

MINUTES OF THE SIXTEENTH BOARD MEETING OF THE GANGMASTERS LICENSING AUTHORITY – 18 OCTOBER 2007 HELD AT CATHAY’S PARK CARDIFF

Present:

Paul Whitehouse (PW)

Jane Betts

David Camp

Nigel Jenney

Chris Kaufman

Chris McCann

Bill Snell

Joanne Young

Michael Dunn

David Jones

Graeme Walker

Chairman

NACAB and Deputy Chair

ALP

FPC

TGWU

BRC

USDAW

ALP

NAWAD

Defra

HSE

Observing:

Fred Bauer

(representing Lisa Webb)

Anne Fairweather

(representing Belinda Brooke)

Hazel Hector

Dave Jones

(representing Simon Chesterman)

Ian Livsey

Dr Sam Scott

Peter Stephens

(representing Jolanta Edwards)

NFUS

REC

Low Pay Commission

ACPO

GLA Chief Executive (designate)

University of Liverpool

BERR

In Attendance:

Ray Dawson (RD)

Darryl Dixon (DD)

David Nix

Acting Chief Executive

Director of Operations

Head of Policy and Communications

Agenda

1	Introduction	Hazel Hector, Sam Scott and Ian Livsey were welcomed as observers.
2	Apologies	Belinda Brooke – REC Nick Clark – TUC Sharon Cross – NFU Russell Hardy – Police Superintendents Association Phil Hudson – NFU Simon Chesterman – ACPO

		<p>Dan Rees – ETI Martin Smith – GMB Geoffrey Theoblad – LACORS Colin Macdonald – Shellfish Association of GB Lisa Webb – NFUS Joanne Young – ALP Andrew Armitt – HMRC Chris Bailes – Home Office Judith Hicks – DWP Jolanta Edwards – DTI Neil Fleming – SEERAD John Speers - DARDNI</p>
3	Minutes of the last Board meeting	<p>Action:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agreed as a correct record
4	Declarations of Interest	REC and ALP made a declaration of interest in relation to fees as representatives of labour providers
5	Declarations of urgent business	None
6	GLA evaluation study – presentation by Sam Scott	<p>Note:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Steps were being taken to address worker exploitation across all sectors through the Vulnerable Workers Forum • Risk to GLA reputation if licensing is not successful in the shellfish sector <p>Action:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • References to “unregulated” sectors to be replaced by “unlicensed” sectors • Written comments on the draft report should be sent to Sam Scott by 1 November 2008 • Levels of worker exploitation (from CAB data) to be baselined further. A paper explaining the methodology will be presented to the January Board with a further paper at the April Board
7.1	Risk profile: revised approach to application inspections	<p>Note:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Two independent studies (IBM and Detica) concluded it is very difficult to introduce a risk profile for application inspections • Application inspections provide a baseline to assess future compliance • The number and resourcing of operation projects will be reviewed to ensure they remain an effective mechanism for improving compliance <p>Action:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The recommendations were agreed subject to ongoing review by the GLA
7.2	Licence fee levels 2008-09	<p>Note:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Licence fee income is supported by £1m

		<p>transferred from the enforcement budget</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It was raised whether alternative funding streams could generate additional income • Concern businesses declare false turnover to pay lower fees. To address this, compliance inspections seek to verify turnover declarations • Following discussion the budgets for 2008-09 were agreed and the proposal for licence fees accepted. <p>Action:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agreed to seek Secretary of State clearance for public consultation on the proposed fee levels • PW letter to SoS to make clear the difficulties in reducing costs further
8.1	GLA annual review 2007	See item 6
8.2	Corporate Plan Update	<p>Note:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An internal GLA strategic planning workshop on 10 October will form basis for preparing the Corporate Plan for 2008-10 <p>Action:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The draft Corporate Plan to be presented at the January Board meeting
8.3	Performance Report to quarter ending September 2007	<p>Note:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Noted by Board
8.4	Overseas	<p>Note:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Noted by Board
8.5	Releasing information to the press	<p>Note:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It was raised that if ALC information is added to the public register it may impact on the principle of licences revoked without immediate effect remaining on the register • This position will be monitored and may return to the Board in the future
8.6	Actions from the User Group	<p>Note:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Noted by Board
8.7	Revocations and reapplications	<p>Note:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Noted by Board
8.8	Public register: refusals and revocations	<p>Note:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Noted by Board
8.9	Update for Operational Activity	<p>Note:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Noted by Board
9	Urgent business	None
10	Date of next meeting	22 January 2008, Nottingham