

## LOCAL LICENSING FORUM

Wednesday, 16 March 2016

Members present: Shamini Omnes, NHS Grampian Chairperson; and Peter Benton, Aberdeen Samaritans; Ken Eddie, Civic Forum; Daniel Forbes, Community Council Representative; Tara Erin Gilchrist, Licensing Standards Officer; Peter Lees, Community Safety Partnership (as substitute for Emily Queen) and Heather Wilson, Public Health (as substitute for Sandy Kelman).

Also present: Leanne McGowan; Giedrė Nėniūtė; and Iain Robertson, Democratic Services.

Apologies: Sandy Kelman, Stuart McPhee, Gillian Flett, Jonathan Lloyd, Emily Queen and Dave Bliss.

	Item	Discussion	Action / Decisions	To be actioned by
1	<b><u>Introductions</u></b>	<p>The Clerk informed the Forum that the Convener and Vice Convener had sent their apologies for today's meeting and advised that Shamini Omnes had volunteered to chair the meeting which the Forum agreed to.</p> <p><b>At this juncture Shamini Omnes assumed the Chair.</b></p> <p>The Clerk advised that additional apologies had been received from Dave Bliss, Gill Flett, Jonathan Lloyd and Emily Queen.</p> <p>The Chair proposed that Items 5 (Statement of Licensing Policy Consultation) and 6 (MESAS 2016 Annual Report) be taken together and brought forward on today's agenda to after Item 3 (Membership Updates) and the Forum agreed to these proposals.</p>	<p>To appoint Shamini Omnes as Chair for today's meeting;</p> <p>To note the apologies received; and</p> <p>To agree to consider Item 5 (Statement of Licensing Policy Consultation) and Item 6 (MESAS 2016 Annual Report) immediately after Item 3 (Membership Updates).</p>	<p>I Robertson – for minute</p> <p>I Robertson – for minute</p> <p>I Robertson – for minute</p>
2	<b><u>Minute of Previous Meeting of 12 January 2016</u></b>	N/A	To approve the minute as a correct record.	N/A

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3	<b><u>Matters Arising</u></b>	With reference to Item 3(i) Tara-Erin Gilchrist advised that the LSO Annual Report 2015-16 was currently being collated and was due to be reported in April 2016 and that an update to the Hub could be provided thereafter.	To request an update on the LSO Annual Report 2015-16 at the next meeting of the Forum.	D Sande/T-E Gilchrist
4	<b><u>Membership Updates</u></b>	<p>The Clerk advised that the Aberdeen Youth Council had nominated Giedrė Nėniūtė and Edgar Organesjan as their substantive and substitute representatives to the Forum. The Chair nominated them as substantive and substitute young people's representatives to the Forum. This nomination was seconded by Daniel Forbes and thereafter the Forum resolved to appoint them to the Forum.</p> <p>The Clerk introduced Leanne McGowan and she advised that she would like to become a member of the Forum as an Off Sales representative. The Chair nominated Ms McGowan as the Off Sales representative to the Forum and this nomination was seconded by Peter Benton and thereafter the Forum resolved to appoint her to the Forum.</p> <p>The Clerk informed the Forum that Emily Queen was going on maternity leave and a new Community Safety Partnership representative would need to be identified. He advised that recruitment for Ms Queen's post was ongoing and the successful candidate would become the new Community Safety Partnership representative to the Forum.</p>	<p>The Forum resolved to appoint Giedrė Nėniūtė and Edgar Organesjan as substantive and substitute members to the Forum, representing young people;</p> <p>The Forum resolved to appoint Leanne McGowan to the Forum, representing Off Sales;</p> <p>To note that there was an ongoing recruitment process to identify a new Community Safety Representative to the Forum; and</p> <p>To thank Emily Queen for her time and effort in supporting the Forum and to wish her well on her maternity leave.</p>	<p>I Robertson</p> <p>I Robertson</p> <p>N/A</p> <p>N/A</p>
5	<b><u>Statement of Licensing Policy Consultation and MESAS 2016</u></b>	Heather Wilson (Public Health) spoke to the reports and advised that the purpose of the papers was to inform preparations for the Joint Meeting with the Licensing Board on 8	To note the reports and the information provided;	N/A

