

Report to Local Council Liaison Committee



**Epping Forest
District Council**

Date of meeting: 7 November 2013

Subject: Road Closures

Officer contact for further information: Alison Mitchell (01992 56 4017)

Committee Secretary: Mark Jenkins (01992 56 4607)

Recommendations:

To note the decision of the Licensing Committee made on 9th October 2013

Report:

1. On 4th July 2013 this Committee resolved:

'That the Committee made a formal recommendation asking that Epping Forest District Council consider the possibility of taking on the powers under the Town Police Clauses Act 1847 to provide local means of road closures for temporary events.

This request was considered by the next meeting of the Licensing Committee held on 9th October 2013.

2. It was reported to the Committee that temporary road closures have been made in the past by Essex County Council under its powers as the highways authority. The Committee noted that, following an application by Waltham Abbey Town Council for a temporary road closure in December for the switching on of their Christmas Lights, Essex County Council had responded that they were no longer considering such requests, which should be directed to the District Council. The District Council currently did not have the ability to make such orders, and Officers were negotiating with the County Council to continue this service for a few more months until the District Council was able to commence the provision of the service.

3. The Licensing Committee noted that additional resources would be required to assimilate this area of work; training would be required as there would be public safety implications in making road closure orders and there may be a need for equipment. Further investigation was required as to the numbers of likely road closures involved and what was required to set up the necessary procedures.

4. The Licensing Committee decided that:

(1) That the resolution of the Local Councils Liaison Committee requesting the District Council to exercise its powers to make temporary road closure orders be noted;

(2) That the Assistant Director of Corporate Support Services (Legal) be requested to report back to the Local Councils Liaison Committee and inform them that their resolution had been considered and noted but that the necessary powers could not be assimilated until further investigations and discussions had taken place.'

5. This work is being undertaken and a report will be made to the next Licensing Committee.