

EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

EAST AYRSHIRE LOCAL LICENSING FORUM

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 23 APRIL 2009 AT 1400 HOURS IN MEETING ROOM 1, COUNCIL HEADQUARTERS, LONDON ROAD, KILMARNOCK

PRESENT: James Boyd, Resident; Ian Hiles, Licensing Standards Officer; Carolyn McEwan, Licensing Standards Officer; Councillor John Campbell, Licensing Board Member; Liam Wells, Team Manager, Youth and Addiction Services; Catherine McKenna, Strathclyde Police; and Dr Maggie Watts, NHS Ayrshire and Arran.

ATTENDING: Stuart McCall, Depute Clerk to the Licensing Board; and Sharon McHarg, Administrative Officer.

APOLOGIES: James Kelly (Resident), David Little (License Holder), Sharon Hardie, NHS Ayrshire and Arran and Sergeant Alistair Kelly, Strathclyde Police.

CHAIR: James Boyd, Chair.

MINUTES OF EAST AYRSHIRE LOCAL LICENSING FORUM - 20 JANUARY 2009

1. There was submitted and noted as a correct record, the Minutes of the Licensing Forum of 20 January 2009 (circulated).

PRESENTATION BY DR MAGGIE WATTS, ADAT ON ALCOHOL AWARENESS

2. Dr Maggie Watts gave a presentation to the Forum on Alcohol Awareness and advised on the following:-
 - safe drinking limits for adult males and adult females;
 - alcohol consumption in the UK between 1900 - 2006;
 - inequalities in alcohol-related hospitalisation;
 - inequalities in alcohol related mortality;
 - alcohol and drug related acute hospital discharge rates for under 21's, 2005 - 2006;
 - alcohol and drug related hospital discharges, under 21's, 2005 - 2006;
 - pregnancy and alcohol issues;
 - Foetal Alcohol Syndrome (FAS) in Scotland;
 - hospital discharges with alcohol related diagnosis, 1996/1997 - 2004/2005;
 - rising trend in cirrhosis in Scotland;
 - hospital discharges with alcoholic liver disease, 1996/1997 - 2004/2005;
 - acute hospital discharges with diagnosis of Alcohol Related Brain Disease (ARBD), 1996 - 2005; and
 - licensing trends (i.e. shift from on-sales to off-sales).

Members of the Forum then had the opportunity to ask questions of Dr Maggie Watts and thereafter the Chair thanked Dr Maggie Watts for her informative presentation.

SUMMARY OF CHANGING SCOTLAND'S RELATIONSHIP WITH ALCOHOL: A FRAMEWORK FOR ACTION

3. There was submitted a report dated April 2009 (circulated) by the Partnership Development Officer, ADAT (Alcohol and Drugs Awareness Team), which advised on Changing Scotland's Relationship with Alcohol: A Framework for Action and provided information on a summary of actions within the framework.

The Panel agreed:-

- (i) to note that this item may be considered at a future meeting of the Forum; and
- (ii) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

ORDER OF BUSINESS

4. The Chair, as his discretion, agreed to alter the order of business.

ANY OTHER COMPETENT BUSINESS

4.1 East Ayrshire Children and Young Person's Forum

Catherine McKenna, Strathclyde Police, reported, and it was noted, that Sergeant Kelly had investigated the possibility of young people becoming Members of the Licensing Forum and advised that this matter could not be progressed at present due to the fact that young people were currently studying for exams.

4.2 New Initiative - Misuse of Drugs in Licensed Premises

Catherine McKenna, Strathclyde Police, reported that letters had been issued to licensed premises which advised of a new initiative currently being developed with regard to the misuse of drugs in licensed premises. It was further reported that this initiative was a preventative measure to raise awareness of potential problems and would not lead to prosecution at this stage.

The Forum agreed:-

- (i) to note that it may be useful to raise this matter at a future Community Safety Forum; and
- (ii) otherwise, to note the position.

Catherine McKenna, Strathclyde Police, left the meeting at this point.

MULTI-AGENCY TRAINING FOR CONVENER, LICENSING STANDARDS OFFICERS AND CHAIRS OF LICENSING BOARDS

5. There was submitted a report dated 13 April 2009 (circulated) by the Licensing Standards Officer which provided Members with an update on the Multi-Agency Training for Conveners, Licensing Standard Officers and Chairs of Licensing Boards which was held in Glasgow on 20 February 2009 and was attended by James Boyd, Convener, Councillor Hugh Ross, Licensing Board and Carolyn McEwan, Licensing Standards Officer.

It was agreed that Liam Wells, Team Manager (Youth and Addiction Services) would on behalf of the Forum:-

- (i) progress an Action Plan which would detail the specific objectives the Forum wished to address;
- (ii) develop close links with Community Planning Partnerships and those who represent the views of the local community to enable Forum Members to obtain an understanding of various issues affecting local communities;
- (iii) engage with local communities through an innovative approach, in addition to engagement through publicity, Community Councils, Housing Associations and other organisations; and
- (iv) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

UPDATE ON LICENSING SECTION AND PROGRAMME IN RELATION TO TRANSITION

6. There was submitted and noted a report dated 20 April 2009 (circulated) by the Depute Clerk to the Licensing Board which updated Forum Members on (i) the future items to be addressed by the Board; and (ii) the changes within the Licensing Department.

SCOTTISH GOVERNMENT FRAMEWORK FOR TACKLING ALCOHOL MISUSE

7. There was submitted and noted a report dated 17 April 2009 (circulated) by the Depute Clerk to the Licensing Board which provided Members with an update on the Government's proposals to re-package parts of its licensing reform proposals in a new Health Bill which included measures presently contained in the Criminal Justice and Licensing Bill.

EAST AYRSHIRE LICENSING BOARD - DISABILITY DISCRIMINATION ACT 1995

8. The Depute Clerk to the Licensing Board reported and it was noted that there was no update on the Disability Discrimination Act 1995.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

9. It was agreed that:-
- (i) the next meeting would take place on Tuesday 25 August 2009 at 1400 hours; and
 - (ii) that a Special Meeting would be arranged for June 2009, if required.

The meeting terminated at 1535 hours.