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	<p><b><u>Annual Report</u></b></p>	<p>June 2016. With regards to the MESAS report, she provided an overview of the findings and highlighted four recommendations:-</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The review and refresh of Scotland's alcohol strategy should draw on the current evidence base;</li> <li>2. Continue to improve implementation of the strategy (including implementation of minimum unit pricing);</li> <li>3. Monitor alcohol-related harm and consumption. Where possible evaluate new interventions; and</li> <li>4. A number of potentially useful areas of future research were identified which should be explored.</li> </ol> <p>Mrs Wilson advised of the progress made by the introduction of Scotland's Alcohol Strategy in 2008/9 and explained that Aberdeen City had responded to the request for data when researchers conducted a review of developments following the Implementation of the Licensing (Scotland) Act 2005. As a result Aberdeen is used as a case survey within the MESAS report.</p> <p>Mrs Wilson also advised that there were three areas in the Licensing Forum Letter to the Licensing Board that related directly to the findings in the MESAS report detailing developments following the Implementation of the Licensing (Scotland) Act 2005. These were:</p> <p>Lack of guidance and resource materials; Lack of baseline data; and Lack of updates/progress to baseline data.</p>	<p>To request that Police Scotland's SLP consultation submission to the Aberdeen City Licensing Board be provided to the Forum;</p> <p>To request that Police Scotland's representative to the Forum introduce Police Scotland's SLP consultation submission to the Aberdeen City Licensing Board at the next Forum meeting;</p> <p>To request that NHS Grampian's SLP consultation submission to the Aberdeen City Licensing Board be provided to the Forum;</p> <p>To invite Tara Shivaji to the Forum's next meeting to introduce NHS Grampian's SLP consultation submission to the Aberdeen City Licensing Board; and</p> <p>To consider how this would be brought together at the Forum's next meeting ahead of the Joint Meeting with the Licensing Board in June 2016.</p>	<p>I Robertson</p> <p>G Flett</p> <p>I Robertson</p> <p>I Robertson</p> <p>All Members</p>

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		<p>The MESAS report cites the lack of data as a hindrance to providing a more accurate picture and makes recommendations for the type of data required which is very similar to the Licensing Forum request.</p> <p>Thereafter members discussed the impact of Police Scotland's zero tolerance policy on drink driving; the decline in popularity of traditional pubs and other demographic and cultural shifts such as increased sales of soft drinks and increases in alcohol sales from supermarkets and off sales premises.</p>		
6	<b><u>Community Licensing Toolkit</u></b>	<p>Daniel Forbes (Community Council Representative) spoke to the report and welcomed the introduction of the Toolkit and found that it simplified licensing procedures which made understanding the overall process much easier and he was pleased that the language used was plain English and not littered with jargon. Mr Forbes explained that this form of community engagement would lead to more informed decision making and advised that he would provide an update at the next meeting of the Forum on Community Council Responses to the Toolkit. The Forum agreed that the Toolkit should be displayed prominently to increase awareness of the licensing process and instructed the Clerk to discuss with the Clerk to the Licensing Board and Community Council Liaison Officer whether it would be possible to upload the Toolkit onto their respective Council webpages.</p>	<p>To request an update on feedback received from Community Councils in relation to the Community Licensing Toolkit;</p> <p>To request that the Community Council Representative discuss licensing training opportunities with the Community Council Liaison Officer;</p> <p>To request that the Community Council Representative raise the Community Licensing Toolkit at a Bucksburn Community Council meeting and provide an update at the next Forum meeting on their discussions; and</p> <p>To instruct the Clerk to discuss with the Clerk to the Licensing Board and Community Council Liaison Officer whether it would be possible to upload the Toolkit onto their respective Council webpages and to request feedback.</p>	<p>D Forbes</p> <p>D Forbes</p> <p>D Forbes</p> <p>I Robertson</p>
7	<b><u>Aberdeen City ADP and Alcohol</u></b>	<p>Heather Wilson spoke to the report and advised that the campaign ran from December</p>	<p>To note the report and the information provided; and</p>	<p>N/A</p>

