



MEETING PAPER

Subject: East Suffolk Council Jet Ski Consultation

Meeting: Planning Committee

Date: 14th November 2024

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~/NON-CONFIDENTIAL

The following consultation has been received from East Suffolk Council. The Committee is asked to consider if it would like to submit a response.

On the 21 October 2024, East Suffolk Council's Licencing Committee resolved to carry out a consultation on the licensing of commercial operators of Jet Skis/water scooters. The Council is aware that a Jet Ski hire business has commenced operating on the River Deben. Jet Skis that are let out for hire to the public must be licensed by the Council under Section 94 of the Public Health Act Amendments Act 1907. If the Council adopts a policy of refusing to licence Jet Ski operators unless exceptional circumstances apply, then, Jet Skis will no longer be allowed to be let out for hire in the East Suffolk district.

If the Council agrees to licence commercial operators of Jet Skis, conditions could be imposed on a licence and enforcement action taken if those conditions were breached. For example, there could be conditions about times and days of operation, zones where operation would not be permitted, and so on. However, a policy would need to be drawn up to address such matters.

A licence, once granted, could be revoked or suspended if it were necessary or desirable in the public interest. The basis for such action could be in relation to safety or nuisance. A policy is required for transparent regulation.

The aim of this consultation is to seek the views of operators, interested parties and the general public to ensure that all views are taken into consideration by the Licensing Committee in their decision making.

The consultation will run from 29 October to 26 November 2024.

The Council is seeking your views on the following questions:

- a. Whether the Council should licence Jet Skis?*
- b. What conditions if any should be imposed?*
- c. What minimum specification should be required?*
- d. Should zones of operations be imposed?*
- e. Should dates and times of operation be imposed?*
- f. How should the policy be enforced?*
- g. Any other comments?*

If you have any evidence in support of your answers, please provide this. Responses to the consultation will be presented to the Council's Licencing Committee for consideration.