

EAST RENFREWSHIRE LICENSING FORUM

13 DECEMBER 2016

Report by Clerk

MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

PURPOSE OF REPORT

1. To provide the forum with an update in respect of the current membership and information on the steps being taken to address ongoing vacancies.

REPORT

2. The total membership complement is 18 members across various categories as follows:-

- Local Residents (7)
- Young People (2)
- Education (1)
- Health (1)
- Social Work (1)
- Police Scotland (1)
- Licensees (4)
- Licensing Standards Officer (1)

3. For some time, the forum has been running with a number of vacancies as follows:-

- Local Residents (2)
- Young People (2)
- Licensees (3)

4. In addition there has been no-one from the Education Department at forum meetings for some time and Fiona Macdonald the health representative on the forum has now been seconded from the Council for 12 months.

5. With regard to the young person vacancies, it would be preferable if we were able to identify young people who would be interested in participating. Approaches were made to the local MSYPs but no expressions of interest were received. In view of this a different approach is now being investigated. Rather than young people themselves it is possible for the views of young people to be represented on the forum by others. Contact has been made with the Council's youth team to establish whether or not a member of staff from Young Persons Services could be identified as a suitable member of the forum. A reply is awaited.

6. Contact has also been made with the Chief Officer Health and Social Care Partnership, seeking a replacement for Fiona Macdonald for the period of her secondment.

7. Attracting licensees to serve on the forum has been particularly challenging. The Licensing Standards Officer has in the course of his day to day duties been speaking to licensees in an effort to encourage them to serve on the forum however there has been little interest expressed. He will continue to encourage licensees to participate in the forum.

8. Finally, with regards to the 2 local resident vacancies on the forum discussions will take place with the Council's media team to prepare some local publicity which can be published online to try and attract some new interest. In the interim, if forum members are aware of anyone who may be interested in serving on the forum please direct them to the Clerk in the first instance.

RECOMMENDATION

That the report be noted.