



**POLICE
SCOTLAND**

Keeping people safe

**CHIEF CONSTABLE'S REPORT TO THE
EDINBURGH LICENSING BOARD
FOR THE PERIOD
1ST APRIL 2016 TO 31ST MARCH 2017**

FOREWORD

It gives me great pleasure to provide my second annual licensing report, in accordance with section 12(A) of the Licensing (Scotland) Act 2005.

This report outlines what activity has been undertaken over the last twelve months for Edinburgh which provides me with the opportunity to outline how our services will be delivered over the coming year.

Police Scotland continues to face an increasing range of demands against the backdrop of a challenging financial environment, however we will continue to work in partnership at local and national level to ensure that our communities are safe. I cannot understate the importance of empowering our people to work with others, to innovate and solve problems.

Over the last year we have seen success in our preventative problem solving approach, with officers and staff resolving issues proportionately and at the earliest opportunity. This has been possible due to the active partnerships which exist across the licensing sector, which have led to an increase in positive outcomes.

In the year ahead our approach will continue to be based on prevention and collaboration to ensure the most efficient and effective service delivery. I will encourage officers and staff to utilise the range of options available to ensure improved licensing standards, reduced violence and to positively influence behaviour and cultural attitudes across Scotland.

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to record my thanks to all who work towards the shared aim of effective licensing regulation and I am sure that with the continued hard work and dedication of all staff, Police Scotland will continue to deliver a service that our communities can be proud of.

Mr Philip Gormley QPM

Chief Constable

Police Service of Scotland

NOT PROTECTIVELY MARKED

Police Scotland Licensing Overview

The National Licensing Policy Unit (NLPU) sits within the Specialist Crime Division – Safer Communities based at Dalmarnock Police Office, Glasgow.

The NLPU upholds the two tier structure for licensing which supports both national and local priorities through service delivery. They have overall responsibility for determining and delivering national licensing strategy and policy, by providing advice, guidance and support to divisional licensing teams.

Each 13 Local Policing divisions, have a licensing team wholly committed to the day to day management of licensing administration complying with statutory requirements as well as addressing any issues that may arise within licensed premises within their local area.

Police Scotland Licensing is supported and governed by a National IT solution known as 'Innkeeper'.

EDINBURGH LICENSING BOARD AREA

E Division polices the Edinburgh Licensing Board area. Chief Superintendent Kenny MacDonald is the Divisional Commander who has the responsibility for all day-to-day policing functions.

Local Policing Priorities

Following our public consultation process, the policing priorities for E Division as set out in our Local Policing Plan for the period 2014-2017 were:

1. Public Safety
 - Violence and Disorder
 - Reduce the level of violent crime
 - Reduce the level of alcohol related disorder
 - Domestic Abuse and Sexual Crimes
 - Increase the detection rate of domestic abuse
 - Increase protection for children affected by domestic abuse
 - Increase detection of sexual offences
2. Reducing Antisocial Behaviour
 - Reduce the level of antisocial behaviour
 - Reduce the level of public disorder
 - Increase the detection of hate related crime
3. Serious and Organised Crime
4. Acquisitive Crime

As part of the local policing priorities, Edinburgh Division will continue to focus on alcohol related violence and disorder, recognising that education, prevention, partnership work and robust policing are key factors in reducing crime and disorder in this area.

