

**ALCOHOL POLICY AND LIQUOR CONTROL BYLAW SUBCOMMITTEE  
4 JUNE 2009**

**A meeting of the Alcohol Policy and Liquor Control Bylaw Subcommittee  
was held on Thursday 4 June 2009 at 2pm**

**PRESENT:** Councillor Sue Wells (Chairperson),  
Councillors Ngaire Button, Yani Johanson and Chrissie Williams.

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Deputy Mayor Norm Withers.

**APOLOGIES:** Apologies for absence were received and accepted from  
Councillors Mike Wall, Bob Shearing, Sally Buck, Claudia Reid  
and Helen Broughton.

Staff provided the Subcommittee with presentations on the following alcohol-related initiatives:

**1. SAFER CHRISTCHURCH INITIATIVES**

Presenters:

Glenn Dobson, Safer Christchurch Manager, Community Support Unit  
Lincoln Papali'i, Community Development Manager, Community Support Unit  
Tony Francis, Francis and Cambridge Ltd (external contractor, working on the Transport Accord)

During discussion of the Safer Christchurch Initiatives, the following points were discussed:

- The Subcommittee asked how Safe City Officers are monitored. Staff replied that the current contract expires in September 2009 and performance will be reviewed then. However, there are good records/statistics kept about the interactions and activities of the SCOs. Current patrols work in groups of two. However, groups of three are not uncommon – often for safety reasons or training purposes.
- The Subcommittee discussed the intervention capabilities of Safe City Officers, which are limited. Staff discussed that often speaking to individuals is most productive. The Subcommittee indicated that it would be interested in reviewing any statistical data on interventions.
- Staff clarified that the Central City Alcohol Accord was not governed by any one group, as signatories of the accord are voluntary and included a range of government organisations (eg CCC, CDHB, Police), as well as the Hospitality Association and a large number of licensees.
- Staff clarified that the Community Violence Reduction Project (CVRP) is funded through the Ministry of Justice's Crime Prevention Unit and that much of the funding for such projects/initiatives is external eg ACC, ALAC, CPU, etc so the only cost to the Council is staff time.
- Better communication needed between Community Boards and initiatives/bodies eg the CVRP, as both are trying to achieve the same safety-related goals – staff will address.
- The Subcommittee discussed the need for greater clarity in reporting initiatives back to the Council or initiatives being considered by the Council for decision-making. The following points were made:
  - Communication between staff and Councillors appears to be a problem area in a process sense for some initiatives – ie the Mayor is asked to sign agreements, but the agreements do not go past Council – eg the Alcohol Accord, Transport Accord and ComBeZone – none were considered by the Council, but the Mayor signed them on “the Council's” behalf. Governance/process issues need to be addressed
  - Transport Accord – would benefit from a formal reporting line within Council.
- Staff discussed the Transport Accord with the Subcommittee and commented that the Transport Accord is expected to assist with some issues caused by taxis/passengers within the four avenues.

## **2. CLUB MARK**

Presenter: Martin McGregor, Sports Liaison Adviser, Recreation & Sports Unit

The Subcommittee received a briefing on the Club Mark initiative and how it relates to alcohol in sporting clubs. Staff informed the Subcommittee that there are over 300 current club licences at present and that liquor is just one component that is covered by the initiative. Liquor licensing staff indicated they have not been approached by any clubs seeking a gold level for Club Mark, but perhaps feedback is coming from CDHB instead?

## **3. TRI AGENCY GROUP**

Presenter: Martin Ferguson, Liquor Licensing Inspector, Inspections and Enforcement Unit

Staff gave an indication of the work of the Tri-Agency Group – both regulatory and non-regulatory.

## **4. HEALTHY CHRISTCHURCH**

Presenter: Alan Bywater, Programme Manager Strong Communities, Strategy and Planning Group

Staff presented a brief presentation on Healthy Christchurch. The Subcommittee was satisfied that the initiative is a sound concept, but was concerned that it is proving impractical. The Subcommittee was particularly concerned that relatively little progress seems to be made and that there is need for greater discourse between groups working toward the same ends, as there seemed to be a lot of overlap.

## **5. COUNCIL POLICY ON ALCOHOL RELATED HARM**

Presenter: Richard Stokes, Events Development Team, Marketing Unit

Staff are satisfied that the current policy on alcohol-related harm is working well.

## **6. GUIDANCE FOR STAFF**

The Subcommittee asked staff to report back on the following issues:

- Terms of Reference of the Subcommittee – there is no governance body at the moment for alcohol-related initiatives to report to – consider whether the Subcommittee could be the appropriate body – or if not, what an appropriate body might look like. Begin work on considering how current initiatives report back to the Council and how future initiatives should be considered by the Council to address the disconnect between staff and the Mayor (with no involvement of the Council)
- Com Be Zone initiative – further report back requested from the Police/University/Community Board.
- A report back on the operations of the Safe City Officers was requested, including statistics/data on interventions and activities.
- Request for some feedback of monitoring of the alcohol ban over time.

The meeting was adjourned at 3.42pm.