



Alco link and the Graduated Response Model

Thank you to all those who attended the recent workshop held at the Police station Canteen. There was some discussion about the Graduated Response Model and Alco link data which caused a bit of debate.

For those of you who were not able to make it or who did not fully understand I will go over it briefly.

Police collect Alco link data from people who are arrested and from people who are processed for serious driving / alcohol related charges such as drink driving.

It is standard procedure to ask people who are arrested or processed for drink driving where they had their last drink and record their level of intoxication.

Alco link data is by no means fully comprehensive, it merely works to show us patterns of drinking behaviour. I use it to look back over a period to see patterns such as age of people affected by alcohol / types of offending linked to particular bars to assist in identification of problem premises / problem nights and alike. I also use the information that I receive from staff patrolling reports and hotel visits that are done. Alco link is one tool in the tool box.

For example a bar may have a problem with young males and disorderly behaviour outside the bar on a Wednesday night or female drink drivers on a Saturday night.

Like it or not as managers and licensees you are responsible for what happens inside your bar and after people leave it. (Liquor Licensing Authority decisions reinforce this.)

Drink drivers are more likely to crash than sober drivers whether they kill someone else or themselves is often a matter of luck. Intoxicated patrons are more likely to commit offences or become victims of offending. At the end of the day it is in all of our interests to make Wanganui as Safe a community as possible.

About 50% of all Police work is alcohol related. A recent study of apparently unrelated violence in the Wanganui CBD revealed that alcohol was a factor in 98% of all incidents with either the victim or the offender being affected by alcohol.

In fairness I look for patterns prior to approaching a bar to advise them of a potential problem.

I do not work on "one offs" as disturbing as they might be. Recently we had a male leave a bar and go to a nearby petrol station and steal pies that male then went to the next petrol station and robbed it of their night's takings. Luckily for the Police he was drunk and easy to catch. Not such a good look for the bar that he had just left.

Sgt Tracy Patterson
New Zealand Police

Special Licence Applications

While there has been a vast improvement in the applications being received for Events that require a Special Licence, there is still a need to remind applicants to get their applications into the District Licensing Agency well before the commencement date of the event.

The Sale of Liquor Act allows the Police up to 15 working days to notify the District Licensing Agency if they wish to oppose the application. In saying that Applications can take approximately 20 working days to process, and should the application be opposed by either the Police or the District Licensing Inspector then a Hearing needs to be arranged which requires notification to Councillors and the affected parties. **Effectively this means that applications should be made as early as possible, and at the very least two months prior to the event.**

While the Agency will always endeavour to process the application in time for the impending event – the Agency cannot guarantee this will happen when applications are applied for at short notice.

If you have any doubts or concerns re your upcoming event please discuss with the Agency asap so as to avoid any last minute hitches.

Local Liquor

Issue No. 22

A newsletter prepared by the Wanganui District Licensing Agency
for those in the Liquor Industry

Sept 2006

Welcome

Welcome to the District to all the new Premise owners:

Shakira Shikan Limited - Midtown Motor Inn, WAB Limited - Alma Motor Lodge, The Café Cat Company Limited - Red Eye, Corringham Investments Limited - Vincent's Yellow House Café.



Daylight savings time !! Change of Local Policy!! Sunday 1 October 2006

Daylight Saving begins at 2.00am on Sunday 1st October 2006 when clocks are put forward by one hour. That means that 2.00 am becomes 3.00am.

Previously Wanganui operated on a Local Accord but it has been decided to bring ourselves into line with national practices. In reality there are very few local premises that trade after 2.00am anyway so there shouldn't be any issues. If you do have any questions please give the Agency a call.

Contacts

District Licensing Agency Inspector

Doug Bonner
doug.bonner@wanganui.govt.nz
Phone 349 0001 extn 8023 Fax 349 0536

Licensing Officer

Debbie Richdale
debbie.richdale@wanganui.govt.nz
Phone 3490001 extn 8116

Wanganui District Council
District Licensing Agency
P O Box 637
Wanganui

or visit our website at

www.wanganui.govt.nz/ESBU/LiquorLicence/index.asp

Licensee Seminar

The Wanganui Liquor Liaison Group recently ran a Licensee Seminar, held at the Wanganui Police Canteen in Bell Street. We had 35 people attend the seminar from 24 different premises.

There were a number of different speakers ranging from NZ Police, Fire Services, Wanganui District Council Building Control and Environmental Health, and Wanganui Good Health.

Thanks to all those who returned their quiz forms. If anybody has any further questions or suggestions on how to improve these Seminars all feedback will be greatly appreciated and where possible implemented in the future.

Thanks again to everybody who attended the seminar, hopefully next time we will have more premises represented.



Supplying Minors – where are we heading?

No ID? No service! This is still the best way to go if you want to run a successful business and stay off the radar of liquor licensing regulatory services. Underage youth soon suss out 'easy' liquor outlets, which tend not to ask for age ID, and that can spell big problems for you.

