

Chairperson and Committee Members

ENVIRONMENT AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

9 JUNE 2011

Meeting Status: Public

Purpose of Report: For Information

KĀPITI COAST COMMUNITY ALCOHOL ACTION PLAN

PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1 This report seeks the Committee's endorsement of the *Kāpiti Coast Community Alcohol Action Plan* (Appendices 1 and 2).

SIGNIFICANCE OF DECISION

- 2 The Council's significance policy is not triggered.

BACKGROUND

- 3 The Council has been aware of concerns about alcohol-related harm and crime in the District for some time. These concerns were expressed in submissions made on the Law Commission's Issue Paper (AS-09-760) and on the Alcohol Law Reform Bill (SP-11-124).
- 4 The Council's submission on the Alcohol Law Reform Bill and accompanying report:
 - expressed the significant level of concern across the communities about the harm and crime caused by alcohol misuse in the District
 - welcomed the opportunity for the community to have a bigger say in the way alcohol is regulated, but expressed concerns about the Bill and the likely workload implications and resulting costs for the Council
 - flagged the Council's success in obtaining Ministry of Justice funding to create an Alcohol Action Plan.
- 5 The Council obtained funding from the Ministry of Justice in 2010 to develop and Alcohol Action Plan.

CONSIDERATIONS

Issues

- 6 Twenty community organisations contributed information to the background report section of the *Community Alcohol Action Plan* (Appendix 2). This information formed the basis of the *Community Alcohol Action Plan*.
- 7 A Steering Group has overseen this process and will continue for the next two years. Membership of the group is listed on page 16 of the Plan and includes representatives from both Police Districts, Ōtaki College, Kāpiti Youth Support

(KYS), Kāpiti Safer Community Trust, Regional Public Health, ALAC and the Council.

- 8 Action areas within the *Community Alcohol Action Plan* are:
 - Older Persons which is linked to the Older Persons Action Plan currently under development (SP-11-152 refers)
 - Community Collaboration and Services
 - Young People
 - Public Places, Streets and Open Space
 - Alcohol Reform Bill, Council/Community Alcohol Policy/Licensed Premises.
- 9 An Implementation Plan is included within the *Community Alcohol Action Plan*, which gives review dates and explains how the process will be monitored and coordinated. The Council has taken on the role of coordination to ensure that the plan maintains momentum.
- 10 The plan supports coordination of the enforcement work, but has also generated some exciting projects:
 - the Ōtaki Community Taiohi Action project, to support the community to work together to reduce alcohol-related harm and crime
 - the Shattering Myths: Changing Attitudes Project, a parent/teen project being led by KYS, designed to generate communication between parents, and also between parents and their teens about alcohol
 - a creative project aimed at sparking conversations about alcohol and its impact on the older population
 - a place-based project looking at alcohol consumption in public places and its affect on crime and perceived safety levels.
- 11 The Steering Group are a collaborative group with the mandate to determine the content, advancement and structure of the plan. Any suggested changes by the Committee will need to go to the Steering Group for discussion and further action.

Financial Considerations

- 12 There are no financial considerations at this stage. However, as mentioned in the background report to the Submission on the Alcohol Law Reform Bill, the law changes are likely to increase the role of the Council with resulting resource implications. This will be considered as part of the Long Term Plan.

Delegation

- 13 The Environment & Community Development Committee has the following delegation to endorse the proposed strategy:

Policy Development

- 7.1 *Authority to develop (within any wider existing strategic framework) policies and work programmes that support the social, economic, environmental and cultural wellbeing of the community and provide assurance to Council that associated projects are managed efficiently, effectively and with due regard to risk.*

Consultation

- 14 There has been extensive consultation with agencies and interest groups during the creation of the *Community Alcohol Action Plan* – these are outlined in the Plan.

Policy Implications

- 15 There are no current policy implications. The existing Local Alcohol Policy will be reviewed and updated to meet the requirements of the Alcohol Reform Bill when it is enacted – this work is included in the *Community Alcohol Action Plan*.

Publicity Considerations

- 16 The *Community Alcohol Action Plan* includes direction to promote the plan by using good news opportunities. The Steering Group will coordinate this work.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- 17 That the Committee endorses the *Kāpiti Coast Community Alcohol Action Plan* (Appendices 1 and 2), as a plan for influencing Kāpiti Coast District Council's work to reduce alcohol-related crime and harm.
- 18 That the progress of the *Kāpiti Coast Community Alcohol Action Plan* is reported to the Committee at the completion of the first eighteen month period and through the Long Term Plan.

Report prepared by:

Approved for submission by:

Sam Hutcheson
SOCIAL WELLBEING ADVISOR

Gael Ferguson
GROUP MANAGER, STRATEGY & PARTNERSHIPS

Appendix 1: Kāpiti Coast Community Alcohol Action Plan 2011-2012

Appendix 2: Kāpiti Coast Community Alcohol Action Plan Background Report

Kāpiti Coast Community Alcohol Action Plan 2011-2012

Steering Group organisation logos will be added to the cover of the final document.

Kāpiti Coast Community Alcohol Action Plan May 2011 – 2012

Aim

The District has a strong, healthy, safe and involved community where people experience reduced harm and crime resulting from unsafe use of alcohol.

Context

Choosing Futures, The Community's Vision for Community Outcomes 2009, describes the community's long term vision for the District via a series of Community Outcomes and sets out the Council's priorities and long term programme of work. The Alcohol Action Plan will contribute to the following Community Outcomes:

Outcome 7. The District has a strong, healthy and involved community.

