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**To**  
Cabinet

12<sup>th</sup> February, 2008

**Subject**

Licensing Act 2003 – Legislative Reform Order – Proposal to Introduce a Simplified Process for Minor Variations to Premises Licences and Club Premises Certificates

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**1 Purpose of the Note**

- 1.1 To inform the Cabinet of the issues raised by the Licensing and Regulatory Committee when it discussed this report at its meeting on 5<sup>th</sup> February, 2008.

**2 Recommendations**

The Cabinet is asked to take account of the issues raised by the Committee, set out in paragraph 3 of this briefing note, when it makes a decision on this report.

**3 Information**

- 3.1 The Committee considered this report prior to its consideration by the Cabinet.
- 3.2 The Committee welcomed the report and in doing so, the Committee raised the following issues: -
- a) Concern raised that Option 1 would be too subjective and difficult for licensing officers to determine what constitutes a minor variation. This could result in inconsistencies both locally and nationally.
  - b) If Option 1 or 2 was introduced then a mechanism for involving councillors in the process should be investigated further.
  - c) The licensed trade is different in character from the retail trade generally, particularly with regard to its potential impact on public order. For this reason weakening controls under the banner of a generalised 'better regulation' initiative may not be appropriate.

Name: Davina Blackburn  
Post: Principal Licensing Officer  
Directorate: City Services  
Telephone: 024 76831874