Description of Board Area

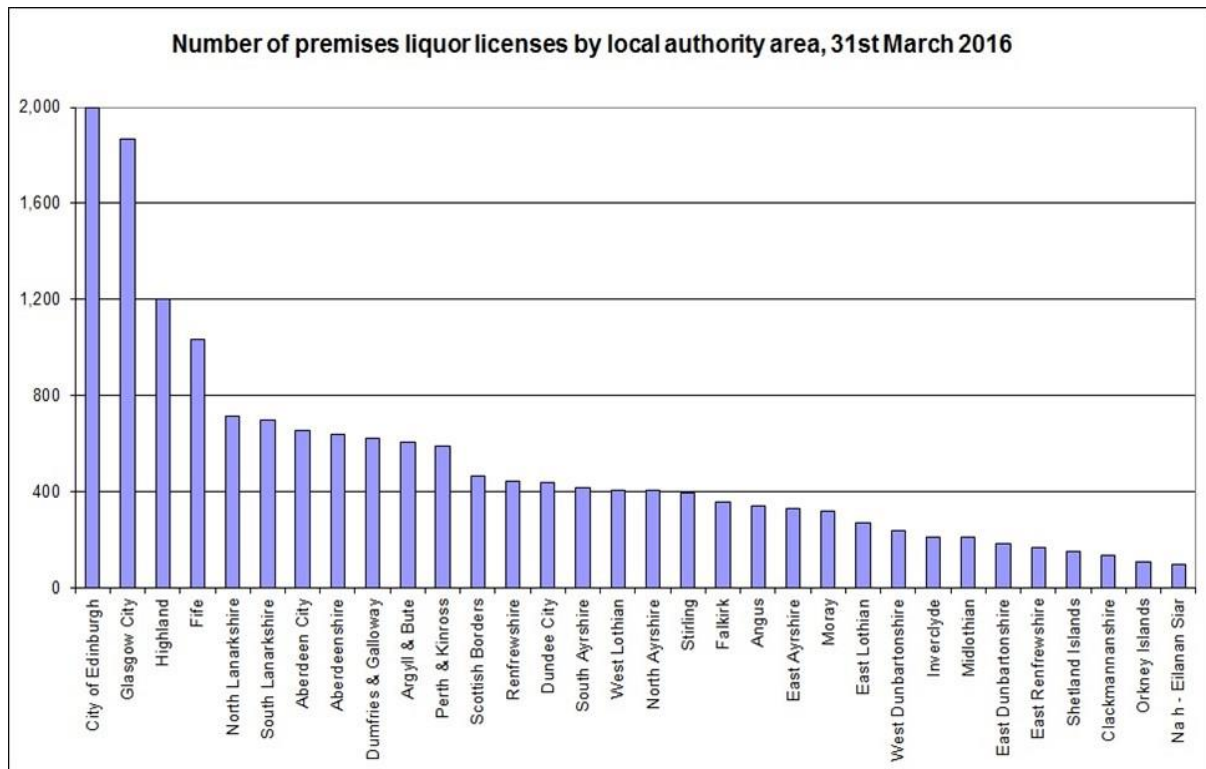
The Divisional Headquarters is St Leonard’s Police Station in central Edinburgh. The division is segmented into four policing areas aligned to Edinburgh council locality areas. Each of these areas has a dedicated Area Commander who has responsibility for policing functions and is accountable to the Divisional Management team.

The senior officers who hold responsibility for licensing within Edinburgh division are Superintendent Richard Horan and T/Chief Inspector Gillian Geany.

The licensing section is based at St Leonard’s and consists of Inspector Emma Croft, Sergeant John Young, 4 Police Constables and 3 Divisional Licensing Administrators.

Edinburgh Division covers a large geographical area from Leith in the North of the city to the Pentlands in the South, with a resident population of around half a million which is said to double in the summer months when the city plays host to the Edinburgh Festival and Fringe. The city also hosts many high profile sporting and cultural events, concerts, Royal Highland Show, Military Tattoo as well as Christmas and Hogmanay celebrations. The city accommodates a wide variety of licensed establishments, which contribute to the leisure and employment opportunities in the area.

The most up to date official licensing statistics are for the financial year ending 2016. There were 16,704 premises licences in force in Scotland on 31st March 2016. The City of Edinburgh has the highest number of premises licensed to sell alcohol as detailed below (Scottish Government Website – Liquor Licensing Statistics 2015-16).



NOT PROTECTIVELY MARKED

The number of licensed premises in Edinburgh has shown a steady increase in both on and off sales over the past 5 years.

Year	On sales	Off sales	Total	Change
2010-11	U/K	U/K	1795	N/A
2011-12	1329	481	1810	+15
2012-13	1304	559	1863	+53
2013-14	1316	579	1895	+32
2014-15	1378	609	1987	+92
2015-16	1426	574	2000	+13
Change	+97	+93	+205	

Number of prominent licensed premises by locality

Premises Type	Edinburgh Division	Localities			
	Total	EC South East	ES South West	ED North East	EN North West
Night Club Venues	49	49	0	0	0
Adult Entertainment	5	5	0	0	0
Public Houses	458	252	49	110	47
Off-sales	593	228	105	159	101
Restaurants	579	381	37	91	70
Hotels	168	110	7	17	34
Total	1852	1025	198	377	252

Over consumption and overprovision

Edinburgh enjoys a thriving night-time economy however it is well recognised that the over consumption of alcohol during this time significantly contributes directly to alcohol related disorder and violence. This can be seen in police, ambulance and accident and emergency department data.

