

**NOTE of INQUORATE MEETING of LOCAL LICENSING FORUM held in the COMMITTEE
ROOM 1, KILMORY, LOCHGILPHEAD
on WEDNESDAY, 5 NOVEMBER 2014**

Present: Eric Dearie, Licensing Standards Officer (Chair)
Russell Buchanan, Ex Licensee

had nothing to report to the group.

The group discussed the informal meeting that was held as a result of the last meeting to discuss, with the Licensing Board, the role of the Forum. The group agreed that they had found the informal meeting, in which the forum sat through a meeting of the licensing board prior to the discussion with some members of the licensing board very beneficial.

The forum

successful. However the Forum also noted that it would be hard to determine whether a change in statistics was a result of the Festive Hours Policy or was because of the increased resources put in place by Police Scotland over the holiday season.

6. THE FIVE POLICY OBJECTIVES

The Chair advised that the agenda should read the five licensing objectives as opposed to the five policy objectives, and asked Sheila MacFadyen to remind the Forum of the five licensing objectives. Sheila MacFadyen advised that it had been agreed at the informal meeting of the Local Licensing Forum that the five licensing objectives should be a standing item on all future agendas, and this would allow the forum to raise any issues they had at any meeting. The Chair advised that under the previous item we had spoken a lot about objective (e), Protecting Children from Harm and he advised that as part of The Air Weapons Bill currently progressing through the Scottish Parliament that this was being updated to read Protecting Children and Young Persons from Harm. The Chair reported that the Licensing Board are required to take into account each of the Licensing Policy Objectives when deciding whether to grant or deny every licensing application. The Forum agreed that it would be helpful if the five objectives were detailed on each agenda to remind people of what they were.

Decision

The Forum agreed that for future agendas, the Five Licensing Objectives should be detailed to remind the forum of what they are.

7. ALCOHOL FOCUS SCOTLAND REPORT ON THE REVIEW OF STATEMENTS OF LICENSING POLICY

The Chair advised the Forum that the report had recently been considered at a licensing conference. The report highlights Alcohol Focus concerns regarding Licensing Boards throughout Scotland. Alcohol Focus believes that the licensing boards are not doing enough work in regard to overprovision. The Chair advised that when this report was written, Argyll and Bute Licensing Boards 2013-2016 Policy had not been finalised and therefore is not included in the report. The forum noted the clarity of the report, and the detailed suggestions for improvement. The forum held a discussion on the requirement for each local authority to have its own licensing board. The Chair asked the members of the forum to bring any comments they have on the report to the next meeting.

Decision

The Local Licensing Forum noted the report by Alcohol Focus Scotland and agreed to bring any further comments they had on the report to the next meeting of the Forum.

