

Subject:	Safeguarding in the Late Night Economy		
Date of Meeting:	27th June 2019		
Report of:	Executive Director of Neighbourhoods, Communities & Housing		
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Ward(s) affected:	All		

FOR GENERAL RELEASE

1. SUMMARY AND POLICY CONTEXT:

- 1.1. This report sets out the current safeguarding initiatives within the Night Time Economy, including:
- Alcohol Programme Board
 - Public Health Framework for assessing alcohol licensing decisions (Revised 2019)
 - Test purchases
 - Police and security initiatives
 - Partner Agency initiatives
 - Exploitation Group
 - Joint Intelligence Meetings

- 1.2. Members are apprised of local and national issues.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 2.1. That the committee notes the contents of this report.
- 2.2. That officers should continue to monitor trends of applications and illegal activity to inform future policy.

3. RELEVANT BACKGROUND INFORMATION/CHRONOLOGY OF KEY EVENTS:

3.1. Night-Time Economy Initiatives

The licensing authority continue to support safeguarding initiatives such as the Beach Patrol Quad bike, safe space and street pastors. The Community Safety Partnership Board continues to oversee the Community Safety Strategy and Safety in the Night Time Economy Action Plan as part of their remit. The action plan has been updated and recently the updated strategic assessment has been completed. In addition, the University of Sussex operates a "Good Night Owl" scheme which includes 40 volunteers and is currently funded by the Police Community Safety Fund. Licensed premises are being encouraged to use the "Ask 4 Angela" initiative.

3.1.1 Operation Marble (Sussex Police)

An operation to reduce violence, alcohol related disorder and antisocial behaviour in the City of Brighton and Hove within the night time economy.

Due to the large concentration of licensed premises and night clubs in the centre of Brighton, a high proportion of the Division's violent crime and serious sexual offences are committed within a relatively small area. The Division receives a large influx of visitors to the city centre at weekends. Many of these people attend the pubs and night-clubs during night time hours and as a result an enhanced policing operation is provided. Traditionally this has run from 2100hrs through to 0400hrs on a Friday and Saturday night with the emphasis being on a highly visible presence of officers.

In addition to the standard Friday and Saturday night, there are a number of standalone operations such as Bank Holidays, New Year's Eve, Halloween and Pride. In the run up to Christmas, additional resources are at times deployed during the end of week to monitor Christmas Parties.

Op Marble covers an area between Preston Street to the West – The Level to the North – Kemptown to the East and the seafront between West Pier and Concorde 2 to the South.

3.1.2 **Doorstaff Briefing**

In association with BCRP – Business Crime Reduction Partnership – Police attend a weekly Friday night doorstaff briefing at Pryzm. Covered are persons of interest and share information on any events that might impact the city during that weekend – music events, football etc.

3.1.3 **Police & BCRP weekly meetings**

Weekly meeting is held between Police and BCRP. The previous weekend is reviewed and plan for the weekend ahead and any future events. Premises of concern are also discussed.

3.1.4 **Vulnerability Training**

Training delivered by Sussex Police to staff working within the night time economy to provide them with knowledge of vulnerability and ensure they understand their responsibilities and duty of care to vulnerable people including actions that must be taken to reduce identified risk. Training will include:

- **Ask for Angela**

An initiative for persons that are on dates and they are feeling uneasy and need a safe way of leaving. The individual can approach a member of bar staff and ask for Angela and the staff will know this person needs some help getting out of a situation they don't feel safe or comfortable in. This could be calling them a taxi or a friend of family member to come and collect them.

- **Op Bobcat**

How to identify a possible sexual predator within the night time economy. What kind of behaviour to look out for. What to do when you feel someone could be out to cause sexual harm to other individuals.

3.1.5 **Counter Terrorism Training**

A number of venues throughout the city including night time venues have attended various training sessions in regards to counter terrorism.

Partner Agencies Initiatives

3.1.6 **Safe Space**

YMCA Safe Space, run by the YMCA DownsLink Group, on West Street runs throughout the year on Fridays and Saturdays (23.30-04.00Hrs) from its base in St Pauls Church, West Street. The project provides a safe place for users of the night time economy who are rendered more vulnerable due to alcohol and/or drug use, or through physical injury or emotional distress. Safe Space regularly provides emotional support to distressed people, including delivering suicide prevention interventions and safety planning (through the ASIST model). First Aid is provided by EMS Ltd, with emotional and practical support from the YMCA team. Dependent on funding, the YMCA can also provide a mobile outreach team to operate along the seafront, providing an immediate response to vulnerable people, and where safe to do so taking people to St Pauls Church. Mobile teams also operate on New Year's Eve in the Kemp Town and East Street areas. Safe space also has a positive impact in reducing the need for police and medical attendance.

