

MINUTES OF THE TWENTIETH BOARD MEETING OF THE GANGMASTERS LICENSING AUTHORITY – 7 OCTOBER 2008 HELD AT NOTTINGHAMSHIRE COUNTY CRICKET CLUB, NOTTINGHAM

Present:

Paul Whitehouse	Chairman
Jeremy Cowper	DEFRA
Chris McCann	British Retail Consortium
Russel Hardy	Police Superintendents Association
Nick Clark	TUC
Jane Mordue	NACAB and Deputy Chair
Graham Bruce	NFUS
Joanne Young	ALP
Samantha Peace	HSE
Marshall Evans	REC
Geoffrey Theobald	LACORS
Mary Collins	DWP (attending for Judith Hicks)
Bill Gill	Home Office (attending for Tim Woodhouse)
James Lazou	TGWU (attending for Chris Kaufman)
John Thorpe	BERR (attending for Jolanta Edwards)

Observers:

Fiona Coombe	REC
Dr Alex Balch	University of Sheffield

In Attendance:

Ian Livsey	Chief Executive
Ray Dawson	Deputy Chief Executive
Darryl Dixon	Director of Operations
David Nix	Head of Policy and Communications
Almut Gadow de Mayor	Policy Officer

Agenda

1	Introduction	Alex Balch welcomed as observer.	
		Quorum for the meeting changed to eight members, under para.8(3) of the Gangmasters (Licensing Authority) Regulations 2005.	
2	Apologies	Judith Hicks Chris Kaufman Martin Smith Tim Woodhouse David Camp Phil Hudson Sharon Cross Nigel Jenney Simon Chesterman Colin MacDonald	DWP TGWU GMB Home Office ALP NFU NFU FPC ACPO Shellfish Association of GB

		Neil Flemming Gary Haggarty Dr John Speers	SEERAD Welsh Assembly Government DARD
3	Minutes of the last Board meeting	Note: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agreed as a correct record. 	
4	Declarations of Interest	Note: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NFUS, ALP and REC representatives are also current licence holders. 	
5	Declarations of urgent business	None	
6	Operations Update	Note: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Board welcomed operational successes, including £130k tax debt identified, and the robust approach to those who avoid compliance visits. • GLA will make draft supermarket protocol available to board shortly. • Whilst welcoming 'quick wins', unions cautioned against creating expectation that GLA will take on casework. • Need to scrutinise overseas agencies must be balanced against requirement not to treat business differently because they are based abroad. 	
7.1	Licence fees consultation 2009 / 2010	Note: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • While there would be a reduction in money going to the Consolidated Fund from the lower fee income, Jeremy Cowper confirmed DEFRA grant-in-aid would be unchanged. The GLA budget would therefore be unaffected. • NFUS considered cost of Band D licence still significant for smallest businesses. • Board agreed proposed fees for 2009-2010 for consultation. Action: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GLA to write to SoS for approval to consult on fees on the basis of proposals presented to the Board. 	
7.2	Exclusions regulations consultation	Note: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trade Union representatives expressed concern at a total exemption for charities. • In catering and retail, the distinction between workers who pack and process food and other roles difficult to draw. Action: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GLA consultation response to ask Defra to consider reviewing Exclusions 2. 	

8.1	Licensing standards consultation	<p>Note:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trade Union representatives considered it important that the standards relating to minimum wage remain "Critical". • ALP concerned that labour providers who draw substantial revenue from rental income are able to undercut the charge rates of others. • Both BERR and supermarket audits already operate policies akin to "three strikes and you're out". • In first Scottish prosecution, the Sherriff expressed disappointment that there was no means of barring the individual from operating in future.
8.2	Hampton Implementation Review	<p>Note:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Noted by board.
8.3	Pay settlement	<p>Note:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This year's pay award has been signed off by the secretary of state. GLA and PCS will shortly commence negotiations on next year's settlement.
8.4	Labour provider group actions	<p>Note:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Next labour provider meeting 9 January 2008. <p>Action:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Actions arising from meeting on 3 October to be forwarded to the board.
8.5	Audit and Risk Committee annual report - Paper	<p>Note:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The board noted the paper and thanked JM for her work.
9	Urgent business	None
10	Any other Business	<p>Note:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Huw Irranca-Davies is the new Minister with responsibility for the Gangmansters Licensing Authority.
11	Date of next meeting	14 January 2008, London, venue to be confirmed