- 7.9 Older people have a high level of control and influence over those things that ensure their access to services and enjoyment of life.
- 7.14 People have a sense of safety for themselves, their family and their community and feel secure in their homes and in the community.

Outcome 6. The District is a place that works for young people.

- 6.1 There are pleasant, interesting, safe and accessible places where young people feel safe and can enjoy themselves.
- 6.2 There is a variety of safe entertainment venues, events and opportunities catering for young people.

The Vision from Tāngata Whenua

- That the tāngata whenua role of kaitiaki/kaitiakitanga within the District is strong and effective and encompasses both the environmental and general wellbeing of the community.
- That the rūnanga of the tāngata whenua engage effectively, where appropriate, with agencies and communities.

- That whānau and hapū are well established and able to engage effectively where appropriate with agencies and communities.
- That Te Reo – the language of the tāngata whenua through which tikanga is conveyed and kawa is upheld - is nurtured throughout the community and that the language continues to prosper and encourage future generations.

Mobilising the Community – a Whānau Ora Approach

Whānau Ora is an inclusive approach to providing services and opportunities to families across New Zealand. It empowers families as a whole, rather than focusing separately on individual family members and their problems. Whānau Ora is centered on six Whānau-Centred goals; Whānau Ora will be achieved when whānau are:

- self-managing;
- living healthy lifestyles;
- participating fully in society;
- confidently participating in Te Ao Māori;
- economically secure;
- successfully involved in wealth creation; and
- cohesive, resilient and nurturing.

This process requires that multiple community and local/central Government agencies work together with whānau and families rather than separately with individual family members. The Community Alcohol Action Plan will contribute to the principles of Whānau Ora by ensuring that the desired outcomes are reflective of the seven Whānau centered goals.

Action Area: Older Persons	Project Team : ALAC, Council, Police, ACC
Outcomes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Alcohol abuse related issues and older people experiencing alcohol abuse are increasingly addressed The risk of older people driving while under the influence of alcohol is reduced People identify a sense of safety for themselves, their family and their community and feel secure in their homes and in the community 	

Action	Project Team	By	Outcome Measure	Progress
1. ALAC resources are promoted and readily available to older people, their families and support people.	ALAC, Kāpiti Coast Council of Elders, Positive Ageing in Action Work Group, ACC	Oct 2012	Older people are better informed about the risks of alcohol abuse and know where to seek support.	Resources available and promoted at “Making the Most of Living on the Coast” forum held 12/4/2011
2. Six education sessions about alcohol related harm and where to seek assistance are delivered for older people.	ALAC, Kāpiti Coast Council of Elders, Positive Ageing in Action Work Group, ACC	Oct 2012	Evaluation by participants indicates they are better informed about the risks of alcohol abuse and know where to seek support.	
3. Information about the Alcohol Helpline is made available to older people, their families and support people.	ALAC, Kāpiti Coast Council of Elders, Positive Ageing in Action Work Group, ACC	Oct 2012	Older people, families and support people utilise Helpline service. Older people are better informed about the risks of alcohol abuse and know where to seek support.	
4. Medical practices, Māori providers and social services are provided with information on older adults drinking in both English and te reo Māori (where available).	Compass Health Network (formerly Kāpiti PHO)	Feb 2012	Medical Practices and Māori providers indicate an increased awareness of older people’s alcohol related issues.	

Action	Project Team	By	Outcome Measure	Progress
5. Funding opportunities are investigated to provide resources, including physical resources and education sessions, in both English and Te Reo Māori and are available at places frequented by Māori, including Marae.	Compass Health Network (formerly Kāpiti PHO)		Project identifies and engages with Māori community and providers including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hora Te Pai • Te Runganga ō Raukawa • Compass Health Network If provided, evaluation by participants indicates increased knowledge of alcohol related issues and of where to seek further support.	
6. Opportunities are investigated to provide Kāpiti Coast Practise Nurses and GPs with a presentation to raise their awareness and knowledge in detecting alcohol issues in older patients.	Compass Health Network (formerly Kāpiti PHO)	Feb 2012	If undertaken, evaluation by GPs and Practise Nurses is positive and indicates they will take more action in this area as a result. If undertaken, Medical Practices and Māori providers indicate an increased awareness of older people's alcohol related issues.	
7. The provision of a brief intervention resource (card) is investigated to prompt GPs in raising their awareness in detecting alcohol issues in older people.	Compass Health Network (formerly Kāpiti PHO)	Feb 2012	If provided, evaluation by GPs and Practise Nurses is positive and indicates an increase in their identification of older people's alcohol issues.	
8. Local anecdotal information about alcohol consumption and elder abuse, drink driving, social and health issues, is gathered.	ALAC, ACC, Council, Age Concern Police	May 2012	Information on the size/nature of problem is gathered and used to inform future work, including projects.	

