

ABERDEEN LOCAL LICENSING FORUM

17 September 2009

Attached for information is a list of the current membership of the Aberdeen Local Licensing Forum and the Forum is asked to consider two requests to join the Forum. Please note there is currently one vacancy on the Forum as legislation imposed a maximum of twenty limit on membership of Forums.

Aberdeen University Students' Association

On behalf of the Aberdeen University Students' Association, Katherine Ross has submitted a request that the Association be granted membership of the Aberdeen Local Licensing Forum. The request is on the basis that the representative will change at the end of each academic year and therefore if granted membership Ms. Ross would serve on the Forum until June, 2010. The Aberdeen University Students' Association represents 14,000 students. There is a strong Student Council which has a membership of 118. Each member of the Student Council sits on a different committee within the Association's structure and feeds into debates and issues affecting students. Ms. Ross currently chairs the Welfare and Equal Opportunities Committee.

As well as having contact with University of Aberdeen Students there are ties with Robert Gordon University and Aberdeen College through a monthly Forum. This Forum will ultimately represent around 60,000 students.

A representative from the Students' Association would provide an effective communication mechanism with younger citizens in Aberdeen. It is considered this would supplement the role of the Youth Council representative. The Association has participated in consultation processes, for example, providing feedback on the curfew proposal and in organising various campaigns with regards to alcohol awareness. A responsible attitude is taken towards student welfare and one example was a policy decision that companies such as Carnage should not be permitted to advertise on campus or have the support of the Association when proposing one of their events be held in Aberdeen.

Mitchells & Butlers

An application has been received from Ms. Emma Thomas of Mitchells & Butlers. Ms. Thomas is the Scottish Licensing Project Manager for this company and she wishes to propose that Mr. Phil Lewis, the Company's Retail Business Manager, become a member of the Aberdeen Local Licensing Forum. Mr. Lewis is a Personal Licence holder and has the responsibility for the management of fifteen licensed premises in Scotland, four of which are in Aberdeen.

In total Mitchells & Butlers own and operate ninety-eight licensed premises in Scotland. It is appreciated that there may be no vacancies on the Aberdeen Local Licensing Forum and Ms. Thomas has indicated that it would be acceptable if Mr. Lewis was placed on a waiting list until a vacancy arose.

Ms. Thomas advises that Mr. Lewis would be able to offer a wide view from the retail trade perspective and a senior management view on issues particular on the implementation and operation of the Licensing (Scotland) Act 2005.

The Forum is asked to consider which (if either) of the above two applications should be approved.

Fiona Gardiner

Clerk to the Aberdeen Local Licensing Forum