In the run up to summer, Whanganui's Youth Access to Alcohol Project Group will be continuing to monitor youth liquor sales and feeding results back to licensed premises involved as well as to regulatory services. As always, you can expect to be followed up by those services if your premise does not make the grade. Your contribution to keeping youth alcohol related harm in our community to a minimum is to make sure you do not sell liquor to minors under any circumstances.

In the meantime, the Youth Access to Alcohol Project Group will also be working to encourage parents and other adults to regulate their supply of alcohol to youth at home and at private functions. Making an impact in this area is challenging. We are aware that minors get most of their alcohol from informal sources, rather than from licensed premises, and that all parents have a role to play in making sure youth access does not create problems. So be assured that it is not only licensed premises which we are targeting as underage supply sources.

The law around supply in private settings provides few safe guards for young people as it stands. Across 'the ditch' in Australia, one State has legislated to make supply of liquor to minors, even in private homes, subject to the explicit authority of parents. Western Australia and Victoria are now looking to follow New South Wales' lead on this. It is believed that better controls over supply and consumption of liquor by minors will assist Police, for example, to better deal with the private party environment when necessary. This may be the way to go, but it does assume that parents will be 'good' role models as well as moderating and supervising their children's alcohol use. None of this can be taken for granted.

So, if you are a parent of a minor you have a critical role to play in your child's access to alcohol. Likewise, if you work in the liquor industry you have a critical role to play in limiting others people's kids access to alcohol.

Lynley Cvitanovic
Senior Health Promoter (tobacco, alcohol & other drugs)
Public Health Unit, Whanganui District Health Board



CHANGES TO LAW RELATING TO MANAGERS RESPONSIBILITIES

Parts of the Sale of Liquor Amendment Act 1999 came into force on 1st April 2006. One of these is section 115 of the Sale of Liquor Act 1989 which deals with the requirements of a licensee or manager to be on duty at all times when liquor is being sold or supplied to the public.

A manager on duty in respect of licensed premises, apart from being responsible for the compliance with and enforcement of the provisions of the Act and the conditions of the licence, is also now responsible for the conduct of the premises with the aim of contributing to the reduction in liquor abuse.

LOCAL LIQUOR LIAISON GROUP

Over the last 6 months there have been a number of changes in this group with a number of members leaving the group. A big welcome to Cons Rachel Williemsen from NZ Police and Pricilla Wilson from Public Health. Farewell and thank you to Bob Davies and Keith Smith both from Wanganui District Council.

Chairman	Stu Hylton	Secretary of the District Licensing Agency
Secretary	Debbie Richdale	Liquor Licensing Officer
District Licensing Agency	Doug Bonner	District licensing Inspector
Public Health Representative	Dr Patrick O'Connor	Medical Officer of Health
Public Health Representative	Priscilla Wilson	Administration Support
Good Health Wanganui	Lynley Cvitanovic	Health Promoter
HANZ Representative	Bruce Lochore	Regional Manager
Chartered Clubs Representative	David Large	RSA
NZ Police Representative	Sgt Tracy Patterson	Sgt in charge of Liquor Licensing
NZ Police Representative	Cons Rachel Williemsen	Liquor Licensing Support
Whanganui Maori Wardens Representative	Cecilia Boyd	Maori Warden



EVACUATION SCHEME

When renewing an on, off or club license it is a requirement under the Sale of Liquor Act 1989. Where the application relates to any premises, be accompanied by a statement by the applicant that:

1. The building in which the premises are situated has an evacuation scheme for public safety which meets the requirements of Section 21A of the Fire Service Act 1975; or
2. The building by reasons of its current use, does not require such a scheme, or that the building is exempt from having to meet the requirements for such a scheme.

If you are unsure as to whether or not you require such a scheme contact: **The Community Risks Officer**
New Zealand Fire Service, Maria Place, Wanganui, Phone - 06 348 0104

HOST RESPONSIBILITY



Host Responsibility is a key element in creating drinking environments that are welcoming and comfortable and where alcohol is served responsibly.

It aims to reduce the incidence of intoxication and the risk of intoxicated individuals causing harm to themselves, to other people on the property. Host Responsibility utilises a number of strategies aimed at creating safe drinking environments.






A Host Responsibility Plan as a requisite component of a liquor licences application, is desirable, and is a useful tool for Licensing Inspectors and for the Medical Officer of Health, when assessing an applicants suitability etc. Licensees' are encouraged to develop an individual Host Responsibility Plan rather than adopting a standard format, as this has been found to be more helpful in ensuring a strong sense of ownership of the plan. Wanganui District Licensing Agency has developed guidelines to assist licensees develop Host Responsibility Plans.


Policy: That all applicants for an On or Club Licences are required to have a written Host Responsibility Plan for the premises and are able to demonstrate that this is being actively promoted.


BE A RESPONSIBLE HOST

Provide a  for patrons to phone for alternative transport. 

Offer     as alternatives for alcohol.

Have available assorted     

Don't serve intoxicated patrons. 

Don't serve under 18s – ask for  if in doubt – keep them out!!