Action	Project Team	By	Outcome Measure	Progress
9. Drink driving education campaign is delivered to licensed premises including those frequented by older people.	ACC, Police, Council	Dec 2011	<p>Campaign is delivered to 90% of licensed premises, is well received and evaluations are positive.</p> <p>Incidents of drink driving amongst older people are reduced.</p>	
10. Drink driving resources are provided to on-licensed premises.	ACC, Police, Council	Dec 2011	<p>Resources are visually see as available in on-licensed premises</p> <p>Incidents of drink driving amongst older people are reduced</p>	
11. On-licensed premises actively promote alternative transport options including older people.	ACC, Police, Council	Dec 2011	<p>Incidents of drink driving amongst older people are reduced.</p>	
12. Neighbourhood Support Groups are established in new locations with higher populations of older people.	Kāpiti Safer Community Trust, Police	Feb 2012	<p>Older people's perception of safety, and actual safety, is increased.</p> <p>Number of Neighbourhood Support Groups increases by 20%.</p> <p>Long Term Council Community Plan 2012 review reflects increased perception of safety amongst older people.</p>	

Action	Project Team	By	Outcome Measure	Progress
13. Intergenerational initiative is designed and delivered.	Kāpiti Positive Ageing in Action Working Group Kāpiti Coast Council of Elders	Dec 2011	Mutual understanding, respect and trust between younger and older generations is increased. Older people's perception of safety and actual safety is increased. Long Term Council Community Plan review reflects increased perception of safety amongst older people.	
14. Alcohol Action Plan key messages and outcomes achieved are publicised.	Council, Police, Kāpiti Safer Community Trust	May 2012	Four positive stories are run annually to address negative perception of safety (through local papers, Council media). Mutual understanding, respect and trust between younger and older generations is increased Older people's perception of safety, and actual safety, is increased and reflected in the Long Term Council Community Plan 2012.	

Action Area: Community Collaboration and Services	Project Team: Council, Police, Kāpiti Youth Support
Outcomes:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kāpiti Coast Community Alcohol Action Plan is sustainable and affects positive change in the Kāpiti Coast District. • Agencies partner and support each other with priority projects to achieve measurable outcomes with the most effective use of resources. • Projects identified in plan attract funding and are sustainable • The Kāpiti Coast has a whole of community coordinated approach to addressing alcohol related crime, health and social issues 	

Action	Project Team	By When	Outcome Measure	Progress
1. Information about support services and resources for people with a range of alcohol related issues is readily available to the services and public via web sites and community directory.	Steering Group	April 2011	Services and referral pathways are available, accurate and timely, making access easier (as reported by agencies and their user group).	
2. Māori models are adopted and actioned in three agencies in the District using a whānau ora approach that will increase effectiveness of delivery to whānau and hapu.	Steering Group	Dec 2011	The Alcohol Action Plan has ownership by Iwi. Steering group has representation from Māori. Strengthen resources to support Māori outcomes including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Iwi liaison through Police; • Pou Whakataki through the Ministry of Education; and • Māori Health services. 	
3. Support agencies/Government agencies implement one collective initiative to address alcohol harm and related family violence.	Voices Against Violence	Feb 2012	Voices Against Violence project is evaluated and feedback provided to the Steering Group.	
4. Kāpiti Women's Centre appoints a Drug and Alcohol Counsellor to address growing numbers of women requiring assistance.	Kāpiti Women's Centre	Oct 2011	Counsellor in place and working to capacity.	

Action	Project Team	By When	Outcome Measure	Progress
5. Alcohol Helpline is actively promoted in the local media and with community agencies, Child Youth and Family, Work and Income New Zealand, public venues and Medical Practices (3 x per year).	Steering Group	Nov 2011	Helpline receives increased requests for information and support from the Kāpiti Coast District (comparative data to be collected by ALAC who manage the Helpline).	
6. Police data collection system for recording alcohol related criminal behaviour is in place to enable future planning to be based on accurate local information.	Police	Oct 2012	Local data enables trends in alcohol related criminal behaviour to be tracked and specific areas of concern addressed.	
7. Information regarding alcohol use is issued to the general public targeting peak risk times (4 x per year).	Steering Group	Oct 2011 Nov 2011 Dec 2011	Community are well informed about increased risks of excessive alcohol use and are proactive in addressing these risks in their families and wider community.	
8. An Ōtaki community action project, using Whānau Ora approach, is scoped, takes place for 18 month period and is supported by dedicated funding.	Ōtaki College	June 2011 (plan completion) Dec 2012 (delivery completion)	Whānau and hapu action to keep their young people safe with the pathway for this mapped in project plan, with project evaluation demonstrating positive changes. Funding is secured to deliver project. Evaluation shows 80% achievement of plan objectives.	
9. Kāpiti Coast Community Alcohol Action Plan is adopted for 2011-2012 by steering group and plan delivery commenced.	Steering Group	May 2011	80% of the actions in the alcohol action plan are completed within specified timeframes.	
10. Action Plan delivery is completed.	Steering Group	30 Nov 2012	80% of the actions in the alcohol action plan are completed within specified timeframes. Evaluation is completed; based on successful achievement of outcomes, the development of an alcohol action plan for 2013 – 2014 is begun.	
11. Action Plan is developed for the period May 2013 – Nov 2014.	Steering Group	Jan 2013	Steering Group adopt Plan.	

