

Good paper. Good to collect data/feedback from vulnerable groups. Lots of info to take forward but limited by the legislation. May need to promote existing legislation – proxy purchase.

Good summary. Relevant issues raised. Vulnerable groups catered for BUT hard to identify vulnerable people.

Clubs – sports. Closing down as lack of members. Transport problems. Youth. Guiding to drink 17+.

Points should be used as part of consultation process ...as part of forum or otherwise

Really impressive detailed report.

Perhaps need to explore some of the comments further. Misunderstanding of process among the general public. e.g. training for license holders.

Feedback on Health Impact Assessment Report Local Licensing Forum meeting on 21st December 2017

Good points raised. Challenge 25 and Test purchase should be more of them. Stores do carry out their own. Possible review or adding the vulnerable people to license objectives.

Very relevant points, however some of the issues are subject of provisions in place.

Generated great discussion

What to take forward:
Clarity and communications. Inform the Licensing Board of these perceptions.
Training of off-sales staff increase in line with on-sales (perhaps even extend beyond).

Generally the points are reflective of some of the issues the Forum has identified particularly about how decisions are made about licences.

The part about vulnerable people is significant and could be covered by the Board. Statement of aims about how they will protect the public.

Themes from discussion at Licensing Forum meeting

1. Communications

- Application process – notification for Community Councils, is it possible to instigate the process already discussed, e.g. copy of site notice emailed to Community Council generic email address used instead of usual postal route.
- Can the progress of an application be tracked on-line so that all parties involved are aware of when it will be presented to the Licensing Board, what the decision was, what led to that decision etc. This would help other stakeholders understand the rationale for decisions. (Although it was appreciated that a statement of reasons could be requested and that minutes of meetings were available a clearer method of recording and reporting would be beneficial for all stakeholders and perhaps the board when they were preparing annual reports.)
- Extensions to opening times – not helpful for dates to be announced at short notice. A clear list of additional special event dates that can be identified in advance and listed publicly would be really helpful. See section 20.6, SLP: Extra hours of trading for 24th & 31st Dec, the 4 local holidays and other special days are referred to in the SLP. Can the Licensing Board be proactive in identifying any additional dates up to a year in advance. Examples include Off-shore Europe, Christmas/New Year. This allows the trade and others, e.g. police, street pastors, health related services etc to plan staff rotas in advance
Conditions – need a better understanding of how this can be used as a control measure for all stakeholders.

Suggested recommendations from the Licensing Forum to the Licensing Board:

- Request the Licensing Board to review the process of notification for Community Councils and email a copy of the site notice to the Community Council generic email address.
- Request the Licensing Board implement a new approach to monitoring and recording the progress of all applications and decisions made. Sample format attached for consideration.
- Request the Licensing Board communicate additional “special event dates”, eg. Offshore Europe, to all stakeholder groups at least one year in advance. This could be done via the Licensing Board website.

2. Vulnerable people

- It was felt appropriate to widen the licensing objectives to include not just Children & Young People but wider groups and acknowledge the vulnerability of those with learning and developmental needs, mental health and dependency issues. The Licensing Forum appreciated that the licensing objectives were set in legislation but felt a short paragraph giving a description of the wider range of vulnerabilities could be included in the next SLP.
- Concerns were raised about school events with alcohol – also the fact that no training was necessary for those serving alcohol – what are the implications for those attending? What training should be set as a minimum requirement for those serving alcohol?

Suggested recommendations from the Licensing Forum to the Licensing Board:

- Request the Licensing Board include in the next Statement of Licensing Policy a supporting statement and a list of vulnerable groups who should also be considered under the objective of “*Protecting Children & Young People from harm*”. Vulnerable Groups as identified by the Aberdeen City Community Engagement & Empowerment Strategy. <http://acvo.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2016/09/engagement-participation-and-empowerment-strategy.pdf>

Unpaid Carers
People in poverty
People coping with Mental Health Issues
People involved in the Justice System and their families
Those with Literacy Barriers
Refugees
Homeless People
Those in recovery from substance misuse

This is not an exhaustive list but can be used as a guide.

- Request the Licensing Board include control measures or conditions for school based events where young people are in attendance. The granting of occasional licenses could include the following:
 - Mandatory training requirement for those serving alcohol
 - Alcohol to be restricted to certain areas where children are not present
 - No children to be present at the event

3. Access & Visibility

- Awareness of young people still proxy purchasing – asking other to buy for them and waiting outside shops. Aware that there is a fiscal deterrent for proxy purchasing but perhaps this is not widely recognised. Delivery of take away alcohol also reaching young people – what can be done to prevent this?
- Exploitation of those in recovery or wishing to cut back. E.g. Presentation of alcohol before formally requesting it; encouraged to buy or upscale – 75cl bottle > 1ltre. This is illegal and prohibited by the licensing legislation – but appears to be a common experience among those in recovery. How can we reach licence holders to ensure compliance with the legislation?

Suggested recommendations

- Request the Licensing Board support the gathering and sharing of local intelligence between partner organisations. Routes for reporting incidences of this nature to be publicised via Children’s Social Work, Education, Recovery Groups and Alcohol Support Services. Licensing Board to allow SLOs capacity to investigate anonymous intelligence via these routes.
- Request the Licensing Board add as a condition to all take away deliveries of alcohol that:
 - “Alcohol can only be delivered with a food item from the menu”
 - “Challenge 25 training is mandatory for all delivery services”