

**Brierley Hill Area Committee - 29<sup>th</sup> January 2009**

**Report of the Interim Director of Law and Property**

**Alcohol Consumption in Public Places – Brierley Hill Town Centre**

**Purpose of Report**

1. To consider a proposal for an Order making Brierley Hill Town Centre a designated public place where the consumption of alcohol would be prohibited other than within the curtilage of licensed premises.

**Background**

2. At its meeting on the 8<sup>th</sup> December 2008, the Licensing and Safety Committee agreed, in principle, but subject to public consultation, to make an Order under Section 13 of the Criminal Justice and Police Act 2001 designating Brierley Hill Town Centre, as a place where the consumption of alcohol in public places would be banned.
3. Attached at Appendix 1 is the report considered by the Licensing and Safety Committee at its meeting on the 8<sup>th</sup> December 2008.
4. As explained in the report to the Licensing and Safety Committee, the statutory process requires extensive public consultation and, in accordance with our usual practice, the views of the Area Committee are requested before a final decision is taken by the Licensing and Safety Committee in a few months' time.

**Finance**

5. The cost of public notices in the Press and signs in the street will be met from existing resources. However, if the Area Committee is minded to support the proposed designation, it is suggested that the cost of providing signs should be met from its Capital Allocations' budget. The estimate for this is approximately £4,500. The Police have submitted a bid to part fund the signage from their own resources in the sum of £2,000 and a verbal update will be provided to the Committee.

## **Law**

6. The relevant statutory provisions referred to in this report are contained in Sections 12-13 of the Criminal Justice and Police Act 2001 and the Local Authorities (Alcohol Consumption in Designated Places) Regulations 2001.

## **Equality Impact**

7. This report has no direct equality implications. The making of an Order will help the Police to tackle the growing problem of under-age drinking in public places in and around Brierley Hill Town Centre.

## **Recommendation**

8. It is recommended that the Area Committee support a Designation Order for Brierley Hill Town Centre, as shown in Appendix 1 to the report to the Licensing and Safety Committee, and that the cost of signage be met from the 2008/9 Capital Allocations budget, subject to any part funding of the costs from the Police.



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## **BACKGROUND PAPERS**

1. Correspondence with West Midlands Police.