Emergency workers survey

The three blue light services, Police, Fire and Ambulance launched a public information campaign to highlight the impact alcohol misuse has on our front line services. A workers survey was undertaken in respect of the emergency services over a four-week period. Approximately half of all 999 incidents attended were alcohol related. Notwithstanding the verbal and physical abuse emergency personnel are subjected to, the demands being placed on the emergency services by people who are drunk are huge. On many occasions, it delays police officers, firefighters and paramedics from getting to members of the public who really do need our protection and help.

NOT PROTECTIVELY MARKED

Crime linked to alcohol consumption:

Serious assaults

When considering the Local Policing Plan in respect of public safety and the prevalence of serious assaults and the impact of alcohol over-consumption in licensed premises, it is generally acknowledged that there is no accurate mechanism to record the key information required to understand the potential scale of the issue. In order to inform a basic assessment, a sample of serious assaults in Edinburgh division was researched in more detail. It is however suspected in all figures quoted that the link between crime and alcohol is far greater due to inaccuracies in crime recording and the under use of the alcohol aggravator which can be based on officer or victim perception.

The sample was made up of all serious assaults for the nine-month period April to December 2015, which totaled 302 crimes or 80% of the total for 2015/16.

A summary of the main points of this research is provided as follows:

- 59% were recorded with an alcohol aggravator
- 16% were recorded as occurring within licensed premises

Detailed research of crime reports provided the following additional information:

- 37% of the serious assaults can in fact be linked back to licensed premises; in more than a third (34%) of these cases the offender or victim had been refused entry, dispersed or ejected from the premises.
- 49% were assessed as being linked with over-consumption by either the victim or offender.

Sexual Crime

Between 1st April 2016 and 31st March 2017, 107 sexual crimes (11%) in Edinburgh had alcohol as an aggravator. The previous year there were 114 sexual crimes with alcohol as an aggravator (9%).

Hate Crime

Between 1st April 2016 and 31st March 2017, 189 hate crimes (13.9%) in Edinburgh had alcohol as an aggravator. The previous year there were 198 hate crimes with alcohol as an aggravator (15.3%).

Domestic abuse

Between 1st April 2016 and 31st March 2017, 892 domestic crimes (24.4%) in Edinburgh had alcohol as an aggravator. The previous year there were 953 domestic crimes with alcohol as an aggravator (23.1%).

NOT PROTECTIVELY MARKED

City Centre – Night time economy

As can be seen the greatest number of licensed premises (1025) are concentrated in the South East locality. Of the 1025 premises, 66% are situated within the beats making up the city centre area.

Whilst a great deal of work is undertaken to prevent crimes and offences occurring in and around licensed premises and the majority of people come to Edinburgh and have a positive experience, a minority of persons drink to excess and become involved in antisocial behaviour or violence and disorder as either a perpetrator or victim.

Antisocial behaviour (ASB) incidents 01.04.16 to 30.04.17

Incidents	E Division	City Centre Beats (CE21,22,23)	%
Total ASB Incidents	41,249	6,375	15.5%
ASB Incidents reported between (2300hrs and 0500hrs)	11,639	2,446	21.0%
% of total	28.2%	38.4%	

21% of all Edinburgh Division ASB incidents that occur between 2300hrs and 0500hrs, occur in City Centre and 38.4% of all ASB incidents in city centre take place between 2300hrs and 0500hrs.

Group 1 Crimes – Violence 01.04.16 to 30.04.17

Incidents	E Division	City Centre Beats (CE21,22,23)	%
Total Group 1 crimes	763	178	23.3%
Group 1 crimes reported between (2300hrs and 0500hrs)	302	110	36.4%
% of total	39.6%	61.8%	

36.4% of all Edinburgh division crimes of violence that occur between 2300hrs and 0500hrs occur in the City Centre and 61.8% of all crimes of violence in the city centre take place between 2300hrs and 0500hrs.

NOT PROTECTIVELY MARKED

Serious assaults 01.04.16 to 30.04.17

Incidents	E Division	City Centre Beats (CE21,22,23)	%
Total serious assaults	386	127	32.9%
Serious assault crimes reported between (2300hrs and 0500hrs)	198	97	51.3%
% of total	51.3%	76.4%	

51.3% of all Edinburgh division serious assaults that occur between 2300hrs and 0500hrs occur in the City Centre and 76.4% of all serious assaults in the city centre take place between 2300hrs and 0500hrs.

