

**Report for:** Environment and Community Safety Scrutiny Panel – 12 November 2015

**Item number:**

**Title:** Report back on work undertaken to develop improved links between licensees within the borough and community safety and regulatory agenda.

**Report authorised by :** Stephen McDonnell – AD Environmental Services & Community Safety.

**Lead Officer:** Daliah Barrett – Licensing Team Leader -Regulatory Services. 0208489 8232. Daliah.barrett@haringey.gov.uk

**Ward(s) affected:** 'All'

**Report for Key/  
Non Key Decision:** Key Decision

**1. Describe the issue under consideration**

- 1.1 The Scrutiny Panel and Metropolitan Police discussed putting a process in place with the aim of improving communication between licencees, the police and local authority.
- 1.2 The focus of this piece of work will be on off licenses, pubs and clubs in the high streets of Wood Green and Tottenham. In addition, this work sought to assist in promoting better co-operation between licensees in dealing with issues of mutual concern and gave a platform for partners and business to address and discuss any issues that may arise.
- 1.3 It was decided to carry out two area meetings, the first being held in Tottenham. A leaflet was put together by The Licensing Team and the Police that spoke of the Licensing Forum and the aims of the forum.

**2. Cabinet Member Introduction**

**3. Recommendations**  
N/A

**4. Reasons for decision**

The Police and Scrutiny Panel were concerned with the increase of anti social behaviour and violent crime where alcohol was a contributing factor.

## **5. Alternative options considered**

N/A.

## **6. Background information**

- 6.1 An initial meeting was held between police and Council officers to explore option of the best ways to engage with licence holders. The local authority expressed concerns about doing a large meeting with traders in a given area as previous attempts were not well attended.
- 6.2 It was decided that an online presence would be a way forward for a licensing forum.
- 6.3 This was subsequently changed by the Police who were asked to arrange face to face meetings with licence holders in High Road N17 and High Road N22.
- 6.4 A leaflet was put together, that advised the licence holders why the Licensing forum was being set up and explained the expectations of their social responsibility. (See App 1). Prior to the meeting taking place the Council prepared a powerpoint presentation that raised awareness of street drinking problems. (See App 2) and a licensing forum page was also established on the website that offered advice to licence holders and a new dedicated inbox and link for them to send feedback and concerns to.
- 6.5 The first meet took place on 23<sup>rd</sup> September at a community centre in Tottenham. Seventy-five licensed premises had been visited and spoken to by the SNT officers. Only five licensed premises attended the meeting.
- 6.6 By way of lessons learnt from the first meeting. The Police Licensing officer notified the licensed premises along High Road Wood Green for the 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting which took place on 22<sup>nd</sup> October at the Civic Centre.
- 6.7 On this occasion seven out of the 18 licence holders attended the meeting. Meaningful discussions were had with the licence holder nearest to the Peace Park at the top of the High Road and he offered to stop stocking certain high ABV beers and lagers when his stock finally runs out.
- 6.8 The attendees were also very interested in hearing that the Police and Council will kickstart the Pub Watch meetings again across the borough.
- 6.9 The fact that the Statment of Licensing Policy was currently out for consultation was also discussed and links were also placed on the licensing forum webpage.

## 7.0 Lessons Learnt/Outcomes

- 7.1 The online presence has not been used at all by the licence holders. The large gathering of licence holders does not work as the off licences and shopkeepers that we need to engage with invariably do not attend these gatherings.
- 7.2 One to one visits to the off licences and small supermarkets works better as a number of these businesses are one man operations and taking time out to attend meetings is not an option they tend to consider.
- 7.3 Pub watch is to be revitalised where extending invitations to smaller businesses will be considered.

## 7. Contribution to strategic outcomes

Priority 3 of the Corporate Plan - A clean, well maintained and safe borough  
Where people are proud to live and work.

- 7.1 Objective 1 - Strengthening Communities and partnerships to improve our environment and reduce crime, enabling residents and traders to feel safe and proud of where they live. This will be delivered by effectively working with community networks, such as traders and residents associations and working in partnership with police colleagues. This will be achieved through joint operations with partners and engagement with residents and businesses.

Objective 2 – To make our streets, parks and estates, clean, well maintained and safe.

Objective 4- To prevent and reduce violence against women and girls. This will be delivered by raising awareness with the boroughs licence holders of the issues and scale of VAWG.

Objective 5 – To work with partners to prevent and reduce more serious crime, in particular youth crime and gang activity. This will be delivered by working in partnership with police colleagues, schools and residents and businesses. This is achieved through a programme of underage test purchasing.

- 7.2 The above Priorities and objectives are underpinned by a number of cross – cutting principles, namely;
- Prevention and early intervention – preventing poor outcomes for young people and intervening early when help and support is needed;
  - A fair and equal borough – tackling the barriers facing the most disadvantaged and enabling them to reach their potential;
  - Working together with our communities – building resilient communities where people are able to help themselves and support each other;
  - Value for Money – achieving the best outcome from the investment made;
  - Customer focus – placing our customers needs at the centre of what we do;
  - Working in partnership – delivering with and through others.

**8. Statutory Officers comments (Chief Finance Officer (including procurement), Assistant Director of Corporate Governance, Equalities)**

8.1 Finance and Procurement  
N/A

8.2 Legal

N/A

8.3 Equality

N/A

**9. Use of Appendices**

**Appendix 1- Leaflet distributed.**

**Appendix 2- Presentation.**

**10. Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985**

**N/A**