e. not including March) there is no or very little planning and resource allocated.

The working relationship between the various organisations mentioned above has substantially improved over the last couple of years to present a more coordinated approach to planning for race meetings. The outcomes we have achieved as a consequence of this were evident in 2017 with, for example, a noticeable reduction in the amount of littering.

However, the demands of managing and planning for race meetings, particularly in light of its continued growth in popularity, remains challenging and places a substantial burden on limited officer resource. There is consensus that a review of planning arrangements is required to meet the increased resource demand of racing events. For example, toilet provision has become inadequate, similar with provision of waste disposal facilities, officer enforcement resource etc.

Informally there is work ongoing with the racecourse, Cheltenham Borough Council, Gloucestershire County Council and Gloucestershire Constabulary to seeking improvements to the way horse racing events are managed and planned for.

If this scrutiny topic were to be accepted, it needs highlighting that there is significant officer resource constraints that needs to be factored in.