Action Area: Young People	Project Team: Council, Ōtaki College, Youth Council, Kāpiti Youth Support
Outcomes:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Young people aged 12 – 24 years in the Kāpiti Coast District experience a reduction in alcohol related harm • Young people take leadership in educating the community about alcohol issues • Alcohol issues are recognised as affecting all age groups and the negative emphasis of alcohol being only a youth issue is challenged • Parents are better informed about their rights and responsibilities, parents have a support network in place to discuss avenues to monitor their children’s drinking behaviour 	

Action	Project Team	By	Outcome Measure	Progress
1. Education programme is delivered to: college aged children, teachers and groups of parents	Kāpiti Youth Support	Sept 2012	Evaluation demonstrates value of programme in enhancing parent – child communication around alcohol issues, informs them about effective strategies and gives initial evidence of strategies being implemented successfully.	
2. Projects for informing young people about the risks of alcohol misuse are implemented in two school settings and at three community events	Kāpiti Youth Support, Paraparaumu College, Ōtaki College, Kāpiti Coast Youth Council	May 2012	<p>Evaluation demonstrates positive outcomes for young people.</p> <p>Young people are better educated about the significant implications of alcohol misuse on personal safety and/or criminal activity.</p> <p>There is a reduction in alcohol related incidents resulting from unplanned parties, including after ball parties and gatherings as reported by Police, Community Patrols, Schools.</p> <p>Young people are better protected from verbal, physical, emotional abuse, and from crime resulting from being inebriated (acts of vandalism, drink driving, intimidatory behaviour).</p>	YouthFest held 12/3/2011 included range of alcohol safety messages and successful activities.

<p>3. Kāpiti Coast YTH2U Youth Action Plan addresses three issues to do with excess alcohol consumption.</p>	<p>Kāpiti Coast Youth Council</p>	<p>May 2012</p>	<p>Evaluation provides evidence of positive impact on young people and wider community.</p>	
<p>4. Ōtaki community action project, using Whānau Ora approach, is scoped, takes place for 18 month period.</p>	<p>Ōtaki College</p>	<p>June 2011 (plan) Dec 2012 (project)</p>	<p>Whānau and hapu take action to keep their young people safe with the pathway for this mapped in project plan, with project evaluation demonstrating positive changes.</p> <p>Funding is secured to deliver project.</p> <p>Evaluation shows 80% achievement of plan objectives.</p>	

Action Area: Public Places, Streets and Open Space	Project Team : Kāpiti Safer Community Trust, Council, Police
Outcomes:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kāpiti Coast open space and urban design reflects implementation of Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design principles • People feel safe moving about the Kāpiti Coast District at all times of day and night • Community takes ownership of community safety issue and leads key actions to improve safety 	

Action	Project Team	By When	Outcome Measure	Progress
1. Ōtaki, Waikanae and Kāpiti Community Patrols are supported to recruit volunteers from a range of age groups.	Kāpiti Safer Community Trust, Police	Dec 2011	Volunteer base increases from 20 to 30 people for each patrol. Volunteers represent a mix of ages.	
2. Kāpiti Community Patrol is supported to obtain dedicated patrol car.	Kāpiti Safer Community Trust, Council	Sept 2011	Volunteers have access to vehicle which makes retaining volunteers and attracting new volunteers easier and increases patrol coverage of District.	
3. One collaborative initiative is in place which enables local Māori Wardens and Community Patrols to work more effectively and efficiently.	Police Iwi Liaison	Feb 2012	Māori Wardens and Community Patrols work collaboratively to achieve crime prevention outcomes. Māori Wardens are recruited from within the District.	
4. Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design principles are used for major Council projects.	Council	March 2012	Crime prevention measures are in place at 90% of Council upgrades and new developments.	
5. Proposal from Police to extend Liquor Ban provisions is submitted to Council.	Police, Council	July 2012	If Council decides to extend the Liquor Ban, Police report a reduction in alcohol related wilful damage, abusive behaviour and perceived threatening behaviours in public places.	
6. Strategies are implemented to improve poorly designed public spaces identified as "hot spots" for disorderly behaviour and consumption of alcohol.	Council, Police	Nov 2012	The cost of vandalism in public spaces is identified. Disorderly behaviour and vandalism associated with excessive alcohol consumption is reduced by improving urban and open space design features in two public spaces.	

Action	Project Team	By When	Outcome Measure	Progress
Action Area: Alcohol Reform Bill, Council/Community Alcohol Policy/Licensed Premises Project Team : Council, Public Health, Police Outcome: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Police, Regional Public Health and the Kāpiti Coast District Council work collaboratively and proactively to ensure they support a reduction in the incidence of alcohol related harm and crime in the community 				

Action	Project Team	By When	Outcome Measure	Progress
1. Information and education is provided to licensed premises in the Kāpiti Coast District to contribute to reducing the incidents of alcohol related harm/crime in the community.	Council Police	Annually	<p>Newsletters distributed to Licensed Premises (via email and/or post) prior to Easter and Christmas each year, commencing Christmas of 2011.</p> <p>69 assessments of licensed premises undertaken by the Council's Liquor Licensing Inspector in the 2010 – 2011 financial year (20 of which are undertaken in conjunction with the police), focusing on both compliance and education of Licensees and Duty Managers.</p> <p>Council and the Police actively contribute to a reduction of alcohol related harm by ensuring compliance in licensed premises is regularly assessed.</p>	
2. The existing Local Alcohol Policy is reviewed and updated to meet requirements of Alcohol Reform Bill.	Council	To be determined by outcome of Alcohol Reform Bill	<p>Policy has been completed and implementation begun (time frame dependent on outcome of Alcohol Reform Bill).</p> <p>Council consults with the community and uses feedback to inform policy.</p>	
3. Communications with on and off-licences is increased.	Public Health, Police		Increase intelligence of managers in on and off-licences by the creation and up keep of a spreadsheet.	

