



St Edmundsbury
BOROUGH COUNCIL

D274

Cabinet 13 February 2013

Report of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee: The Co-ordination of Licensing, Planning and Enforcement Functions Relating to Street Vending (the 'A-Boards' Review) (Feb13/09)

1. The Overview and Scrutiny Committee set up a Task and Finish Group in 2012 to look at the issue of advertising boards on the highway (so-called 'A-Boards').
2. The Task and Finish Group investigated the issue in detail in order to try to strike a balance between the concerns of residents that the proliferation of A-Boards was detracting from the amenity of the area, and the needs of businesses to advertise their goods. A consultation exercise was also undertaken on the Committee's proposal, following an update at its September 2012 meeting, to implement a permitting scheme for A-Boards, which was published online and advertised in the Council's publication *Community Spirit*.
3. The outcome of the consultation, was broadly supportive of the Committee's proposal. The Committee is therefore confident that the proposal to implement a permitting scheme for A-Boards (and planters) should be incorporated into a revised and updated Street Vending Policy.
4. The Committee **RECOMMENDS that:**
 - (a) **the proposal to implement a permitting scheme for A-Boards be incorporated into the revised draft Street Vending Policy;**
 - (b) **the draft guidelines set out at Appendix A to Report D249 be amended to replace the word 'should' at guideline 16 on page 1 to 'shall'; and**
 - (c) **the Head of Planning and Regulatory Services be tasked to produce a detailed breakdown of the financial and staff implications of these proposals for consideration by the relevant Portfolio Holder.**

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