Group 2 crimes – Sexual crime 01.04.16 to 30.04.17

Incidents	E Division	City Centre Beats (CE21,22,23)	%
Total group 2 crimes	969	171	17.6%
Group 2 crimes reported between (2300hrs and 0500hrs)	474	94	19.8%
% of total	17.9%	55.0%	

19.8% of all Edinburgh division sexual crimes that occur between 2300hrs and 0500hrs occur in the City Centre and 55.0% of all sexual crimes in the city centre take place between 2300hrs and 0500hrs.

Hate Crime – 01.04.16 to 30.04.17

Incidents	E Division	City Centre Beats (CE21,22,23)	%
Total hate crimes	1390	340	24.5%
Hate crimes reported between (2300hrs and 0500hrs)	351	148	42.2%
% of total	25.3%	43.5%	

42.2% of all Edinburgh division hate crimes that occur between 2300hrs and 0500hrs occur in the City Centre and 43.5% of all hate crimes in the city centre take place between 2300hrs and 0500hrs.

NOT PROTECTIVELY MARKED

Minor assaults – 01.04.16 to 30.04.17

Incidents	E Division	City Centre Beats (CE21,22,23)	%
Total minor assaults	6357	1491	23.5%
Minor assaults reported between (2300hrs and 0500hrs)	2342	921	39.3%
% of total	36.8%	61.8%	

39.3% of all Edinburgh division hate crimes that occur between 2300hrs and 0500hrs occur in the City Centre and 61.8% of all hate crimes in the city centre take place between 2300hrs and 0500hrs.

Resourcing

To counter the crime that occurs, Edinburgh Division deploys 33.3% of its total night shift resource into the city centre under 'Operation Nightguard', to manage policing of the area at weekends.

In addition, Partnership assistance comes in the form of patrols by Environmental Wardens, use of council CCTV, Taxi Marshalls and support from The Street Assist Edinburgh project that was launched in April 2016. This initiative, delivered by a group of 40 volunteers provides help and support to vulnerable persons, they assist in matters from homelessness to becoming separated from friends on a night out. The project greatly assists the emergency services during the busy times within the city's night time economy.

The operation is also supported by an Edinburgh Licensing Standards Initiative (ELSI) Police officer who works closely with licensed premises and departments in the city providing support to the Unight and Think Twice initiatives and local Pub Watches.

Research was conducted over a 7 month period in 2016 to look at the number of alcohol related arrests undertaken by 'Operation Nightguard' officers during the Friday and Saturday night. 264 people were arrested over the period by these officers.

Licensing Board Policy and Overprovision

Board policy was revised/amended in November 2013 as per the three-year legislative review. The new board will develop their licensing policy statement by October 2018. As part of the policy statement, licensing boards must assess and identify whether there is an 'overprovision' of licensed premises in the whole or part of the Board's area. When the Board identifies an area of overprovision there is a presumption against granting of new licences in that area. This might include particular licence types and it may also set limits on opening hours and/or shelving

NOT PROTECTIVELY MARKED

space for off-sales. In these situations the onus is on the applicant to demonstrate that their application would not impact on/contribute further to overprovision.

In previous iterations of the policy this assessment has been based on a data gathering exercise led by the Alcohol and Drug Partnership. The Board decided to retain the existing area of overprovision covering the Grassmarket/Cowgate and immediate vicinity. In response to recommendations from the Licensing Forum, NHS and Police Scotland to include 7 other 'Intermediate Areas' as areas of overprovision, the Board decreed that these 7 areas would be classed as 'Areas of Special Concern' rather than areas of overprovision. The Board stated that it would pay particular attention to applications within any of these areas.

The table below compares Edinburgh with Greater Glasgow division in terms of numbers of licence types.

	Edinburgh Division	Greater Glasgow Division
Premises Type	Total	Total
Night Club Venues	49	36
Adult Entertainment	5	4
Public Houses	458	541
Off-sales	593	646
Restaurants	579	547
Hotels	168	79
Total	1852	1853

Opening / Extended hours

Research has found that extending the hours during which licensed premises can sell alcohol is associated with higher levels of consumption and higher levels of crime and disorder.

The current policy states that the opening hours for public houses and bars is 0100 hours and for nightclubs and restaurants is 0300 hours. During the festival and festive seasons, premises benefit from two hours extra trading until 0300 hours and 0500 hours respectively.

In 2016-17 in addition to the seasonal festival variations in respect of extended hours there were a further 381 occasional extended hours applications compared to 275 the previous year, a significant 20% increase.

