

Minute of meeting of the **ANGUS LOCAL LICENSING FORUM** held remotely on Monday 20 September 2021 at 10am.

**Present:** HOLDERS OF PREMISES LICENCES & PERSONAL LICENCES  
SHEENA COCHRANE  
BRUCE SHERIDAN

RESIDENTS

ANGUS COUNCIL  
NICKY CORLETT, LICENSING STANDARDS OFFICER  
DAVID THOMPSON PRINCIPLE SOLICITOR

HEALTH  
LAURA OGILVY, DEVELOPMENT OFFICER, ANGUS ALCOHOL & DRUGS PARTNERSHIP

POLICE  
SGT JAMES GORDON  
PC ROBYN JAMIESON  
PC SCOTT MENMUIR

ANGUS LICENSING BOARD MEMBERS  
COUNCILLOR MOORE

**Also Present:** FIONA ANDERSON, Committee Officer

**Apologies:** Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Graeme Strachan and Councillor Fotheringham.

Sheena Cochrane, in the Chair

**1. WELCOME AND MEMBERSHIP**

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and hoped that the members of the Forum could now continue with their work. She intimated how challenging the last 18 months had been for the hospitality sector and thanked the licensing staff of Angus Council and the Angus Licensing Board for the tremendous support and work that had been done during this difficult time to help the hospitality industry especially with the granting of outside drinking areas. She hoped that things would begin to get back to normal soon.

**2. ANY ISSUES FROM ANGUS ALCOHOL AND DRUGS PARTNERSHIP**

Laura addressed members and spoke of the difficulties encountered during the last 18 months due to Covid-19. She advised that there had been a significant increase in alcohol referrals and a rise in alcohol deaths. During this period of time 100 digital devices had been given out to persons who use their services to help them access help.

Drug's deaths were also on the increase and Laura advised that the Angus Alcohol and drug partnership had received significant funding from the Scottish Government to help deal with this problem. Cllr Moore asked if she could do a report to the Forum or Board on these issues and it was agreed that a report be produced for a future meeting.

The members noted the contents of the local licensing forum guide for licensing members and it was agreed that this document was a useful tool.

<https://www.alcohol-focus-scotland.org.uk/media/440081/afs-local-licensing-guide-for-forum-members.pdf>

Following some discussion, the members noted the position.

### **3. LICENSING STANDARDS OFFICER REPORT**

Nicky Corletto, LSO introduced herself and gave some background on her previous experience with the licensing trade. She advised that she was finding her feet in the job and was looking forward to working with the members of the forum in the future.

### **4. ASK FOR ANGELA CAMPAIGN**

Constable Scott Menmuir, Police Scotland addressed the Forum and highlighted the need to make the public aware of the "Ask for Angela" campaign which had been rolled out in a number of areas in Scotland. He advised that he had posters etc that had been used to promote this campaign in Dundee and was willing to adapt the materials for Angus.

Sheena agreed that this campaign should be supported, and that Angus Local Licensing Forum members should help promote it. Constable Menmuir advised that staff training was the most difficult part as licensed premises staff were unsure how to deal with these situations should they arise. Cllr Moore said he would also be happy for the Board to promote this campaign.

### **5. UPDATE FROM POLICE SCOTLAND ON LICENSING ISSUES**

Constable Robyn Jamieson, Police Scotland addressed the Forum and advised that since lockdown had been lifted, they had been visiting licensing premises and had found that the paperwork was not up to date and the premises managers were requiring help to sort this.

She advised that they hoped to have regular visits along with the LSO to licensed premises to help solve these issues. It had also been found that there was a lack of door stewards as many had got other jobs during lockdown and this was being kept under review.

Sgt James Gordon advised that they were currently promoting By Stander training which dealt with the vulnerabilities of people who had consumed too much alcohol and were posing a danger to themselves. It may be that a lone female was very drunk, and it was not safe for her to go home alone or a male had got aggressive by consuming too much alcohol. This was all situations which could possibly be addressed by staff in licenced premises and additional support given.

Sgt Gordon advised that the staff in the licensing section had all received training on this and they in turn would provide training to licensees on the best way to deal with each situation. He advised that they had seen an increase in sexual crime linked to the nighttime hospitality industry and it was hoped this training would help reduce this significantly.

### **6. AOCB**

Cllr Moore advise members that the Angus Licensing Board at its meeting on 22 April 2021 had agreed to temporarily permit the relaxation of paragraph 4.4.4 of their Statement of licensing policy by allowing applicants temporarily to submit more than 4 Occasional Licence applications, without being expected by the Board to submit a premises licence or major variation application in light of the very unusual circumstances caused by the Covid 19 pandemic and the easing of lockdown restrictions on the hospitality industry.

### **7. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

It was noted that the next meeting of the Forum would be the joint meeting with the Angus Licensing Board members held on Thursday 25 November 2021.