ALCOHOL POLICY AND LIQUOR CONTROL BYLAW SUBCOMMITTEE 2 APRIL 2009

A meeting of the Alcohol Policy and Liquor Control Bylaw Subcommittee was held on Thursday 2 April 2009 at 2pm

PRESENT: Councillor Sue Wells (Chairperson), Yani Johanson, and Mike Wall.

IN ATTENDANCE: None

APOLOGY: Apologies for absence were received and accepted from

Councillors Helen Broughton ,Sally Buck, Ngaire Button, Claudia Reid, Bob Shearing, and Chrissie Williams, and Deputy Mayor Nor Withers.

1. SALE AND SUPPLY OF LIQUOR AND LIQUOR ENFORCEMENT BILL

Staff provided introductory comments to the Subcommittee on the Bill. Main areas of consideration and importance to the Council in the proposed Local Alcohol Plans were identified as:

- Hours of sale
- Location of outlets
- Density of outlets
- Conditions that can be imposed on licenses
- Criteria for assessing applications or renewals

2. TERMS OF REFERENCE OF THE ALCOHOL POLICY AND LIQUOR CONTROL BYLAW SUBCOMMITTEE

The Subcommittee discussed its terms of reference and considered the following points:

- The current District Licensing Agency (DLA) delegations need review.
- There is a need for a clear line of sight from the DLA to governance, which may sit under a policy.
- Is the current DLA process appropriate and working for everyone, and what can change?
- There are other areas of Council working on alcohol-related issues. Is there any central oversight?
- Are the right people discussing alcohol-related issues, for example, the Mayor?

The Subcommittee sought clarity around stakeholders and initiatives currently working on alcohol-related issues in Christchurch. They are listed as follows:

Initiatives

- Healthy Christchurch
- Safer Christchurch
 - Safer Christchurch Strategy
 - Safer Christchurch Interagency Group
 - Community Violence Reduction Project
- CBD Alcohol Accord
- Riccarton Community Alcohol Accord, Community Behaviour (Com-Be) Zone
- Transport Accord

Organisations

- Alcohol Advisory Council (ALAC)
- Police (National Alcohol Action Plan)
- He Oranga Pounamu
- Other organisations, eg Salvation Army, Alcoholics Anonymous (AA), Students Against Drink Driving (SADD)

The Subcommittee notes that the Council currently has no Alcohol Strategy or immediate plans to develop one. However, it currently has an Alcohol Policy, which is in need of review, but this depends, in part, on potential upcoming law changes.

3. TIMETABLE FOR THE REVIEW OF THE ALCOHOL POLICY

The Subcommittee discussed draft alcohol policy timelines as provided by staff.

4. SIGNIFICANCE POLICY ASSESSMENT

The Subcommittee discussed the role of public consultation around a possible alcohol policy or alcohol strategy in regard to ongoing timing.

5. SCOPE OF LOCAL ALCOHOL PLANS (LAPS) UNDER THE BILL

Discussed above.

6. RESEARCH AND INFORMATION NEEDS

The Subcommittee considered that it would be beneficial to draw on examples from other jurisdictions, for example, Queenstown's liquor licensing policy.

7. ENGAGEMENT

Discussed in relation to other groups (above).

DIRECTION

The Subcommittee instructed staff to:

- review the current of terms of reference of the Subcommittee, with a view to making the Subcommittee the central oversight body for alcohol-related issues, including:
 - reviewing subcommittee membership
 - progressing a recommendation to the Regulatory and Planning Committee, and then to Council
- ensure the Subcommittee is provided with information on alcohol initiatives the Council is involved in, and an understanding of current shortfalls and gaps
- review the current District Licensing Authority (DLA) delegations, and consider future interaction between the Subcommittee and the DLA
- provide a risk analysis on a possible limited alcohol policy compared to a full policy review.

The meeting was adjourned at 4.15pm.