

Dear sir,

In relation to the questions posed on the LGA alert 412/02 I wish to respond as follows;

1) The local authority fully supports the work of the Safer Harlow Partnership which is the districts Crime & Disorder Reduction Partnership. This is where the strategic planning takes place.

Alcohol misuse is covered within personnel guidelines for the authority to deal with internally.

2) As far as I am aware the authority does not have performance indicators /targets in relation to alcohol misuse.

3) We have a full-time licensing officer, and have recently employed a full-time seconded Anti-social behaviour reduction officer, however both posts cover the whole of the town not just the centre
We also have a licensing forum with town centre licensees, in order that we work effectively together with local police and other agencies.

Together with The Safer Harlow Partnership, we have worked in a multi--agency way to set up a stop and search protocol with town centre licensed premises and this was launched recently 13/12/02.

Also funded from the SHP is training for door-staff and licensees in relation to crime and disorder and drugs. The SHP has also funded CCTV tapes for use by the town centre management in the detection of crime.

4)I am not sure how to answer this question as I feel that it is integrated, however it is difficult to monitor.

5)I am unable to answer this question , however I am aware that the town centre gets swept every evening and there is a strategy in place to keep the street scene tidy.

6) N/A

7)Licensing are working towards the application to make areas alcohol free zones as requested by local communities, police and councillors.

Because the partnership feels that alcohol abuse plays a large part in crime and disorder we have re-structured the previously named 'drug reference group' to the 'Drug and alcohol Strategy Group' and re-formulated it in order to have participants of numerous organisations take ownership of some actions.

Funding is a problem as at present government priorities and initiatives often relate to drug only and do not mention alcohol, although we would say this could cause the greater harm, and often the two are linked. This make it difficult to undertake alcohol related projects.

It is difficult to monitor alcohol related problems as often they manifest themselves in a number of alternate ways.

It is difficult to monitor crimes as they are not recorded as 'alcohol related'.

We will be trying to monitor our Anti-social behaviour orders and ABC to see if they are alcohol related.

Hope this is of some use. They are my personal thoughts as Comm Safety Manager.

Regard
June P. Morris
Community Safety Manager