

## **EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL**

### **EAST AYRSHIRE COMMUNITY SAFETY FORUM – 7 JUNE 2006**

#### **VOLUNTARY CODE OF CONDUCT FOR OFF-SALES LICENCE HOLDERS**

##### **Report by Executive Director of Neighbourhood Services**

#### **1. PURPOSE OF REPORT**

- 1.1. To advise the Forum of the progress of the Voluntary Code of Conduct for Off Sales Licence Holders and the provision of carrier bags to be provided to off-sales licence holders in Dalmellington, Dalrymple, Patna, Mauchline and Galston.

#### **2. BACKGROUND**

- 2.1 At the Licensing Board meeting on 12<sup>th</sup> October 2004, members approved a report which invited consideration of a Draft Code of Conduct for off-sales premises within East Ayrshire. Following a consultation exercise it was proposed to roll out the use of identifiable carrier bags in the following areas: Dalmellington, Dalrymple, Patna, Mauchline and Galston. Each off sales premises in those areas were provided with 1000 carrier bags of one identifiable coloured band (to include the text – R U 18 – East Ayrshire Community Safety Partnership and East Ayrshire Licensing Board).
- 2.2 This initiative was launched to tackle youth alcohol abuse and associated antisocial behaviour throughout East Ayrshire.

#### **3. CORE SECTION**

- 3.1 Identifiable carrier bags were distributed by Community Police Officers in five areas initially, and this has worked well with the officers on the ground aware of the bag colour and what premises it refers to. For this initiative to have maximum effect areas with documented youth disorder problems were targeted.
- 3.2 This initiative is still ongoing in licence holders are asked to distribute the bags and are informed of police expectations. The areas identified are targeted with the appropriate resources over a set period of up to 4 weeks.
- 3.3 Relations between licence holders and the police (especially Community Officers) are excellent and licence holders continue to support the police by completing refusal books.

## **1 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 4.1. The cost of implementing this initiative will be met from Anti- Social Behaviour Funding.

## **5. LEGAL/AUTHORITY IMPLICATIONS**

- 5.1. Nil

## **6. POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

- 6.1 Nil

## **7. CONCLUSIONS**

- 7.1. The project continues to target underage persons and agents purchasing alcohol on behalf of youths who are under the age of 18.
- 7.2 Although underage drinking is still a problem there has been a decrease in the number of licence holders charged with supplying to minors and an increase in the number of agents charged giving an indication that the project is working.

## **8. RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 8.1. The Forum is invited to note the contents of this report

W Stafford  
Executive Director of Neighbourhood Services

WS/AW

17 May 2005

### **LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS**

1. For further information please contact John Crawford, Head of Protective Services, 01563 576111 [john.crawford@east-ayrshire.gov.uk](mailto:john.crawford@east-ayrshire.gov.uk)
2. Implementation Officer – Ann Williams