

## **Draft Terms of Reference for a Joint Task Group on the Evening and Night Time Economy**

### **Background**

As part of our ambitions for a world class economy, within City for All, the Council has committed to set out a clear vision and plan for our night time economy, to promote the interests of residents, businesses and visitors. This will include the launch of a pilot for the Westminster Licensing Charter in Leicester Square and Piccadilly Circus, setting clear standards for how we work with the night-time industry to promote responsibility and growth.

### **Purpose**

Work has commenced on developing the future vision and plan for the City. The Executive have made it clear that they would like full member engagement in this development and hence Scrutiny can contribute to this thinking and gathering of evidence from different stakeholders. Scrutiny would take evidence from key sectors and make some recommendations back to the Cabinet Member.

### **Membership**

Membership would be drawn from members of the Adults, Health and Public Protection and Business, Planning and Transport P & S Committees. The Chairman would be decided from between these committees and the membership of the committee could be up to 8 Councillors with a suggested quorum of 4.

### **Timetable and Process**

The Scrutiny process will form part and inform the Council's wider deliberations. It is understood that the Cabinet Member for Public Protection and Licensing along with the Chairman for Licensing Committee will be holding closed sessions when all members can come and give their views to them. This will inform an "early thinking report".

At this stage the Scrutiny Task Group will convene and hold a few themed sessions examining each aspect of the issue in turn.

Over the summer officers will develop the scope and launch a call for evidence (July- October?) so that all stakeholders can contribute their thoughts, concerns and help us to identify any opportunities.

Meeting 1- September-

- agree Terms of Reference
- Consider whether any research needs to be commissioned to inform the work
- receive "early thinking report from the Cabinet Member and Chairman of Licensing
- Focus on Entertainment- officer report plus external stakeholders identified as witnesses

Meeting 2-October

Focus on Transport

Receive a report from officers and from TfL offering combined data about the impact of the night tube on the evening and night time economy and on public protection

### Meeting 3-November - Retail and Economy

Focus on retail and the wider impact on business, jobs and economic development and hear from some external witnesses.

Scrutiny would then report its findings and recommendations back to the cabinet member for them to be fed into the new vision and plan for the night time economy. If at this stage the Cabinet Member felt it was necessary, this report could go to full Council along with the members' proposals on the recommendations.

#### **Scope**

The Joint Task Group will investigate the early thinking on the Council's new vision for an evening and night time economy. Using the experience and intelligence of the scrutiny members, the task group will draw evidence from a range of officers and stakeholders to fully understand;

- The current evening and night time economy
- The rationale for a new Vision and the evidence for the early thinking
- The views of all stakeholders
- Best practice from other cities and
- The impact of the night tube on crime, employment and the economy
- The impact on other sectors including retail and culture/entertainment