

ABERDEEN LOCAL LICENSING FORUM

PROGRESS STATEMENT – 22 August 2017

Remit of Local Licensing Forums as set out in the Licensing (Scotland) Act 2005 – keeping under review the operation of the Act in the Forum’s area and in particular the exercise by the Licensing Board of their functions including giving advice and making recommendations to the Board in relation to those matters where the Forum considers it appropriate. The Act does not enable a Forum to review or give advice or make recommendations in relation to the exercise by a Board of their function in relation to a particular case. “Case” is taken to mean an application before a Board and in the interests of natural justice is also taken to mean individual licensed premises. The preferred route for consideration of complaints about the running of licensed premises is to write directly to the Clerk or Depute Clerk to the Licensing Board.

The Licensing (Scotland) Act 2005 requires Licensing Boards in exercising any of their functions to have regard to any advice given or recommendations made to them by a Local Licensing Forum and where the Board decides not to follow the advice or recommendation to give the Forum reasons for that decision, the Board must provide copies of relevant statistical information to the Forum as it may reasonably require for the purposes of its general functions.

Licensing Standards Officers have a general function of providing to interested persons information and guidance concerning the operation of the Act, supervising compliance with the Act and the conditions of their licences by holders of Premises Licences and Occasional Licences and mediate between communities and the trade or between any two parties where there is a need to resolve a local problem and develop a local solution. LSOs do not act as “policemen” with regard to licensing but they will liaise with the police and other relevant officials such as Environmental Health Officers in pursuit of the objectives of the Act.

Item	Meeting Reference	Decision/Action	Update	Responsible Lead	Licensing Objective
Items relating to all Licensing Objectives					
1.		<u>Statistical Information</u> To receive reports from the Licensing Board containing relevant statistical information.	The Forum and Board will continue to liaise at joint meetings.	All	All objectives

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2.	8 June 2016 (Joint Licensing Meeting)	<p><u>Statement of Licensing Policy Refresh</u></p> <p>The Forum discussed their initial consultation response with members of the Licensing Board ahead of the development of the refreshed Statement of Licensing Policy.</p>	The Joint Meeting considered a letter from the Convener of the Licensing Forum to the Convener of the Licensing Board dated 13 January 2016 which outlined the Forum's recommendations to the Licensing Board as per Section 10 of the Licensing (Scotland) Act (2005).	All	All objectives
3.	11 February 2015	<p><u>Alcohol and Young People</u></p> <p>The Forum considered whether attitudes towards alcohol have changed amongst younger people and the Convener requested a presentation for a future workshop on what young people think of alcohol and their experiences of its use and impact.</p>		Young Person's Representative to the Forum	All Objectives
4.	18 November 2015	<p><u>Youth Justice Monitoring</u></p> <p>The Forum requested that Sgt Flett provide an update on the monitoring arrangements and research conducted by the Youth Justice team on how young people accessed alcohol.</p>	<p>Sgt Flett provided an update on 12 January 2016 and advised that there was no clear mechanism in place to retrieve the requested data but discussions were ongoing between Police Scotland the Youth Justice Team on how to achieve greater alignment.</p> <p>On 8 November 2016, Miriam Smith advised the Forum that data could be made available through the Responsible Group which the</p>	Police Scotland representative to the Forum	Licensing Objective 1: Preventing Crime and Disorder; and Licensing Objective 5: Protecting Children from Harm

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			Convener was a member of. This would ensure there was no duplication of information or resource.		
5.	13 September 2016	<p><u>LSO Annual report 2015-16</u></p> <p>The Forum requested that the LSO Annual Report 2015-16 be presented to the Forum with an indicative submission date of mid-2017.</p>		D Sande/T-E Gilchrist	All Objectives
6.	13 September 2016	<p><u>Convener's Letter to the Licensing Board</u></p> <p>The Forum instructed the Convener to correspond with the Convener of the Licensing Board to invite a Board representative to the Forum's next meeting to provide a progress update in relation to issues raised at the Joint Meeting.</p>	<p>An update was provided by the Council's Legal Licensing team on 5 April 2017.</p> <p>A further letter from the Convener of the Forum to the Convener of the Licensing Board was sent on 27 June 2017 seeking assurance on the Forum's role ahead of the Statement of Licensing Policy consultation.</p>	K McGeough	All Objectives
7.	13 September 2016	<p><u>Referral System in Torry</u></p> <p>The Forum requested 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>	An update was provided by the Community Safety Partnership on 5 April 2017.	P Lees	All Objectives