Occasional Extended Hours Applications	Total	Police Representation	Police Objection	Objection Granted	Objection Refused
2016-17	381	150	95	49	46

Many of these applications fail to provide sufficient information to enable determination that a genuine special event is taking place and justifies extended hours, other than appears to relate to additional drinking time and therefore at odds

NOT PROTECTIVELY MARKED

with the Board's policy and in direct conflict of the licensing objectives. Edinburgh division has objected to 95 of these occasional extensions yet 46 of those have been granted.

There has also been a notable increase of Occasional Licence applications for 'pop up bars' or special events. This is normal practice during the festival periods. It is noted however that 'pop up bars' have remained in place for considerable longer than the intended conditions of a temporary licence.

Off Sales

In Edinburgh alcohol sold as off-sales is made from a wide range of outlets, supermarkets, convenience stores, garages, off-sales and speciality shops. In 2016, 73% of all alcohol was bought in off-sales outlets in Scotland. Experts suggest that the main driver for change in consumer behaviour is price with alcohol prices significantly lower per unit in off-sales outlets. This change presents particular challenges in terms of,

- Preloading – drinking quantities of alcohol prior to going out to pubs, bars and clubs.
- Unregulated levels of consumption in the home leading to health harm.

Edinburgh division are firmly of the view that overprovision and regular use of extended hours is a significant contributory factor to a large amount of violent crime and disorder as well as public nuisance directly related to the night-time economy and as such is detrimental to the licensing objectives.

OPERATION OF THE LICENSING (SCOTLAND) ACT 2005

Alcohol permeates a wide range of issues in our society and is often a causal factor in violence, domestic abuse and anti-social behaviour; incidents that the Police Service of Scotland deal with every day across the country.

We seek to ensure that legislation governing the sale and supply of alcohol is applied consistently across the division and all opportunities are taken to address the illegal or irresponsible sale, supply or consumption of alcohol. This is with the intention of preventing violent crime and disorder. The application of alcohol legislation continues to evolve through case law, statutory instruments and local board decisions. As such, policing tactics require flexibility to keep pace with these changes.

Our focus is to 'Keep People Safe' and we seek to reduce the negative impact that alcohol has on our communities. This is achieved through encouraging the responsible sale and supply of alcohol in well run licensed premises, taking positive action to stop the irresponsible supply of alcohol to children and young persons and preventing the over supply to individuals already intoxicated in licensed premises.

This report details how Edinburgh division has carried out this function in 2016/17.

NOT PROTECTIVELY MARKED

Partnerships

We actively work with the licensed trade to problem solve issues before seeking remedy via the Licensing Board. This includes involvement with licensees, Edinburgh Licensing Forum, Licensing Standards Officers, Security Industry Authority and engagement with Pub Watch, Community Alcohol Partnership (CAP), Best Bar None and other local schemes. It is of note that Murrayfield Stadium was successful in winning the overall national Best Bar None award for 2016, which is indicative of the high standards within many licensed premises in Edinburgh. The licensing team enjoys a positive working relationship with the Licensing Standards Officers (LSO's). Both teams meet on a regular basis to share information and over the reporting period there were a number of joint inspections of licensed premises.

Licensing Applications

All applications submitted in respect of the Licensing (Scotland) Act 2005 are scrutinised in terms of the applicant (whether individuals or companies), the premises and the activity applied for to ensure that granting the application will not be a contravention of the Act, Board Policy or detrimental in relation to any of the five licensing objectives. This process includes interrogation of police computer systems, checks with external databases e.g. Companies House and if relevant, scrutiny of financial arrangements. A member of the police licensing team may thereafter interview individual applicants to discuss their application in more detail and visit proposed premises. This investigative work is also carried out to minimise the risk of organised crime groups infiltrating the licensed trade.

Where the application falls short in respect of any of the aforementioned areas, an objection or representation will be submitted to the Board for consideration or police may suggest appropriate conditions to be attached to the licence.

Summary of Applications / Offences

During the year 2016-17, the following applications were received and processed by the police licensing team.

