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MAPLEDURHAM PARISH COUNCIL

R F Penfold

Clerk of the Council



8 March 2007

Dear Sirs

CONSULTATION ON REVISED GUIDANCE ON LICENSING LAWS


My Council understands that the Department is consulting on revised guidance on the licensing laws.

The Council has viewed the implementation of the Licensing Act 2003 with both interest and concern. Members have welcomed the bringing together of all aspects of licensing and that all decisions are now taken by directly elected bodies, viz district councils. However, Members are concerned that the Council no longer receives notices of applications for licences, as was the case under the previous regime for licensing premises for the sale of alcohol and for public entertainment. As a result, the Council has not been aware of some applications, and has struggled, as a result, to provide the community leadership expected by residents.

Whilst the Council appreciates that this issue may not be covered by the current review, it feels that the present arrangements have resulted in a lacuna which needs to be filled. It therefore urges that the licensing authorities should be required to notify parish and town councils, where they exist, of applications under the Licensing Act 2003 relevant to the town or parish concerned.

My Council looks forward to hearing that its suggestion has been favourably received.

Yours faithfully


Clerk of the Council

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