Action	Project Team	By When	Outcome Measure	Progress
			Create an email mail list for on and off- licences to distribute information.	
4. Kāpiti Coast Liquor Liaison Group is re-established and the possibility of starting Alcohol Accord is considered.	Council, Public Health, Police	Oct 2011 Liquor Liaison Group operating	Liquor Liaison Group meets regularly and from time to time engages the hospitality industry. United approach from key agencies contributes to a holistic approach in reducing alcohol harm in licensed premises.	
5. Briefing sessions are delivered and guidance material developed for District Licensing Agency (DLA) members informing them of their legal obligations under the Sale of Liquor Act, and the development of a Local Alcohol policy.	Council	Oct 2011	DLA conducts hearings (as required) and makes well informed decisions based on the requirements of the Sale of Liquor Act, relevant case law and the Local Alcohol Policy.	
6. At least two Controlled Purchase Operations (CPOs) in the Kāpiti Police District and at least two Controlled Purchase Operations (CPOs) in the Ōtaki Police District are carried out throughout the year.	Police, Public Health, Council	June 2012	Kāpiti Police District CPO data and Ōtaki CPO data shows a reduction in sales to minors in comparison to national results. A reduction in liquor sales to minors occurs contributing towards a reduction in alcohol abuse and alcohol related crime in young people.	

Action Plan Implementation

The Action Plan

Specifies key interventions the community will take to reduce alcohol related crime in the Kāpiti Coast. The Action Plan identifies key measures and maps a pathway of action for the next eighteen months.

► Coordinated and Monitored by Steering Group

Steering Group members confirmed May 2011. Meetings of the Steering Group will take place six monthly.

► Plan Commencement

May 2011

► Plan Completion

30 Nov 2012

► Review Dates

First review after 12 months May 2012

Final review at completion of Action Plan Nov 2012

► Steering Group Terms of Reference

The initial Steering Group was formed late 2010 for the purpose of developing an Alcohol Action Plan for the Kāpiti Coast. Members of the group represented key stakeholders with significant expertise in the area of alcohol related crime and harm.

With the development of the Alcohol Action Plan completed in May 2011 membership of the Steering Group altered to better meet the requirements for implementing the Plan. Members are in place for two years from Plan commencement in May 2011 to Plan completion in Nov 2012.

The Terms of Reference have been developed to give context to the group and to set the scene for collective action.

The role of the Steering Group is to:

- Provide strategic leadership including advice regarding linkages to central Government and key agency polices and initiatives
- Ensure delivery of the Alcohol Action Plan, address areas not being achieved and make Plan amendments if required
- Advocate for further community action that supports the Alcohol Action Plan outcomes including funding to support such activities
- Co-ordinate, and provide strategic overview of, work related to alcohol related harm and crime in the Kāpiti Coast
- Evaluate outcomes achieved and produce a final report by 20 Jan 2013
- Develop an Alcohol Action Plan for 2013-2015

The Kāpiti Coast District Council will provide a Coordinator for the project to support the work of the Steering Group.

The Steering Group will agree a Chairperson at their first meeting in May 2011.

Members of the Steering Group are:

Sam Hutcheson	Kāpiti Coast District Council
Jacqueline Muir	Kāpiti District Police
Esmae Laird	Ōtaki District Police
Sarah Parker	Ōtaki College
Kim Nye Picknell	Kāpiti Safer Community Trust
Lucy Butler	Regional Public Health
Phillip Parkinson	Alcohol Advisory Council of New Zealand (ALAC)
Cathy Bruce	Alcohol Advisory Council of New Zealand
Sue Blyth	Kāpiti Youth Support

Kāpiti Coast Alcohol Action Plan

Background Report

April 2011

Introduction

This Report gives a national overview of alcohol and crime related findings, and where possible, local references. A variety of Kāpiti Coast information sources have been used including agency statistics, anecdotal reports and media coverage.

There will be an annual update of this Report and ownership of this task will lie with the Alcohol Action Plan Steering Group. A template for the Annual Report update is attached (Appendix 1).

How This Action Plan Was Developed

The Response to Alcohol is a funding priority for the Ministry of Justice Crime Prevention and Community Safety Programmes funding pool. The purpose of the fund is to assist in supporting local efforts to reduce alcohol related crime and to enhance community safety. The Kāpiti Coast District Council obtained funding from the Ministry of Justice in 2010 to develop an Alcohol Action Plan for the District.

Thirty eight community groups and key agencies contributed their local knowledge and expertise to the development of the Alcohol Action Plan. Groups were engaged through one to one discussions and at a range of pre existing forums. Information was collated and themes identified. Where possible strategies for addressing alcohol issues were offered, these were tested with firstly the Alcohol Action Steering Group, and secondly with a range of stakeholder groups. Ideas that generated high levels of interest and potential for ongoing involvement were included in the Alcohol Action Plan either as activities for the first 18 months of the Plan or for consideration as the Plan moves forward.

What We Know Already

Criminal behaviour linked to the consumption of alcohol is at a significant level in New Zealand. While the majority of people who consume alcohol do not engage in criminal behaviour, Police data (2007/08) indicated that at least 31 per cent of all recorded crime involved an offender who had consumed alcohol prior to committing the offence.

While criminal behaviour can be one of the end results of alcohol consumption, stakeholders involved in the development of this Action Plan are equally concerned with the impact of alcohol related harm to community members.

In addition to crime, alcohol related harm encompasses a range of negative effects resulting from consumption of alcohol including anti-social behaviour that is disorderly, threatening, offensive, violent and abusive, road crashes or personal accidents, lost productivity, absenteeism and long term health consequences.

Kāpiti Coast support agencies provide services to significant numbers of people where alcohol is negatively impacting on their wellbeing. The impacts included domestic violence, teenage behaviour which parents cannot control, involvement with Police, economic hardship due to money being spent on alcohol instead of food, and child neglect/abuse.