Application	Total 2015-16	Total 2016-17	Representation 2016-17	Objection 2016-17
Personal Licence	1085	1011	12	16
New Premises Licence	84	60	30	0
Variation	917	818	63	2
Transfer	166	144	6	0
Occasional	2410	2640	1261	8
Extended Hours	275	381	150	95
	4937	5054	1522	121

NOT PROTECTIVELY MARKED

Incidents connected to licensed premises

Between 1st April 2016 and 31st March 2017, there were approximately **4154** reported incidents connected to licensed premises across Edinburgh. This resulted in **1810** Inspection of Licensed Premises Reports being created on Innkeeper and subject of greater scrutiny by the police licensing team. The previous year saw approximately **4360** reported incidents and **1059** Inspection of Licensed Premises Reports being created.

Number of Licensing Offences committed	Total 2015-16	Total 2016-17
Section 1 (Unlicensed sale of alcohol)	0	1
Section 63 (Sale or consumption outwith licensed hours)	1	4
Section 102 (Sale of alcohol to a child)	2	2
Section 103 (Allowing sale to child or young person)	0	1
Section 105 (Purchase of alcohol for a child or young person)	0	3
Section 111 (Drunk persons within licensed premises)	2	1
Section 113 (Selling to drunk person)	1	0
Section 114 (DPM not to be drunk)	3	1
Section 115 (Drunk and disorderly)	20	15
Section 116 (Refusal to leave licensed premises)	69	62
Total Offences	98	90

A great deal of work is undertaken to prevent crimes and offences occurring in and around licensed premises. Police Scotland actively work with the licensed trade to problem solve issues at an early stage. In the majority of cases issues can be and are successfully resolved through communication and advice. Where issues do emerge Police Scotland use an incremental process to address matters and reduce the likelihood of escalation and recurrence and necessity for an application to be made for a review of a premises or personal licence.

The Intervention Process

Incidents connected to licensed premises are monitored daily by the licensing team to establish whether any of the licensing objectives have been compromised or where other management/ licensing issues require to be addressed or improved.

Police Officers submit an Inspection of Licensed Premises Report via the Innkeeper Licensing IT system on every occasion they are called to attend an incident at licensed premises or following a proactive visit. Particular focus is placed upon violence, disorder, antisocial behaviour, drunkenness, drug dealing or misuse, underage drinking, breaches of licensing legislation and any other matter that might impact on the safety of the public.

NOT PROTECTIVELY MARKED

Police Scotland utilise an intervention process as part of our operational policing toolkit designed to assist premises management to reduce alcohol fuelled violence and other incidents of note which are directly linked to their premises.

Every intervention agreement follows SMART objective settings: Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Realistic and Timed.

Intervention Process - Stages	
No Action	An incident review has highlighted no issues regarding the management of the premises or licensing legislation. No further police action.
Green - Monitored	The premises have come to note for a minor issue and require to be monitored. This may result in an informal intervention providing advice / support to the premises along with police visits.
Amber – Intervention	Issues have arisen and an intervention action plan/agreement is drawn up by the police and implemented by the licence holder to resolve them. This action may be taken with more serious or repeat issues.
Red - Problematic	Premises are operating in a manner inconsistent with the licensing objectives or outwith the terms of their licence. Where local police intervention and support has failed or is unlikely to succeed in resolving the issues. A premises review request to the licensing board is considered the most appropriate way to address the issue.

The following table illustrates the number of premises within each of the categories that were subject to the intervention process during the reporting year.

	Total 2015-16	Total 2016-17
Green – Monitored	17	21
Amber – Intervention	24	16
Red – Problematic	5	2
	46	39

A breakdown of premises on/off sales and result of action taken is listed below.

Interventions		Total
Premises Interventions	On Sale	33
	Off Sale	6
No. of interventions where no further action was required		38
No. of interventions which led to a review application		1

NOT PROTECTIVELY MARKED

Premises & Personal Licence Reviews

During this period, police licensing moved 2 premises to the 'problematic' intervention category and prepared 1 review application under section 36 of the Act. The Board heard 1 review application.

Where the personal licence holder is thought to be culpable, the Chief Constable may also submit a personal licence review application in terms of Section 84 and 84A of the Act. One personal licence review was submitted during the period.

Board Decisions - Reviews

A premises review was sought on a venue situated in the east of Edinburgh as a result of poor management practices, licensing offences and compromise to the licensing objectives. The grounds for review were established and the Licensing Board took the decision to verbally warn the licence holder, no official action was taken.

Following numerous incidents of assault, over consumption and associated disorder and poor management practices two premises in central and east Edinburgh, were subject of review applications to the Licensing Board. The grounds for review were established and the Licensing Board varied the licence to attach conditions and requested regular update reports to ensure improvement measures were being adopted and continued. After a protracted period of engagement and monitoring both premises have made improvements with a significant reduction in incidents previously identified, that the Board considered the concerns to have been resolved.