The Licensing Authority supports initiatives such as the YMCA's sexual exploitation project, YMCA WiSE, which amongst its work, increases awareness of sexual and criminal exploitation in the night time economy through the offer of training to the NTE workforce and through awareness campaigns.

April 2018- March 2019

Safe Space supported 829 clients & 113 homeless (usually quick cup of tea and chat when quiet)

Of those clients-

- Main age group is 18-24 accounting for 69% and 25-34 accounting for 20%
- 46% from B&H, 51% not local although majority are from West Sussex & East Sussex
- 51% Male, 49% Female
- Main referrers; Venue door staff account for 33% ; Self referrals 40%, Police 7%
- 80% of support alcohol related, 13% drugs related, 22% needed medical support (either immediate or secondary), 93% required practical support i.e. separated from friends. lost phone/money, Needed info/support to get home, Needed phone charger, somewhere to stay; 26% required emotional support i.e. Upset or distressed, Mental health issues disclosed, Suicidal ideation, Victim of theft or assault, disclosure of abuse
- Total savings in estimated paramedic/ambulance call outs and hospital admissions = £516,790

- Budget is covered for 2019-20, but uncertain at this stage for 2020-21. Waiting to find out if we have additional funding to extend the service over Pride.

3.1.7 Beach Patrol

Quad bike(s) patrolling the beach between 23:00-05:00 Friday and Saturday nights by SIA qualified staff. Equipped with first aid kits, thermal blankets, defibrillator and night-safe radio. Visual presence has reduced crime on the beach including sexual assaults. Educates persons of the dangers of going in to the sea and has actively got people out of the sea and back on to the safety of the beach.

Brighton Beach Patrol (BBP) started in May 2015 and is operated by volunteers. The service is currently joint funded by Resolve Security Solutions Ltd and the Laines Brewery Company. BBP are in the process of applying for charitable status. The service utilises a quad bike and SIA security staff to patrol the beach between the Piers protecting the vulnerable from potential drownings, assaults, intoxication and safeguarding matters. BBP operate every weekend and operate on additional days for high risk events and bank holidays. BBP provide weekly reports to key stakeholders, including the police, council and coastguard.

BBP noted the following from January – September 2018:

- Beach Patrol runs from the Brighton Pier to the i360 between 11pm – 5am.
- Beach Patrol is supported by Sussex Police, BCRP, Seafront Office and BIDS
- Beach Patrol uses the BCRP radio
- Beach Patrol was established to reduce drownings, mainly through alcohol and reduce crime.
- Beach Patrol links with Safe Space – escorting people from the beach to Safe Space
- Any/all drug offences/incidents are reported to the Police
- Pride weekend was exceptionally busy and the Shoreham Safeguards were on hand to help – overall it was very successful.
- This is a voluntary service - there are four people in the team and all equipment has been donated to the team
- The Quad bike is an essential tool of the team – enabling them to respond quickly, and to be a ‘presence’ during those times. People know that they can approach the Beach Patrol team about anything
- Aim is to have a presence on the other side of the Pier
- Sussex University gives a donation when there is a promoted Student event but no other companies on the seafront help with funding – although it was noted that it is not only seafront businesses who should be asked, given that many of the customers are from the whole city and are drawn to the sea

3.1.8 **Street Pastors** – operate every Friday night from around 22:00-02:30. Patrol West Street, North Street, East Street, Queens Road, Churchill Sq., The Lanes and Seafront.

3.1.9 Street Wise Community Street Marshalling Scheme – Operates during term time pm a Wednesday, Thursday and Friday night between 22:00-04:00. Covering Lewes Road, Hanover, Upper Lewes Road and around the North end of London Road, they are looking out of students to ensure they get home safely as well as reminding them of noise levels and prevent ASB issues. This is run by University of Sussex.

BHCC - Street drinking/Sensible on Strength/Under Age Training

3.1.10 Sensible on Strength (SoS)

- Membership = 190 - SoS website
- Further 49 stopped selling but not joined scheme.
- Dr Worthley, Lead GP at Brighton Homeless Healthcare, “continues to be one of the most significant public health measures in Brighton & Hove”
- SoS scheme continues to generate a lot of interest from other authorities who have visited B&H to find out how we run the scheme. In 2018 the trader information sheet was updated.