The link between alcohol, crime and community safety is complex and involves many individual, social, economic and environmental variables. However research demonstrates that people's drinking behaviour is greatly influenced by their local environment and communities can do a great deal to reduce local alcohol related crime and community safety issues.

Local Alcohol Related Harm Indicators

Kāpiti Coast demographics show that young people under 25 and older people over 65 years are over represented in comparison to other areas of the country. The community has expressed particular concerns about the drinking behaviours and safety of both these age groups. The Alcohol Action Plan Steering Group have focused on these age groups in the Plan while also taking into account general alcohol related crime and harm, including issues such as open space design and access to appropriate supports and services.

A significant number of older people taking part in the consultative process for the 2009 Kāpiti Coast District Council Long Term Community Plan said they felt unsafe. Anecdotal evidence suggests this is due to the perception of young people causing trouble such as vandalising property, gathering in loud groups, drinking and being intimidating. Younger people themselves state that one of their biggest concerns is teen drinking. They are also concerned about being labelled as bad and trouble by older people when it is a minority that cause problems for others.

Coast Youth Council – Youth Survey 2010

“What are the biggest issues for young people”

- drugs 19%, alcohol 16%, boredom 11%
- crime related things like gangs, violence, drink driving, vandalism and crime in general 11%

“There is nothing or nowhere for young people to do. This results in a lot of drunk teens”.

Statistics to quantify alcohol issues in Kāpiti Coast are not readily available as information from Government agencies tends to be collated at a regional not local level. Some local providers were able to give numbers of people experiencing alcohol related harm accessing their services, while others gave specific examples of alcohol related incidents they have observed in the course of their community work. Data available was primarily related to alcohol issues for younger people rather than the 65 years+ population.

Anecdotal information has therefore been used significantly to guide development of the Alcohol Action Plan. The information offered in this report has been validated by a number of stakeholders.

When asked about the size of alcohol related problems in the District in comparison to other areas of the country, people said that although they were aware the Kāpiti Coast has a low rate of crime they regarded excess alcohol consumption as a growing problem and were concerned this would lead to increased anti social and criminal behaviour. There was also significant concern about excess alcohol consumption by older people which was largely unreported in any formal way.

The Police have stated that they spend significant amounts of time dealing with under 25 year olds

Local statistics were difficult to access though a number of community agencies kept records of people with alcohol issues accessing their services or were able to readily collate this information from their in depth knowledge of the people they assist.

engaged in socially unacceptable behaviour, including vandalism, caused by excessive alcohol consumption.

There are issues around the licensed premises in the Kāpiti Lights area in Paraparaumu along with youth drinking in public places such as the Raumatī Beach Marine Gardens reserve. In addition youth gatherings, and youth drinking as they move along the streets at night, are also causing problems for the Police.

Community Patrols working in Waikanae and Paraparaumu have significant concerns about the frequency of which they find girls, some as young as 12 years, who have been drinking and are on the streets late at night. This issue was also raised by a group of young peer support workers who say they are concerned about the vulnerability of these young drinkers, many of whom are younger siblings of school friends, and that they want to see them kept safe.

Particular concerns were raised about young girls who present at the Ōtaki Health Centre on Mondays concerned that they may have been sexually violated while drinking over the weekend but unable to recall anything that happened. Three Paraparaumu agencies noted an increase over the last two years in the number of girls and women with alcohol problems accessing their services.

Ōtaki College provided information about the students they are supporting who engage in regular binge drinking which impacts upon their ability to participate in learning opportunities. A youth agency in Ōtaki providing mentoring and support to at risk young people (up to 25 years) said they currently work intensively with 20 people experiencing alcohol related harm but are aware of another 50 who need their input.

The Kāpiti Safer Community Trust Strengthening Families Coordinator supplied data showing that in the 2009/2010 year one third of referrals to their service involved families with alcohol issues including violent incidents as a result of drinking. One support service reported that over half the families they assist are severely impacted upon by the excessive consumption of alcohol by parents. This results in a lack of money to meet basic needs such as adequate food and clothing for their children coupled with inconsistent parenting behaviours. The most common criminal conviction in this group is for drink driving.

Ninety percent of people referred to the Living Without Violence programme in the last 12 months had alcohol and drug issues – the majority of these people were aged between 30-39 years. The Cross Roads Trust, who provide addiction rehabilitation services at the Te Nikau centre, received approximately 50 requests for assistance in the last year. There has been a noticeable increase in referrals over the past few years.

Care NZ have launched a local education programme for people aged 18 to early 20s referred to them through the criminal justice system due to the growing need for more intensive support for this group. People referred to the programme have alcohol and drug addictions.

In 2010 the Capital and Coast District Health Board, Ministry of Health and ACC completed a

While only a small number of Kāpiti Coast agencies provided services directly addressing alcohol use every agency interviewed reported the negative effects alcohol related harm had upon large numbers of people being able to fully benefit or participate in the programmes they offered.

Data Collection Project focusing on the influence of alcohol on Wellington Hospital Emergency Department admissions.

