

MINUTES OF THE SEVENTEENTH BOARD MEETING OF THE GANGMASTERS LICENSING AUTHORITY – 22 JANUARY 2008 HELD AT GLA, NOTTINGHAM

Present:

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| Paul Whitehouse (PW) | Chairman |
| Jane Betts | NACAB and Deputy Chair |
| Joanne Young | ALP |
| David Camp | ALP |
| Nick Clark | TUC |
| Sharon Cross | NFU |
| Chris Kaufman | TGWU |
| Simon Chesterman | ACPO |
| Belinda Brooke | REC |
| Bill Snell | USDAW |
| Geoffrey Theobald | LACORS |
| Michael O'Callaghan | HMRC |
| Graeme Walker | HSE |
| Fred Bauer | NFUS |
| (attending for Lisa Webb) | |
| Maurice Thompson | HO |
| (attending for Tim Woodhouse) | |
| Mary Collins | DWP |
| (attending for Judith Hicks) | |
| Judith Marsden | DEFRA |
| (attending for David Jones) | |
| Peter Stephens | BERR |
| (attending for Jolanta Edwards) | |

In Attendance:

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| Ian Livsey | Chief Executive |
| Ray Dawson | Deputy Chief Executive |
| Darryl Dixon | Director of Operations |
| Nicola Ray | Director of Policy and Communications |
| David Nix | Head of Policy and Communications |
| Maria Dryden | Communications Assistant |

Agenda

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| 1 | Introduction | It was noted that Belinda Brooke (REC) is resigning from the Board |
| 2 | Apologies | Russell Hardy (Police Superintendents Association) Phil Hudson (NFU) Nigel Jenney (FPC) Martin Smith (GMB) Colin MacDonald (Shellfish Association of GB) Neil Flemming (SEERAD) |

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| | | <p>Peter Toner (DARDNI) Dan Rees (ETI) Michael Dunn (Welsh Assembly Government) Chris McCann (BRC) Lisa Webb (NFUS) Tim Woodhouse (HO) Judith Hicks (DWP) David Jones (DEFRA) Jolanta Edwards (BERR)</p> |
| 3 | Minutes of the last Board meeting | <p>Note:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agreed as a correct record |
| 4 | Declarations of Interest | ALP members declared an interest in fees |
| 5 | Declarations of urgent business | None |
| 6.1 | Licence fee levels 2008-09 | <p>Note:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There was concern expressed at how the labour user who was supplied by the LP would be treated if the policy of back dating licences is implemented, as a criminal offence will have been committed by the LP and LU. • Concern raised that LPs falsely declare turnover • There should be a clear communications campaign to raise awareness of the back dating licence start date policy • NFU Scotland's opposition to the licence fee changes to be noted <p>Action:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proposals for fee levels and back dating licence start dates (subject to final legal confirmation) agreed • Paper to be presented to next Board meeting to further explain the procedures for backdating licences, including the position for LUs • Paper to be presented to the next Board meeting to explore alternative GLA funding arrangements • GLA to confirm whether any turnover declarations had been changed following an inspection |
| 6.2 | Location of board meetings | <p>Note:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The April meeting will be held in London , the October meeting will be in Warrington. Board meetings will then alternate between London and Nottingham <p>Action:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Board Members to indicate if they will have difficulty attending the meeting in Warrington |
| 6.3 | GLA annual review 2007 | <p>Note:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Researchers thanked for the report • Important future research is focussed on the operational effectiveness of the GLA |

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| | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Concern expressed that the research is limited to the licensed sectors • Future research should attempt to quantify illegal activity and identify what GLA has achieved in terms of reducing worker exploitation. This should be against the licensing standards <p>Action:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Check process for procurement • Board Members invited to provide further comments on focus for future research |
| 6.4 | Corporate Plan 2008-2011 | <p>Note:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More needs to be done to address phoenix companies • Still a feeling that information which is reported to the GLA is not acted upon <p>Action:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GLA website to better explain process for dealing with intelligence received • Wording for 5.2 to be revised to make clear the target informs the Government's intended post implementation review of the GLA |
| 7.1 | Business Plan 2008/09 | <p>Note:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Noted by Board |
| 7.2 | Performance Report to quarter ending December 2007 | <p>Note:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Noted by Board |
| 7.3 | HSE/GLA merger | <p>Note:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consultation on merger will be issued in due course. • The merger is unlikely to be completed before December 2010. |
| 7.4 | External communications and media strategy | <p>Note:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Noted by Board |
| 7.5 | Actions from the User Group | <p>Note:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Noted by Board. David Camp and Belinda Brooke commended the most recent User Group meetings as informative and useful. |
| 7.6 | Board membership | <p>Note:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Defra are awaiting decision from Ministers on reappointment process of Board members. |
| 7.7 | Report from the Audit and Risk Committee | <p>Note:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Noted by Board |
| 7.8 | Operations update - presentation | <p>Note:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Noted by Board |
| 9 | Urgent business | None |
| 10 | Date of next meeting | 16 April, London |

