

Report to Licensing Committee

Date of meeting: 12 November 2008

Subject: Licensed premises within Epping Forest DC

**Responsible Officer: Kim Tuckey
(01992 564034)**

**Democratic Services: Gary Woodhall
(01992 564470)**



Decision Required:

To note the e-mail from DCI Baldwin and the types of initiatives being undertaken by the Police in the District.

Report:

1. DCI Jonathon Baldwin Essex Police has requested a meeting with Epping Forest District Councils Licensing Panel to discuss his e-mail, which has been reproduced below.
2. The Licensing Committee, the Sub-Committee and officers must make every decision including policy making decisions on its merits having regards to the Licensing Objectives.
3. The email is attached at Appendix 1.

Email containing explanatory notes From Jonathon Baldwin

Essex Police are currently seeing a clear correlation between crime and alcohol consumption. Overall crime continues to fall in EFD, in fact, by 7% on last years figures, but crime related to the consumption of alcohol and at venues dispensing alcoholic liquor is in fact climbing.

Following crime pattern analysis, it is clear that anti social behaviour and violent assaults are occurring in the vicinity of licensed premises, and that on occasions, police in attendance are having to spend a great deal of time negotiating with managers and licensees over issues such as CCTV downloads, preservation of evidence, doorstaff behaviour and the obtaining of witness statements.

It is my desire that all persons dispensing alcohol are positively disposed towards the police and community procedures that exist to support a reduction in violent crime in our towns and villages. However, without a dedicated process and agreement from the centre, we are finding this objective increasingly hard to achieve.

I am approaching the Licensing Committee to request the consideration of a number of options that will assist in the prevention of crime in our District.

Agreement is to be sought from licensees and/or licensing committee for the following:

Item 1: Consider how cooperation might be maximised between licensees, licensing officers and responsible authorities in order to enhance crime reduction, detection and crime prevention activities.

Item 2: Consider how existing licensees may be encouraged to more fully cooperate with voluntary crime reduction, detection and prevention activities.

Item 3: Consider how to promote and effectively integrate a voluntary Pub Watch scheme within EFD.

Item 4: Consider how to promote and effectively integrate a voluntary BOBBs scheme for EFD.

Item 5: Consider how to promote and effectively integrate a voluntary Safer Bars Accreditation.

Item 6: Consider how the Licensing Committee can add weight to Challenge 21.

Item 7: Consider how the Licensing Committee can add weight to Operation LYNTON.

It is the view of the Safer Communities Partnership and Essex Police that in order to drive alcohol related criminal behaviour out of Epping, Loughton, Waltham Abbey and our rural areas, a consistent approach with defined objectives is imperative. We see the meeting on the 12th November as the first step on this journey and the views of the licensing committee in this process as being of great importance.

Chief Inspector Jonathan Baldwin, Essex Police.