

Report to	Leighton -Linslade Partnership Committee
Subject	Tackling the problem of street drinking
Date of Meeting	7 September 2017
Report presented by	Tony Keaveney Assistant Director Housing Services and Martin Westerby Public Health Manager.

1. Recommendations

- 1) To note the report to establish a baseline position of current interventions in place to tackle the problem of street drinking and homelessness in Leighton - Linslade in particular the progress to introduce an injunction to prevent street drinking in the town centre.
- 2) Support appropriate governance to enable a multi -agency joined up approach to tackling street drinking.
- 3) To note the proposal to hold a Community Engagement Day at the Black Horse, in the autumn to introduce clients to services.
- 4) Support ongoing efforts through CBC Housing and the Leighton - Linslade Homelessness Service to ensure appropriate and compliant hostel provision, meaningful engagement with hostel residents to introduce a progression route to stable accommodation.

2. Purpose

To build on the multi - agency discussions thus far to:

1. Establish a baseline
 - Problem
 - Provision
 - Enforcement
 - Health and Wellbeing
2. Review provision / interventions for gaps / what's not working
3. Review and determine what could be done differently
4. Agree actions, timescale, success criteria and measures

5. Reporting progress and outcomes.

3. Introduction

The anti- social problems caused by street drinking have been raised at Partnership Committee meetings in Leighton - Linslade and Houghton Regis, in recent months. Members of those Committees have requested stakeholder action and intervention to manage / eradicate the problems. It has been acknowledged that action needs to address both the anti -social behaviour through proper enforcement, but importantly attend to the social issues that are causing individuals to adopt a self - destructive lifestyle and help them to engage in help and support and enable them to adopt a more positive and stable style of living.

Discussions have taken place between a variety of public sector and voluntary / community organisations including local churches. Whilst it is unlikely that additional resources are or will become available to tackle the issue, the discussions thus far can be built on and an action plan with clear measures, timescales, responsibilities and success criteria can be created and adopted with multi agency buy in.

4. Key Stakeholders

Enforcement		Health and Wellbeing	
Community Safety	Steve Barratt Maggie Higton Alan May Michelle Marley	Housing / Homelessness	Tony Keaveney Megan Bowles
Police	Anita Clarke	Public Health	Martin Westerby
Trading Standards	Imogen Best Guy Quint Margaret James	Drug Alcohol Misuse	Zara Hamer P2R
		Mental Health support	Rachel Volpe Bedfordshire CCG (commissioners) and ELFT (provider)
		Faith / Churches	Tricia Humber
		L-L Homelessness Service / Black Horse	Paul Latimer

5. Action Plan 2017/18

Item	Baseline Description	Outcome	Lead	When	Success criteria
Governance	Two groups with some cross over in membership are looking at the issue. To maximise impact and best use of resources both groups should merge to create a Multi -Agency group tackling street drinking (MATSD)	Governance and strategic direction with multi agency support.	Community Safety and PCE	By September 2017	In place
Practise elsewhere	Practise in place elsewhere is being looked at, principally the towns of Bedford and Luton. However, the nature of street drinking is notably different, with a different town centre context so responses inevitably need to be different	Monitor / Implement if relevant	Community Safety	By October 2017	Effectiveness proven
Crime and Enforcement					
ASB reports / Orders / Arrests	The Community Safety ASB team and Police have collaborated to bring enforcement action against known individuals in L-L resulting in several arrests and a suspended sentence.	Several arrests and a suspended sentence imposed.	Community Safety / Police	July 2017	Feedback that the complaints have reduced and situation is much better.
Item	Baseline - Description	Outcome	Lead	When	Success criteria
Evidence gathering (for injunction)	CBC Community Safety team have led on this aspect and who provided all the names of witnesses and the taking of statements was shared between the Police and the ASB Team to support the case for an Injunction to protect a	Evidence gathered is strong and submitted to CBC lawyers	Community Safety / Police	By July 2017	Injunction awarded by the Courts