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	<b><u>Aberdeen's Festive Campaign Evaluation Report</u></b>	2015 through to January 2016 with targeted messages to different demographic groups which highlighted the importance of enjoying nights out in town responsibly. Mrs Wilson explained that posters and messages were posted in the City Centre in locations such as the St Nicholas Centre and on social media and they estimated that the campaign had reached over 100,000 individuals with a cost of £3000 which they believed provided good value for money. She advised that the campaign had been well received and was encouraged by the positive response from the local licensed trade who were largely happy to display posters and promote the campaign within their premises. She informed the Forum that the full report could be found on the ADP website.	To note that the full report could be accessed on the ADP website.  <a href="http://aberdeencityadp.org.uk/news-and-media/campaigns/">http://aberdeencityadp.org.uk/news-and-media/campaigns/</a>	N/A
8	<b><u>Safer Torry Evaluation Report</u></b>	Peter Lees (Community Safety Partnership) introduced the report and informed the Forum that the report focussed on alcohol and domestic abuse in the Torry area of Aberdeen. He advised that an action group had been formed which met every six weeks and included representatives from the licensed trade; the Community Safety Partnership (CSP) and Police Scotland and its remit was to establish a self-policing system for the local licensed premises which would also be monitored by the CSP and Police Scotland. Mr Lees noted that instances of domestic abuse were relatively high in Torry but cautioned that this was due to a high population density and advised that a more representative performance measure would be to calculate domestic abuse cases per 10,000 people and this figure revealed that Torry's domestic abuse rate was below a number of areas in North Aberdeen. He added	To note the report and information provided; and	N/A

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		<p>that community planning partners would need to continue investing time and resources into Torry to ensure that positive behaviours became entrenched as issues such as alcohol and domestic abuse were often multi-generational in nature.</p> <p>Thereafter there were questions and comments on plans to upscale the pilot to include areas of multiple deprivation in the North of the city; and members queried if there was scope to introduce a referral system to refer individuals who had been banned from licensed premises due to issues related to alcohol abuse.</p>	<p>To request an update on the development of a referral system for individuals who had been banned from licensed premises in the self-policing scheme in Torry due to issues related to alcohol abuse.</p>	<p>P Lees</p>
9	<p><b><u>Update from Police Scotland: Licensing Objective 1: Preventing Crime and Disorder</u></b></p>	<p>No update.</p>	<p>N/A</p>	<p>N/A</p>
10	<p><b><u>Update from Licensing Standards Officer: Objective 2: Securing Public Safety</u></b></p>	<p>No further updates.</p>	<p>N/A</p>	<p>N/A</p>
11	<p><b><u>Update from Unight Representative: Licensing Objective 3: Preventing Public Nuisance</u></b></p>	<p>No update.</p>	<p>N/A</p>	<p>N/A</p>
12	<p><b><u>Update from NHS Grampian and</u></b></p>	<p>Heather Wilson advised that the statutory requirement for Licensing Boards to review</p>	<p>To note the information provided.</p>	<p>N/A</p>

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	<p><b><u>Alcohol and Drugs Partnership: Licensing Objective 4: Protecting and Improving Public Health</u></b></p>	<p>their SLPs had been delayed to November 2018 but she advised that Aberdeen City would continue to work on an interim statement in the meantime and retain their existing consultation process.</p> <p>Mrs Wilson informed the Forum that NHS Grampian would submit no letters of objection or representations at the Licensing Board meeting on 22 March 2016 and this was the first time to her knowledge this has had ever occurred and she welcomed this development.</p> <p>Mrs Wilson added that Alcohol Focus Scotland had published a new manifesto which focussed on preventing chronic diseases; protecting children and young people; and creating healthier and safer neighbourhoods. She explained that the manifesto proposed that a social responsibility levy be introduced so alcohol retailers would contribute to the wider cost of their activities on the community and recommended that the extra revenue gained from the introduction of minimum unit pricing should be made available for community alcohol support projects and groups.</p>		
13	<p><b><u>Update from Children's Services Representative: Licensing Objective 5: Protecting Children from Harm</u></b></p>	<p>No update.</p>	N/A	N/A

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<b>14</b>	<b><u>Progress Statement</u></b>	The Clerk highlighted that the Statement of Licensing Policy Refresh had been added to the Statement and advised that he would welcome further member input on items for future inclusion.	To note the Progress Statement.	N/A
<b>15</b>	<b><u>Date of Next Meeting</u></b>	25 May 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](mailto:iairobertson@aberdeencity.gov.uk)