

Subject: Reducing Alcohol Related Harm to Children and Young People - Ad Hoc Panel Report

Date of Meeting: 17 June 2009

Report of: The Acting Director of Strategy and Governance

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Wards Affected: All

FOR GENERAL RELEASE

1. SUMMARY AND POLICY CONTEXT:

- 1.1 This report and its appendices detail the findings of the Scrutiny Panel established to examine the issue of Reducing Alcohol Related Harm to Children and Young People.
- 1.2 The Scrutiny Panel's report and its appendices are re-printed as **appendix 1** to this report.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 2.1 That members:
- (1) Endorse the Reducing Alcohol Related Harm to Children and Young People Ad Hoc Panel report;
- (2) Agree to refer the report recommendations to the council's Executive, the council's Licensing Committee and to the appropriate partner organisations.

3. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 3.1 The review into Reducing Alcohol Related Harm to Children and Young People was instigated at the 24 September 2008 CYPOSC meeting.

3.2 The suggested terms of reference were to:

“Examine the costs of, social and economic outcomes of, and reasons for the higher than average, and worsening, levels of alcohol related harm suffered by children and young people in Brighton and Hove.

Such a panel will specifically, but not exclusively, examine the impact of the Licensing Act 2003 on the availability to and consumption of alcohol by those aged under 18 in the city and, seeking evidence from, amongst others, Sussex police, premises license holders, the council’s own public safety officers and our partners in the NHS, will determine what steps the council could take to reduce levels of alcohol-related harm to children in the city.

Further, the Panel will examine reasons why the problems of alcohol-related harm appear to be worst in the east of the city.”

3.3 The Panel held five evidence gathering meetings in public, talking to a number of witnesses including representatives of NHS trusts, the police, alcohol retailers, Trading Standards and Licensing, local schools, local authority drugs and alcohol services and the Youth Council.

4. CONSULTATION

4.1 No formal consultation was undertaken in preparing this report, although some of the witnesses who gave evidence to the panel were asked for their comments on drafts of the report, and these comments have been used to inform the final draft version.

5. FINANCIAL & OTHER IMPLICATIONS:

Financial Implications:

5.1 CYPOSC’s decisions in relation to this report (i.e. whether to endorse the Scrutiny Panel report and refer its recommendations to the council’s Executive for consideration) have no direct financial implications.

However, members should bear in mind that the implementation of some of the Scrutiny Panel’s recommendations might have significant financial implications for the council, and that any Executive decision in relation to these matters will need to be made with reference to these costs.

Legal Implications:

- 5.2 If CYPOSC endorses the Panel's report and accepts its recommendations, it is required to prepare a formal report and submit it to the Chief Executive for consideration by Cabinet or the relevant Cabinet Member. CYPOSC may also refer the report to the Licensing Committee and partner organisations, highlighting those recommendations relevant to those bodies. Only if one or more recommendations require a departure from or a change to the agreed budget and policy framework would the report need to be considered by Full Council.

If CYPOSC cannot agree on one single final report, up to one minority report may be prepared and submitted, alongside the majority report, for consideration by the Cabinet or Cabinet Member.

Lawyer consulted: Oliver Dixon

Date: 8 June 2009

Equalities Implications:

- 5.3 None identified

Sustainability Implications:

- 5.4 None identified.

Crime & Disorder Implications:

- 5.5 None identified.

Risk and Opportunity Management Implications:

- 5.6 None identified.

Corporate / Citywide Implications:

- 5.7 None identified.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

Appendices:

1. Ad Hoc Panel report and appendices

Documents in Members' Rooms:

None

Background Documents:

1. None (other than those listed in the Ad Hoc Panel report itself)