3.1.11 Age restricted sales training has been delivered to 90 premises/202 staff

3.1.12 Test purchasing Alcohol/Tobacco/Gambling/Knives

31/05/2018	9 Tested	1 Failed - Alcohol
26/06/2018	10 Tested	7 Failed - Gambling
22/09/2018	15 Tested	3 Failed - Knives
06/12/2018	9 Tested	2 Failed - Alcohol

3.1.13 Alcohol Programme Board

The Alcohol Programme Board includes health commissioners and NHS/voluntary sector providers, the Council, University student reps, police, licensees, retailers and probation services, with Chair of Licensing invited. The work of the Alcohol Programme Board, domain group 2 (availability) developed an action plan which can be found at Appendix A.

3.1.14 Public Health Framework for assessing Alcohol licensing

An annual report entitled ‘Public Health Framework for assessing Alcohol licensing’ is produced by the Public Health Intelligence team. It contains ward by ward analysis of crime and disorder data and health data and as such is a valuable tool in assessing the potential impact of new licences within a community. The Director of Public Health may use this information to inform a representation relating to an individual application. This document is available on the following page of our website www.brighton-hove.gov.uk/licensingact.

3.1.15 Joint Intelligence Meeting (Licensing) - JIM

The Licensing Joint Intelligence Meeting is a fortnightly meeting, chaired by the Council’s Licensing Team, held to bring together the Relevant Authorities to share intelligence relating to premises licensed under the Licensing Act 2003 in Brighton and Hove. The information brought is deemed necessary and

appropriate to share with all Authorities and the aim is to avoid duplication and to better target enforcement resources.

Relevant subjects include, Breaches of premises licences. Premises where enforcement action is currently being taken (eg Enforcement notices), Premises that are of interest for more than one Authority/ In need of joint investigation.

The JIM is attended by Brighton and Hove City Council (Licensing Authority, Environmental Protection, Health and Safety, Trading Standards), Sussex Police Licensing Unit, East Sussex Fire and Rescue Service.

3.1.16 Exploitation Group

Brighton & Hove's adult and children's safeguarding partnerships have established a multi-agency exploitation subgroup chaired by Sussex Police. This group has been established to oversee the strategic and tactical / operational response to the criminal and sexual exploitation of children / adults including human trafficking, modern slavery, missing children and radicalisation. The Community Safety Partnership has agreed a violence, vulnerability and exploitation (VVE) strategic action plan which informs this work and recruited a coordinator based within the council's safer communities team. The action plan sets out SMART actions related to early intervention, safeguarding, disruption, enforcement, communications, education, data analysis and research. Current activity includes the commissioning of WiSE to deliver exploitation awareness training to taxi drivers, security staff, licensed premises and the night-time economy and to investigate how to improve safe spaces within the city for people at risk of immediate harm related to VVE.

4. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND CONSULTATION

4.1. Licensing Strategy Group, finance and legal services.

5. FINANCIAL & OTHER IMPLICATIONS:

Financial Implications:

5.1 The costs associated to activities allowable under the Licensing Act 2003 are funded by licence fee income; any variation between expenditure and income generated from licence fees is funded from existing revenue budgets.

Where fees are not set by central government, licence fees are set at a level that it is reasonably believed will cover the costs of providing the service and in accordance with the requirements of the legislation under which they are charged. Licence fees are approved annually at Licensing Committee.

Finance Officer Consulted: Michael Bentley *Date: 22/05/19*

Legal Implications:

5.2 Legal implications are contained within the body of this report.

Lawyer Consulted:

Rebecca Sidell

Date:22/05/19

Equalities Implications:

- 5.3 There are no direct equalities implications.

Sustainability Implications:

- 5.4 There are no direct sustainability implications.

Crime & Disorder Implications:

- 5.5 Contained in the body of the report.

Risk and Opportunity Management Implications:

- 5.6 No implications

Public Health Implications:

- 5.7 Contained within report.

Corporate / Citywide Implications:

- 5.8 The local licensing delivers support improvement that help businesses comply with the law speedily, easily and economically.

6. EVALUATION OF ANY ALTERNATIVE OPTION(S):

None – for information only.

7. REASONS FOR REPORT RECOMMENDATIONS

For information only.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

Appendices:

1. Appendix A – Alcohol Programme Board action plan

Documents in Members' Rooms

1. None.

Background Documents

1. None.