	significant area of the town centre from persistent street drinkers.				
Known individuals	There are 13 known individuals to be persistent street drinkers.	Named individuals for injunction		September 2017	Continued feedback that complaints have reduced and situation is much better Injunction awarded by the Courts
Trading Standards/ Retail outlets	License in for review on local off license which has also been prosecuted. Police looking to suggest conditions on another outlet which has received CPN warning, and issued with photos of people not to serve still serving. Applied for license to be transferred. Serving people who are intoxicated. Police securing evidence to oppose the license	Minimise opportunities to purchase alcohol	CBC Licensing team / Police.	September 2017	Licence refused
Item	Baseline - Description	Outcome	Lead	When	Success criteria
Injunction	The request for an injunction will give powers to the Police to remove named (and un-named) individuals from an area of the town centre and imposes general conditions on their behaviour – no rough sleeping, not to be drunk or drinking in public place , no intimidating behaviour. Some concern as to whether individuals would be able to access pharmacy with their prescription, Tescos are outside of the ban area could supply e.g methadone.	Evidence gathered is strong and submitted to CBC lawyers	Community Safety / Police	September 2017	Injunction awarded by the courts

Enforcement	Neighbourhood Police constables need to be in place to enforce.				
Designated Public Place Orders (DPPO)	Are in place in other town centres but are limited in effect				
Health and Wellbeing					
The health and wellbeing of the street drinkers is of particular concern. There is a perception that they are not receiving appropriate support, however this is misleading and evidence suggests they are in receipt of support with access to prescribed medication. A key issue is access to daytime activities and a longer term approach to their homelessness.					
Action Plan					
Item	Baseline - Description	Outcome	Lead	When	Success criteria
Leighton Homelessness service / hostel provision	13 bed hostel, 8pm – 8am only. Looking at new business model as not sustainable in current form. Problems with the building – electrics, possible £x,000 to fix. Hostel capacity has necessarily reduced for safety reasons.	New business model and essential repairs and maintenance completed	Leighton Homelessness service CBC Housing	On going	Safe environment for hostel residents, progression route in place to achieve longer term accommodation solution.
Drug / Alcohol misuse	Public health commission the Alcohol and substance mis -use contract which is delivered by P2R (the drug and alcohol treatment service) they will work with street drinkers <u>who are willing</u> to enter treatment for problem drinking (if those individuals are not already known to service) The starting point is the Dunstable hub for	Clients receiving support to overcome drug / alcohol mis use	Public Health / P2R	On going	Clients receiving support and daytime street drinking reduced

	assessment, following allocation, all subsequent appointments for treatment can take place in Leighton Buzzard				
Item	Baseline - Description	Outcome	Lead	When	Success criteria
Mental Health	Sarah Clark, Community Mental Health Nurse and part of the Rough Sleeper Partnership and Mental Health Street Triage, meets with the service users at the Black Horse every Wednesday.	Users are accessing and benefitting from the service	Rachel Volpe Bedfordshire CCG (as commissioners) and ELFT (as provider) Sarah Clark, Community Mental Health Nurse	ongoing	Clients successfully overcome /manage MH issues
Information and volunteer support e.g Faith groups	The faith groups operate a number of daytime activities for example lunch clubs	Clients accessing daytime provision offered by faith groups	Churches Together	ongoing	Clients benefit from accessing daytime provision.
Housing / homelessness service.	CBC Housing have an enforcement responsibility and have been working extensively with the L-L Homeless Service to ensure it is compliant and to assist with a new business model. Housing also recognise the importance of having in place a progression to stable accommodation such as Killgower Court.	New and viable business model	Tony Keaveney Megan Bowles	ongoing	Clients enter and sustain stable / permanent accommodation
Action Plan					

Item	Baseline - Description	Outcome	Lead	When	Success criteria
Community Engagement Day	A CE day is planned for late Autumn as an initial opportunity for meaningful engagement with the hostel residents. It would seem appropriate to take the services to them	Clients made aware of services available to them and daytime activities	Police / PCE/Faith groups	Autumn	Clients access services
Worklessness	BESS operate a number of courses which could be accessed by BH residents The You programme, Pathways to recovery, Creative Confidence for Work and Life as well as Smarter Job Search	Clients move closer towards employment	BESS (with P2R and EFLT)	ongoing	Attendance at a course
Resources					