Key findings in relation to alcohol related harm were:

- 56% of all injuries treated between 10pm and 6am are alcohol related
- 63% of all claims were made by males
- 37% of all claims were made by females
- Falls claims made up 43% of the alcohol related claims
- 88% of claims between 10pm and 6am Fri/Sat and Sat/Sun were violence related

Kāpiti District Police report that:

- 15% of urban motor vehicle accidents in the last 5 years involved alcohol
- Drunk and disorderly behaviour of young people between ages of 14 – 25 takes large amount of
- Police time
- Consumption of alcohol outside of liquor ban hours exacerbates above issues

Community Participation, Ownership and Action

Thirty four community groups and key agencies contributed their local knowledge and expertise to the development of the Alcohol Action Plan. People were enthusiastic about the initiative and offered a range of practical local actions for consideration.

Two factors influenced further involvement of people with the project. Some agencies, while supportive of the initiative, were clear that their focus was not on alcohol related harm or crime. While this was an important issue they had other overriding priorities and concerns. For the agencies who wanted to actively participate, the capacity to take more work meant this was not possible.

Even where resources were limited community groups offered a range of innovative practical strategies for addressing local alcohol issues.

Community leadership and ownership was considered a key factor in the successful implementation of the Alcohol Action Plan. Knowing what all parties are doing in this area will mean more effective services and targeting of priority areas which impact positively on crime reduction.

The Alcohol Action Plan is seen as an important development as it will give stakeholders a collective coordinated focus to prevent crime. It gives the message that residents want a safe community and it will support actions which stop breaches of the law, underage drinking, and reduce alcohol related harm.

When discussing ownership of alcohol issues the majority of stakeholders interviewed stated it was parents that needed to own and address the problems.

Key Community Concerns and Opportunities

At the completion of the information gathering phase of this project key themes became evident, and along with these, concerns the community wanted to see addressed.

When discussing ownership of alcohol issues for young people the majority of stakeholders interviewed stated it was parents that needed to own and address the problem. When asked about young adults legally entitled to drink, as opposed to underage drinkers, the response was that young people drinking to excess learnt this was acceptable at a younger age, often due to a lack of strong parental guidance and control. Several people spoke about parents who themselves have severe drug and alcohol issues and that intensive supports need to be put around these families.

Young people below the legal drinking age report that alcohol is usually supplied by parents or friends aged over 18 years. Several young people spoke of their concerns around parents who failed to keep their children safe from alcohol related harm, and who condoned the drinking by supplying the alcohol for them to take to parties, didn't check up on where the young person was, who they were with, and what they were doing.

There is a lack of clear information showing the referral process and criteria for accessing services - people working in the area for a significant number of years were generally well informed, while newer community staff found this information hard to find. For both groups there were critical information gaps – for example several agencies were unaware that people referred to the Living Without Violence programme by a General Practitioner may be funded to attend and did not refer people to this service. To address this it is suggested agencies add links to resources and services to their web sites. There were also requests from three agencies for an updated Community Services Directory.

The Kāpiti Coast Youth Council will be taking action to address some of the issues impacting upon the both underage drinking and the negative drinking habits of young people in their YTH2U Youth Action Plan released mid 2011. A group of representatives from the Youth Council will be contributing to the Alcohol Action Plan work over the next 12 months.

There is a need for safe transport options at night such a free bus (or \$2 charge) on Friday and Saturday nights. The cost of entertainment options was a barrier to young people choosing this ahead of drinking, as it is more expensive to go bowling or to a movie than to purchase alcohol.

Key themes emerged from the community engagement process:

- Increasing numbers of woman (under 35 years) either presenting with alcohol issues or experiencing alcohol related harm
- Vulnerability of young people particularly girls, found intoxicated in public at night
- The difficulty in accessing information about available services, entry criteria and referral pathways

Coast Youth Council – Youth Survey 2010

“So what else could the Coast provide for young people?”

Fun youth events that are supervised, alcohol and drug free, provide a safe option for young people to attend. These could be a way to cut down on the amount of alcohol and drug abuse young people tend to get involved in when drinking and socialising at parties.

The design of public spaces and recreation areas such as parks was an area where young people, Council staff and the Police felt there could be improvements made. There were comments made by some young people about how unsafe they often felt in public spaces where their peers' drinking made them scared.

" We need somewhere private to hang out in a public place"

Youth Peer Support Worker

Youth agency staff identified that a key success factor in influencing drinking habits was having people with the skills to develop strong and trusting relationships with youth. There was concern expressed about a lack of funding to provide this support.

When asked to identify current gaps in services in the areas of alcohol related harm and crime people referred to the lack of appropriate treatment options. Rehabilitation services are Wellington based and if caregivers need treatment they are often unable to access services as they have to care for their children. This issue can also impact if treatment is offered locally. There is currently no funding to assist families in this situation. (Sources: Barnardos, Strengthening Families, Living Without Violence, Care NZ, Cross Roads).

Strengthening Families staff described the difficulties of working with multiple health services: "If you go to mental health your addiction isn't dealt with and if you go to addiction services your mental health is not addressed". This issue was reiterated by Care NZ.

Sourcing information can be the first step in an individual or family taking action to intervene and possibly prevent alcohol related crime and harm to themselves or others. It was felt however that provision of information on its own did not achieve much and there needed to be a conversation with the person at the time information was given out.

The growing concern in Kāpiti Coast about drinking habits of older people was backed up with the Police and Age Concern providing information about elder abuse, drink driving, and the negative effects of alcohol consumption upon aging health related disorders. At a national and local level ALAC and ACC are also concerned about these issues and are developing strategies and resource material which will support and guide the work of local agencies.

Educating health professionals in the detection and treatment of older people with alcohol issues is seen as a priority, and education around this issue will be provided by Public Health, ALAC and the Police.

