

REPORT ON COMMUNITY COUNCIL LICENSING WORKSHOP PART 2
Wednesday, 20th September 2017
Aberdeen City Council, Town House

Background

During December 2016 the first part of the Community Council Licensing Workshop was delivered to 15 Community Council delegates with 12 Community Councils represented. Due to time constraints, the full programme could not be delivered and it was agreed that a follow up session would be arranged focussing on more practical aspects of the licensing process.

Following brief introductions from the 6 Community Council representatives attending and those supporting the session, Sandy Munro, Solicitor to the Licensing Board gave an overview of the roles of the Licensing Team and Licensing Board. Sandy also spoke briefly about the various types of licenses.

The Community Council reps then broke into 2 groups to review placebo applications for an off and on sale licensed premises in their own respective areas. Support to the groups was provided by Tara Shivaji, Shamini Omnes, Heather Wilson and Sandy Munro. Community Council reps were encouraged to discuss the applications and decide if they wished to make an objection or representation to the Licensing Board. They were encouraged to look at the Operating Plans, check opening times with the Statement of Licensing Policy, be aware of the Overprovision Areas for on sales and make decisions based on their own local knowledge.

The evening and the exercise led to a great deal of discussion and was well received by those who attended..

Main topics for discussion

- Process for notification of licensing applications
- Roles of the Licensing Team and the Licensing Board
- The practical exercise took up most of the evening

Tasks identified from the discussions

- Information on the Imagineers project to be circulated to Community Councils via Karen Rennie.
- Discussion around a template that could be used by Community Council members to collect information from local residents on topics of interest was discussed. HW/SO agreed to try to draft a document and send it to Alex Mess for comment.

Evaluation of event

Community Council members were asked to complete an evaluation questionnaire for the event. The resulting responses identified that:

- 83% (5/6) advised that they had attended the previous session. Only 1 attendee had not attended part 1. (*When asked if he required more information on the licensing process he felt he had sufficient knowledge and did not require any additional support.*)
- 67% (4/6) advised that their confidence in apply learning was now good or very good.
- 1 person advised that their confidence in applying learning was now satisfactory, with 1 person advising that their confidence to apply learning was poor.
- 100% (6/6) advised that the facilitators knowledge was very good

Additional comments:

- Thank you very much for a very informative workshop
- I need more chances to discuss the problems
- 12/10 – first class
- More workshops please

All Community Council delegates received a pack of alcohol related information and statistics and contact details so that they would know who to contact for any help in the future.