

LOCAL LICENSING FORUM

Tuesday, 12 January 2016

Members present: Sandy Kelman, Alcohol and Drugs Partnership Convener; and Peter Benton, Aberdeen Samaritans; Gillian Flett, Police Scotland; Emily Queen, Community Safety Partnership, Shamini Omnes, NHS Grampian and Diane Sande, Licensing Standards Officer.

Also present: Daniel Forbes, Bucksburn Community Council; Heather Wilson, Public Health and Iain Robertson, Democratic Services.

Apologies: Stuart McPhee, Dave Bliss and Adrian Gomes.

	Item	Discussion	Action / Decisions	To be actioned by
1	<u>Membership Updates</u>	<p>The Convener opened the meeting and nominated Daniel Forbes (Bucksburn CC) as the Community Council representative to the Forum. This nomination was seconded by Shamini Omnes and thereafter the Forum agreed to appoint Stuart McPhee as a voting member on the Forum.</p> <p>The Convener asked if any reply had been received from the prospective Young Persons representative to the Forum and the Clerk advised that he had received no correspondence from the representative or the Aberdeen Youth Council since the last meeting. The Convener instructed the Clerk to correspond with the Aberdeen Youth Council to ask them if they would be open to the Convener addressing a future meeting.</p> <p>The Clerk highlighted that there was still an Off Sales membership vacancy and Diane Sande advised that a potential candidate had been identified and was hopeful that she would attend the next meeting.</p>	<p>The Forum resolved to appoint Daniel Forbes as the Community Council representative to the Forum;</p> <p>To instruct the Clerk to correspond with Aberdeen Youth Council (AYC) to ask if they would be open to the Convener addressing a future AYC meeting; and</p> <p>LSOs to provide an update at the next meeting.</p>	<p>I Robertson</p> <p>I Robertson/S Kelman</p> <p>D Sande/ T-E Gilchrist</p>

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2	<u>Minute of Previous Meeting of 18 November 2015</u>	N/A	To approve the minute as a correct record.	N/A
3	<u>Matters Arising</u>	<p>(i) With reference to Item 3(i) Diane Sande advised that the 2013-14 Annual Report was now outdated and proposed that the Forum should receive the 2015-16 Annual Report after it had been submitted to the Licensing Board in April 2016; and</p> <p>(ii) to note that all other matters would be covered under today's agenda items.</p>	<p>Diane Sande / Tara-Erin Gilchrist to provide an update on progress at the next meeting of the Forum; and</p> <p>To note the information provided.</p>	<p>D Sande / T-E Gilchrist</p> <p>N/A</p>
4	<u>Revised 2016 Meeting Dates</u>	<p>The Clerk proposed that the 15 November 2016 meeting be brought forward to 8 November 2016 to avoid a clash with the Licensing Board which had been scheduled to meet on that date. The Clerk advised that the rearranged meeting had been provisionally scheduled for 2pm on 8 November 2016 in Committee Room 4.</p> <p>The Clerk informed the Forum that he and the Clerk to the Licensing Board had agreed a provisional date for the Joint Meeting of the Licensing Board and Forum, subject to the approval of the Forum. He advised that this meeting had been scheduled for 2pm on 8 June 2016 in Committee Room 2.</p>	<p>To approve the revised schedule; and</p> <p>To agree that the Joint Meeting of the Licensing Board and Forum be scheduled for 8 June 2016.</p>	<p>I Robertson</p> <p>I Robertson</p>
5	<u>Update from the Statement of Licensing Policy Working Group</u>	The Convener appended a draft letter that subject to the Forum's approval would be submitted to the Convener of the Licensing Board. He advised that the letter contained nine draft recommendations which had been developed by the SLP Working Group and he requested that members provide feedback on the recommendations.	<p>To approve the recommendations, subject to the revisions requested by members;</p> <p>To instruct the Clerk to submit the revised letter to the Convener of the Licensing Board by 18 January 2016;</p>	<p>S Kelman</p> <p>I Robertson</p>

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		<p>With regards to Recommendation 4(d), members requested the addition of criteria related to licenses applied for and granted;</p> <p>With regards to Recommendation 5 (Updates on baseline data), members requested that the term “personal interpretation” be revised to read the “<i>Board’s collective interpretation</i>” or their “<i>own interpretation</i>”;</p> <p>With regards to Recommendation 7, members requested that wording be included to reflect that other Local Authority Licensing Boards had defined the minimum distance between licensed premises in which a license would be granted.</p>	<p>To request that the final letter be presented to the Forum at its next meeting; and</p> <p>To request that LSOs correspond with ACC’s Community Council Liaison Officer to explore if licensing training could be provided to Community Councils.</p>	<p>I Robertson (for agenda)</p> <p>D Sande/T E Gilchrist</p>
6	<p><u>IAS – Evaluating the Public Health Responsibility Deal for Alcohol</u></p>	<p>The Convener spoke to the report and advised that the report had criticised the Public Health Responsibility Deal and noted that key public health partners had not engaged with the partnership as it had pursued initiatives which had had limited success in reducing the levels of alcohol-related harm. The report had also been critical of the way the partnership had operated; particularly with regards to the role of licensed trade groups.</p> <p>Members then discussed the report and highlighted that the Best Bar None scheme had proven to be effective in Aberdeen and Emily Queen advised that the city had recently been accredited with the Purple Flag, which was a scheme that recognised the excellent management of the evening and night time economy.</p>	<p>To note the report and information provided; and</p> <p>To congratulate Community Safety Partners on their Purple Flag accreditation.</p>	<p>N/A</p> <p>N/A</p>