The places (other than private homes) at which older people drink in the Kāpiti Coast are well known and therefore provide good opportunities for education initiatives. However it is likely that a large proportion of alcohol consumption occurs in people's own homes and this presents a challenge in terms of assessing the problem and addressing it.

An Ōtaki publican described numbers of older people who sit in his pub most days for the company as much as for the alcohol consumption. The publican is linking people needing treatment for alcohol addiction and allied supports to relevant agencies and is also developing pro active strategies at his premises including provision of meaningful activities such movie days.

The Kāpiti Coast District Council provides a Driving Safely with Age programme which will be attended by 80 older people in 2011. It is thought that while some older people drive under the

influence of alcohol this is not often detected due to the short distances they travel and the lower speed at which they drive.

Heavy drinking by older people was viewed as having a negative impact upon younger family members, with it either being seen as acceptable because granddad does it or being damaging to the relationship between grandparent and grandchild.

“My granddad’s drinking means I don’t respect him anymore”

“My grandparents do it and they’ve got old OK”

While numbers of older people have said they feel unsafe in their community, more work can be done to explore what this means to them i.e. is it safety at home, are they scared of people being intimidating when they are out, what are the specific areas they feel unsafe in. The use of Neighbourhood Support Groups is known to increase people’s feelings of safety, and actual community safety, and the Safer Community Trust and Police will be working to significantly increase the number of groups in the area.

With excess alcohol consumption and under age drinking being significant problems in public places the Police are recommending to the Kāpiti Coast District Council that the current Liquor Ban regulations be extended to ban alcohol consumption in all public places from 10pm to 7am the following day. When asked about this proposal some community members supported the move along with stronger penalties for people who are drunk causing public disturbances and vandalising property. There are however others who are not in favour of extending the ban and there will be significant community interest in the proposal if it goes out for public consultation.

The sale of alcohol to underage drinkers occurs frequently with the Police, Public Health and the Council Liquor Licensing team agreeing to increase the number of Controlled Purchase Operations carried out each year. Increased random inspections of licensed premises are to be increased also with 50% of premises to be inspected annually – this is a shared role between the Council and Police.

Community Patrols, while being a pro active and preventive response to alcohol issues in public places, are facing difficulties with attracting new members; an active recruitment drive is needed to build patrol numbers. It is of concern that the Paraparaumu Patrol has no access to a vehicle and volunteers have to use their own cars – this is a deterrent to attracting more people. The coverage area of the Patrols is also limited due to this lack of resources along with the days and hours they are able to operate.

Māori Wardens also operate in Kāpiti Coast and the coordination of action by the Community Patrols and Māori Wardens is being explored by the Police to maximise outcomes.

Priorities for Alcohol Action Plan

Stronger action to deter anti social and criminal behaviour – increased community vigilance through Neighbourhood Support and Community Patrols

An initiative focusing on parents and young people – listening and learning from each other, parents supporting each other, young people feeling safe and protected by their families

Older people gaining an awareness of the negative impacts of excess alcohol consumption, feeling safer in their communities, getting appropriate treatment for alcohol related harm

Resourcing existing and new programmes supporting young people and families to make changes to reduce alcohol related harm in their lives

Increasing activities that prevent or reduce sale of alcohol to minors and intoxication in public places

Using Crime Prevention Through Urban Design Principles in the design of new, or redevelopment of existing, open spaces and urban areas

Contributing Agencies

Age Concern
ALAC
Barnardos
Birthright
Care NZ
Community Action on Youth and Drugs
Compass (Kāpiti PHO)
Council of Elders
Family Counselling
Health Group Trust
Heart of Ōtaki Community Trust
Hora Te Pai, Maori Health Services
House of Hope Trust
Kāpiti Coast District Council
Kāpiti Coast Youth Council
Life to the Max
Living Without Violence
Living Without Violence
Meadows Church
Mokopuna Solutions
Ōtaki College
Ōtaki Police
Ōtaki Women's Health Centre
Paraparaumu Community Patrol
Paraparaumu Police
Regional Public Health
Safer Community Trust
Skills Charitable Trust
Strengthening Families
Te Nikau Residential Addictions Recovery
Telegraph Hotel Ōtaki
Trade & Commerce NZ
Waikanae Community Patrol
Women's Centre
Youth Support

APPENDIX ONE.

Annual Update – Background Information and Local Stocktake of Services Oct 2012

Information to guide formulation of Alcohol Action Plan 2013-2014

Source – National	Key Information (flag changes in policies, new information and data, anecdotal reports, changes in service provision, strategies that have worked, areas of concern, new initiatives, gaps, resource opportunities)
1. ACC	
2. ALAC	
3. Ministry of Health	
4. Ministry of Justice	
5. Ministry of Youth Affairs	
6. NZ Police	
Source - Local	Key Information
1.Age Concern	
2.Care NZ Capital Coast DHB	
3.Compass (Kāpiti PHO)	
4.Hora Te Pai, Maori Health Services	
5. Kāpiti Coast District Council	
6. Kāpiti Family Support Agencies	
7. Living Without Violence	
8. Safer Community Trust	
9. Youth Support	
10. Kāpiti Coast Youth Council	
11. Kāpiti Coast Youth Workers	
12.Media	
13.Maori Wardens	
14.NZ Police – Paraparaumu & Ōtaki	
15.Ōtaki College	
16.Ōtaki Steering group	
17.Ōtaki Community Patrol	
18.Paraparaumu Community Patrol	
19.Regional Public Health	
20.Waikanae Community Patrol	