EXTRACT FROM HARINGEY COUNCIL LOCAL LICENSING PROCEDURE RULES

Membership and Quorum for Hearings

- 8. Where an application relates to premises within a Ward, then a Ward Councillor shall not take part in the decision upon that application as a Member.
- So far as practicable, hearings will be arranged so that the Sub-Committee determining the application does not include Members representing any Ward in which premises affected by the application are located
- 10. The quorum for any hearing of a Sub-Committee shall be three Members and the quorum for any hearing by the Licensing Committee shall be four Members.
- 11. Any Member arriving after the commencement of a hearing, or leaving during the course of a hearing, shall take no part, or no further part, in the conduct of that hearing or the decision on the application in question.

Councillors' Participation in Hearings

- 12. A Councillor, who is not a Member of the Sub-Committee determining the application in question, may participate in the hearing but only if the Councillor is an objector who has made relevant representations in accordance with the Hearings Regulations and the Act, or if the Councillor has been asked to attend by a party in order to act as a witness or a representative for that party.
- 13. A Councillor, who is a Member of the Sub-Committee determining the application in question, will have a prejudicial interest in that application if the he/she makes a relevant representation by way of objection to it and may well have a prejudicial interest if he/she has otherwise been involved in supporting or opposing the application. Any Member of a Sub-Committee who has a prejudicial interest for these or other reasons must not participate in the decision upon the

- application and must not be present at the hearing in any capacity or at all.
- 14. Any Member of a Sub-Committee who has made a relevant representation by way of objection to an application on behalf of his/her constituents and who cannot attend the hearing personally by reason of Rule 13, should arrange to be represented by an agent or a fellow Ward Councillor who is not a Member of the Sub-Committee.
- 15. A Councillor will have a personal interest in an application if it might reasonably be regarded as affecting that Councillor (or his/her spouse/partner, relatives, friends, employer or business) to a greater extent than other residents in the area. A Councillor with a personal interest shall not participate in decision-making on the application in question as a Member of the relevant Sub-Committee. This is in order to avoid any possible allegation of bias.
- 16. Whenever a Councillor, who is not a Member of the Sub-Committee, intends to participate in a hearing in accordance with Rule 12, the Councillor must consider whether he/she has a personal or a prejudicial interest before the hearing. A Councillor with a personal interest, who is not a Member of the Sub-Committee determining the application, may participate in a hearing in accordance with Rule 12 but must disclose such an interest first. A Councillor with a prejudicial interest, who is not a Member of the Sub-Committee determining the application, must not be present at the hearing in any capacity or at all. Members must be aware that their Code of Conduct applies to all Councillors at all times in whatever capacity they attend a hearing.
- 17. Where a Member of a Sub-Committee has had any form of personal or business involvement with a party to an application, which is to be determined by the Sub-Committee, or with any person connected to a party, then the Member must consider whether such involvement could amount to a personal or a prejudicial interest or whether such an interest could exist for any other reason. If there is any doubt on this matter, the Member must seek the advice of the Monitoring Officer or the legal representative.
- 18. A Councillor who has participated in a decision by the Council to make any application, or to support or assist an application made by another person, shall not participate in decision-

making on the application in question as a Member of the relevant Sub-Committee.

Lobbying of Members and Expressions of Opinion by Members

- 19. If a Member of a Sub-Committee is approached by a party or a lobbyist for or against an application to be determined by that Sub-Committee, then the Member must: -
 - (a) explain that he/she cannot discuss the matter, and
 - (b) refer the lobbyist to another Councillor who is not a Member of the Sub-Committee or to the Licensing Service who can give further information on the process of dealing with the application, and
 - (c) keep an adequate written record of the approach, and
 - (d) disclose the fact of the approach before the hearing in accordance with Rule 51(c).
- 20. If a Member of a Sub-Committee receives any written representation either supporting or opposing an application to be determined by that Sub-Committee, then the Member shall pass the representation to the Licensing Service for appropriate action.
- 21. A Member of a Sub-Committee must avoid expressing any personal opinion about the merits of an application to be determined by that Sub-Committee and must not take any action that would bring into question the Member's capacity to consider the application objectively.
- 22. A Member of a Sub-Committee must not accept any gift, favour or free hospitality that could be seen as connected to any application to be determined by that Sub-Committee.
- 23. Members of Sub-Committees are not to be influenced by party political factors or pressures when determining any application.