

<b>TITLE</b>	<b>Tourism and Employment Update</b>
<b>FOR CONSIDERATION BY</b>	Licensing and Appeals Committee on 17 September 2013
<b>WARD</b>	None Specific
<b>STRATEGIC DIRECTOR</b>	Paul Anstey, Joint Service Delivery Manager for Environmental Health & Licensing

**OUTCOME / BENEFITS TO THE COMMUNITY**

This report is required by the Guidance issued under the Licensing Act 2003 and its need is acknowledged in the adopted Licensing Policy.

**RECOMMENDATION**

The Committee is recommended to note the report.

**SUMMARY OF REPORT**

This report outlines the details,

**Background**

There is a requirement under the statutory guidance for arrangements to be made for the Licensing Committee to receive reports on the needs of the local tourist economy and to keep the Committee apprised of the employment situation in the area. A statement undertaking to fulfill this requirement was included in the Council's Licensing Policy when it was adopted.

Wokingham Borough does not have a substantial tourist economy. Occasional visitors do come to the Borough, but primarily to visit attractions in nearby areas, often combined with business trips. Licensing decisions would have little or no effect on the level of tourist activity.

The Borough is characterised by low unemployment, currently this runs at 2.0%, less than the national average. In essence everyone who is available for work has the opportunity to get a job. The leisure industry, and hence licensed premises, makes a major contribution to the local employment situation, and the main issue for licensees is the difficulty recruiting staff.

We acknowledge that Wokingham is currently undergoing a planned regeneration and would be very happy to be part of the discussions around this which may impact on tourism and the economy.

**Recommendation**

The Committee is recommended to note the report.

## Analysis of Issues

Overall the licensing process is not affected by, nor does it affect, either the position with tourists, or employment.

## FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS OF THE RECOMMENDATION

	How much will it Cost/ (Save)	Is there sufficient funding – if not quantify the Shortfall	Revenue or Capital?
Current Financial Year (Year 1)	Not Applicable		
Next Financial Year (Year 2)	Not Applicable		
Following Financial Year (Year 3)	Not Applicable		

### Other financial information relevant to the Recommendation/Decision

None

### Cross-Council Implications (how does this decision impact on other Council services and priorities?)

Not Applicable

### Reasons for considering the report in Part 2

Not Applicable This report outlines the details

### List of Background Papers

Guidance issued under section 182 of the Licensing Act 2003  
Wokingham Borough Council Licensing Policy

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