PREVENTING THE SALE OR SUPPLY OF ALCOHOL TO CHILDREN OR YOUNG PEOPLE

Police Scotland can make a positive impact on the future outcomes for children and families, by addressing the sale and supply of alcohol to young persons via problem premises or by proxy (agent purchase). Working with our partners, we take appropriate action to address both the potential and actual misuse of alcohol within early years.

The East Edinburgh Community Alcohol Partnership (CAP) has continued their successful work during the reporting period to prevent underage sales through education and partnership work with licensees and has been expanded from the North East locality to include the North West locality.

During July /August 2016 we implemented of Operation Savana a multi agency campaign involving City of Edinburgh Council, Scottish Government Alcohol Improvement Partnership and local retailers to target proxy purchasing in Leith.

The campaign had multiple intentions of raising awareness of the offence of buying alcohol for under age persons, reducing associated disorder and harm whilst targeting those responsible. Joint visits at 49 licensed premises within the designated area were conducted and they were provided with information packs. A high profile publicity campaign was co-ordinated by *Story* the marketing partner. This

NOT PROTECTIVELY MARKED

involved a media release, application of 3D vinyls at key locations throughout the area and a series of messages/tweets utilising social media which generated a positive response. Police Scotland conducted both high visibility and plain-clothes patrols providing support to premises as well as detecting offenders who were reported for licensing offences.

Police Scotland has capability to carry out test purchase operations on an intelligence led basis. For the reporting period, no operations were carried out in Edinburgh as no premises met the necessary criteria. When intelligence is received about premises selling alcohol to persons under 18, the first stage in the process is to issue a warning letter to the premises. This is usually hand delivered by a member of the police licensing team who will inspect the premises and discuss expectations regarding responsible sale of alcohol with the licensee. Only when intelligence continues to be received should a test purchase operation be implemented.

Edinburgh Division is committed to continuing to engage with the community, in particular with schools and educational establishments to raise awareness of vulnerability and risk associated with the consumption of alcohol. Initiatives include the use of the 'Bystander' training', working with bar, club owners, as well as visiting educational establishments to train staff and other individuals to recognise situations where a person may be vulnerable to sexual assault, and teaching them to how to intervene.

Police licensing continues to drive home the dangers and consequences of counterfeit, borrowed or stolen identity documents as proof of age to enter licensed premises and purchase alcohol. Initiatives have been carried out in conjunction with licensees to target young people attempting to gain entry to pubs and clubs.

TACKLING SERIOUS AND ORGANISED CRIME

Serious and organised crime has far reaching consequences that affect a large proportion of society and the economy. Those involved have spread their activity into an increased variety of criminal enterprises including illegal drugs, money laundering, fraud, human trafficking, fake goods and the licensed trade.

It is important to highlight that all applications submitted in respect of the Licensing (Scotland) Act 2005 are scrutinised in terms of the applicant (whether individuals or companies), the premises and the activity applied for to minimise the risk of organised criminals infiltrating the licensed trade.

Serious and Organised Crime Groups (SOCG) present a clear threat to the licensed trade in Edinburgh. Police continue to target known criminality in this area as well as attempting to reduce the opportunity for individuals to exploit legitimate licensing opportunities for their own illegitimate means.

Edinburgh Division Licensing Department works closely with the Divisional CID Proactive team as well as the Organised Crime and Counter Terrorism Unit (OCCTU) to act at the earliest opportunity to disrupt criminals who are believed to be running or involved in licensed premises. Where this can be evidenced, police

NOT PROTECTIVELY MARKED

licensing will provide the Licensing Board with information in an attempt to prevent or remove known criminals from premises.

At this current time, there are a number of SOCGs being managed by the Division with some of these groups having a known interest in a business requiring some form of licence to operate. This involvement in the licensing trade presents a clear opportunity to launder criminal proceeds.

Edinburgh Division continues to carry out targeted premises visits to ensure that premises operate in line with licensing legislation. Such visits may also involve partner agencies including; HMRC, Council LSO's, Council Environmental Health, Fire Service, DVLA, SIA, and Immigration.

During the reporting period, there have been joint initiatives with Immigration enforcement to tackle illegal workers within licensed premises and the Fire Service to improve safety in establishments.