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7	<u>European Court of Justice Decision on Minimum Pricing of Alcohol</u>	Heather Wilson advised that the European Court of Justice's judgement delivered in December 2015 confirmed that the Minimum Unit Price (MUP) legislation, passed by the Scottish Parliament in May 2012 does not contravene European law. Ms Wilson explained that the matter would now be referred to the Scottish Inner House of the Court of Session but can only decide in favour of the legislation if " <i>proportionality</i> " could be evidenced and that the aims of MUP could not be better achieved through taxation.	To note the information provided.	N/A
8	<u>Update from Police Scotland: Licensing Objective 1: Preventing Crime and Disorder</u>	<p>Gillian Flett provided an update regarding what enquiry was made as to the source of alcohol when recorded crimes involved children and young people who had been drinking alcohol. She informed the Forum that there was not a consistent approach and to that end she had discussed this with senior Police officers to have an appropriate 'prompt' included in the task from the YJMU (Youth Justice Management Unit) and possible overlap with the vulnerable persons database. She explained that she would provide an additional update to the Forum on this development when further progress had been made.</p> <p>Sgt Flett also advised that a number of licensed premises had applied for extended licenses during the festive period for Fridays and Saturdays which had not fallen on Christmas and New Year public holiday dates and these applications had been largely refused. She added that the Winter Festival had few licensing issues, other than a number of minor noise complaints and this was in part due to the visible presence of security officials</p>	<p>To request an update, when further progress had been made on discussions with the Youth Justice Group on the provision of data and analysis into how young people had been accessing alcohol; and</p> <p>To note the information provided.</p>	<p>G Flett</p> <p>N/A</p>

	Item	Discussion	Action / Decisions	To be actioned by
		at the event.		
9	<u>Update from Licensing Standards Officer: Objective 2: Securing Public Safety</u>	No further updates.	N/A	N/A
10	<u>Update from Unight Representative: Licensing Objective 3: Preventing Public Nuisance</u>	Emily Queen advised that plans were currently being developed to expand the membership of UNIGHT, in order to increase the scope and representativeness of the group. She also explained that she would be going on maternity leave in March and the Community Safety Partnership would appoint a new representative to the Forum who would attend the next meeting on 16 March 2016.	To request that a new Community Safety Partnership representative be appointed ahead of the next Forum meeting in March 2016; and To note the information provided.	E Queen N/A
11	<u>Update from NHS Grampian and Alcohol and Drugs Partnership: Licensing Objective 4: Protecting and Improving Public Health</u>	Shamini Omnes advised that NHS Grampian and Public Health colleagues had been working with Community Planning Partners to increase the level of community engagement and participation in Aberdeen City in order to align with the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act (2015). She added that enhanced community engagement would support the delivery of bottom-up and integrated health and social care services. Heather Wilson appended the UK Chief Medical Officer's Alcohol Guidelines and she advised that the report recommended it was safest for men and women to limit the level of alcohol consumption to no more than 14 units per week to reduce the risk of developing a range of illnesses. Ms Wilson informed the Forum that the period of consultation would run until April 2016 and the existing guidance	To note the information provided; To note the summary of the proposed new alcohol guidelines;	N/A N/A

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		<p>would remain in place until July 2016 when definitive guidance would be published. She added that Public Health would submit a response to the consultation urging a greater focus on the impact of alcohol on children and older people.</p> <p>Ms Wilson then appended a report on the Aberdeen City ADP and Alcohol Aberdeen's Festive Campaign 2015 which illustrated a number of adverts and images that were posted on social media and throughout licensed premises which encouraged people to have fun but also to be safe and responsible when they were drinking alcohol in town. She added that licensed premises had been very helpful in displaying these images and they were now looking to establish links with the city's universities to gain a greater insight into the attitude of their student populations. She advised that a Weekend Partnership survey had received 27 responses so far and thereafter a detailed evaluation of the campaign would be produced.</p>	<p>The Clerk to cascade the web link to the full Chief Medical Officer's report to members of the Forum;</p> <p>To request that the Aberdeen City ADP and Alcohol Aberdeen's Festive Campaign 2015 Evaluation be presented to the Forum at a future meeting; and</p> <p>To note the report.</p>	<p>I Robertson</p> <p>H Wilson/I Robertson (for agenda)</p> <p>N/A</p>
12	<p><u>Update from Children's Services Representative: Licensing Objective 5: Protecting Children from Harm</u></p>	<p>No update.</p>	<p>N/A</p>	<p>N/A</p>
13	<p><u>Progress Statement</u></p>	<p>The Clerk spoke to the Progress Report and advised the Forum of the items which should be inserted and removed from the report.</p>	<p>The Clerk to add the Convener's SLP letter to the Progress Statement.</p>	<p>I Robertson</p>

	Item	Discussion	Action / Decisions	To be actioned by
14	<u>Date of Next Meeting</u>	2pm, 16 March 2016.	To note the information provided.	N/A

If you require any further information about this minute, please contact Iain Robertson, tel. 01224 522869 or email iairobertson@aberdeencity.gov.uk