

VACANCIES ON THE LOCAL LICENSING FORUM

1. SUMMARY

- 1.1 Due to the recent resignations of Thomas Brodie and Gordon Tran, community representatives on the Local Licensing Forum, two vacancies have arisen which requires to be filled.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 The Council is requested to approve a process of advertisement in the Mid Argyll and Helensburgh and Lomond areas to recruit two community representatives, one from each area, to attend the Local Licensing Forum.

3. DETAIL

- 3.1 The Licensing (Scotland) Act 2005 provided that the Council must establish a Local Licensing Forum. The Forum must meet at least 4 times a year with one joint meeting with the Licensing Board(s) per year. The costs associated with the operation of the Forum must be absorbed by the Council.

The role of the Forum is to keep under review the operation of the licensing system in the area and to give advice and recommendations to the Licensing Board. The Board has a duty to "have regard" to the Forum's views and must offer reasons where it takes decisions against the advice of the Forum.

- 3.2 The Act provided that the Licensing Standards Officer must be a member of the Forum. The other members were to be individuals appointed by the Council on such terms and conditions as may be determined. The relevant guidance issued by the Scottish Executive had suggested that the following should be included:-

- (a) Holders of premises licences and personal licences;
- (b) The Chief Constable;
- (c) Persons having functions relating to health, education or social work;
- (d) Young people; and
- (e) Persons resident within the Forum area.

- 3.3 The Council, at its meeting on 17 May 2007, agreed to establish a Local Licensing Forum for the Argyll and Bute Council area comprising of 20 members.

The following persons or their nominated representatives were appointed as members of the Licensing Forum:-

- Chief Constable of Strathclyde Police;
- Licensing Standards Officer;
- Representative from the Council's Social Work/Substance Misuse Service;
- Representative from the Council's Education Service;
- Representative from the Health Service;
- Representative for young persons such as the Young Scot Co-ordinator;
- Alcohol and Drug Action Team (ADAT) Officer
- Having regard to geography and range of interests, 13 members of the community

3.4 The Council is being asked to place advertisements to recruit two community representatives to fill the two vacancies on the Licensing Forum.

4. IMPLICATIONS

Policy	In keeping with the Licensing (Scotland) Act 2005
Financial	The Council will be required to meet training costs together with travel and subsistence costs
Personnel	None
Equal Opportunities	None
Legal	The Council is required to appoint a Licensing Forum

For further information contact Charles Reppke, Head of Democratic Services and Governance on extn 4192

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