PROPOSED ACTIVITY FOR THE YEAR AHEAD

Following our public consultation process, the policing priorities for E Division as set out in our Local Policing Plan for the period 2017-2018 are:

- Acquisitive crime
- Public Safety
- Anti-social behaviour
- Serious and Organised crime
- Terrorism and Domestic Extremism

Violence and disorder have a huge effect on victims but also on the wider community with the fear it generates. It also impacts on the desirability and economy of the area involved. There is frequently a link between violence, disorder and alcohol.

Specific activity for 2017-18 includes:

- Edinburgh division in partnership with other agencies we will carry out operations aimed at problem licensed premises and their environs particularly where violent crime has occurred. We will use intelligence processes to identify hot spot areas for violence and develop action plans to target known problem areas.
- We will continue to target premises highlighted for misuse of drugs or other criminal activity through searches under warrant or proactive joint inspections.
- We will work with partners to provide evidence to the Licensing Board in an attempt to responsibly control the number of alcohol licences issued for an area. We will continue to promote and increase licensed premises visits.
- We will continue to raise objections, representations and other concerns when appropriate. In addition, we will engage with all partners involved in the

NOT PROTECTIVELY MARKED

licensed trade and work together with them to uphold the five licensing objectives and the spirit of the 2005 Act to ensure the safety and wellbeing of the people of Edinburgh.

- We will continue working in partnership with other agencies and Licensing Forum to support the delivery and outcomes of the Edinburgh Alcohol and Drug Partnership alcohol strategy that sets a strategic vision for Edinburgh as *'a city which has and promotes a healthy and responsible attitude to alcohol and where family recovery from problem alcohol and drug use is a reality'*.
- We will continue to embed and audit the new national licensing IT system Innkeeper within the division to further enhance the management of liquor and civic licensing records, documentation and information. The continued assistance obtained from City of Edinburgh Council is very much appreciated by Police Scotland. It is anticipated that this effective collaboration between the parties will continue to ensure that this valuable national resource remains fit for purpose and significantly improves the information available to assist with informed decision making.
- We will engage with major event and festival organisers to agree alcohol management plans that will set out how alcohol sale, supply and risk are to be controlled. The aim is the delivery of safe and enjoyable events that achieve strategic objectives and comply with legislation.

NATIONAL PERSPECTIVE

Our Priorities and Policing Plans continue to be shaped by the objectives contained within Scottish Government's Strategic Objectives and National Outcomes and the Strategic Police Plan that are delivered locally through single outcome agreements. Consultation and engagement is combined with our own analysis of the issues likely to impact on the safety of the public to inform our local and national Strategic Assessments that identify our priorities and provide a firm evidence base for local policing teams across Scotland to deliver operational plans to prevent crime and disorder and Keep People Safe.

Our National Priorities are:

- Violence Disorder and Anti-social Behaviour
- Serious Organised Crime
- Road Safety and Road Crime
- Protecting People at Risk of Harm
- Counter Terrorism

The National Licensing Policy Unit (NLPU) is a specialist department which consists of a small team of officers, based in Glasgow. The officers within the unit work with divisional licensing teams and partner agencies to help shape policy and strategy around the police licensing function. They provide practical and tactical advice to police licensing practitioners, operational officers, supervisors and policing commanders. The NLPU seek to ensure that legislation governing the sale and supply of alcohol is applied consistently across the country and all opportunities are

NOT PROTECTIVELY MARKED

taken to stop the illegal or irresponsible sale, supply or consumption of alcohol with the intention of preventing and reducing crime and disorder.

During 2017/18, from a licensing perspective, our particular focus will be on the following:

Scrutiny of the serious incidents of violence, disorder and antisocial behaviour linked to licensed premises. Working closely with partners within a National Licensing Trade Forum we will continue to develop and promote positive partnership working between Police Scotland and the Licensed trade, in order to increase legal understanding and support a shared aim of best practice, responsible operation and respect.

Governance and ongoing development of the National ICT Licensing System, known as "Inn Keeper", to increase the efficiency and effectiveness of liquor and civic licensing administration and management and to ensure problem solving is at the heart of our Licensing approach.

The implementation and ongoing development of a Licensing Admin tool which provides divisional licensing officers with an ICT product which negates the need to research police systems independently and which builds on our problem solving approach.

To conclude we would like to thank you for your continued support and stress the importance of this collaborative, problem solving approach which ensures that police, licence holders and licensed premises staff have a better understanding of their responsibilities to strengthen locally-led alcohol licensing in order to preserve order and promote safety and public health.