



CHRISTCHURCH TRI-AGENCY NEWSLETTER

March 2009

This newsletter is now jointly produced by the Police Alcohol Strategy and Enforcement Team, the Christchurch City Council Liquor Licensing Team, and Community & Public Health Liquor Licensing Officers.

Licensees.

Please ensure this newsletter is circulated to all staff, especially Duty Managers.

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1 Community Behaviour Zone (Com-Be Zone)

A new initiative was launched in Riccarton on the 10th of February 2009 to help tackle inappropriate alcohol fuelled behaviour. There has been a problem with minor disorder in the Riccarton community area for years. The disorder problems arise from generally young people aged between eighteen and twenty one who have consumed too much alcohol.

The Com-Be Zone focuses on the individual that chooses to behave in an inappropriate manner. Whether this is simply being too noisy in a residential street late at night, or having to be removed from a licensed premise as a result of inappropriate behaviour. The individual needs to be held accountable and be given a consequence for their actions.

If we want to change the degree that our alcohol culture influences our community, then we need to influence that culture. The Com-Be Zone gives a consequence to an action that the community find disturbing or offensive. That consequence is aimed at influencing individuals into managing their behaviour due to alcohol consumption in a more civilised way whilst in the public arena.

How does it operate?

When a person is banned for four weeks from a licensed premise for inappropriate behaviour, their name is sent to all involved premises so they are aware and can take necessary action if that person attempts to either enter premises or buy alcohol from premises that have joined the Com-Be Zone. When someone is banned from one they are now banned from them all.

A name on the list will be kept after the four weeks so repeat offenders can be identified and sanctioned with a harder penalty.

The ban's not designed to stop a person from drinking alcohol completely but to disturb their social network and limit its availability. If they are banned a second time we'll call them in for a chat and they may get a written warning, but if their name comes up again a third time they'll be summonsed and charged with disorderly behaviour.

The Com-Be Zone is a community response to a local problem, allowing the community to regain ownership of their community again.

Constable Danny Morris

2. Food Availability.

A standard condition for an on and club licence is:

“Food must be available for consumption on the premises as follows:

At all times when the premises are authorised to be open for the sale of liquor, food of a range and style similar to that shown on any menu submitted or a range of snack foods in the nature of pies, sandwiches, filled rolls, pizzas and the like, must be conveniently available for all patrons and the availability of those foodstuffs must be notified to them by appropriate notices throughout the premises.”

The Liquor Licensing Authority is now imposing suspensions on premises that fail to meet the licence condition requiring food to be available.

As the result of frequent complaints from the public regarding lack of food availability, the agencies will be carrying out operations to test premises. Failure to comply is likely to result in section 132 and 135 applications seeking suspension of licences and managers certificates.

Please ensure that all staff are aware of the licence conditions.

Peter Shaw, CDHB

3. Controlled Purchase Operations

On Saturday the 17th of January 2009, the Police, Community And Public Health, and the Christchurch Liquor Licensing Team, carried out a controlled purchase operation in Christchurch.

After receiving specific intelligence in relation to the sale of liquor to minors from a number of premises, 7 convenience stores and 2 supermarkets were tested.

On this occasion we used both 16 year old and 14 year old volunteers. If a sale was made to the 16 year old volunteer, the 14 year old volunteer would attempt to purchase.

6 premises sold to the 16 year old volunteer, and 4 premises also sold to the 14 year old volunteer.

Of the premises that sold, 1 was a supermarket and 5 were convenience stores.

This is a disastrous result, aggravated by the age of the volunteers. Legal action against the premises, Duty Managers, and the sellers will result.

Please take this opportunity to remind **all** staff, and **ensure** you have systems in place to ensure sales are not made to minors and other unauthorised persons.

Further controlled purchase operations will be carried out. On, Off, and Club licensed premises may be visited.

Please remember – if they look under 25 years of age and have no suitable ID – then no service – NO EXCEPTIONS.

Paul Spang, DLA Staff

4. Training

Staff training is the key to operating a successful business, especially in overcoming the risks involved in a heavily regulated environment.

The three regulatory agencies combine to provide a staff training package that covers the requirements of the Sale of Liquor Act 1989, licence conditions and the expectations of the agencies.

These sessions are provided without charge.

Contact Peter Shaw, Community & Public Health to arrange training for your staff.

CPHLiquorLicences@cdhb.govt.nz or (03) 3786812

Peter Shaw, CDHB

5. Applying for a General Managers Certificate?

Before you apply please consider the following;

- Where do you apply? You apply to the agency in whose area your premises is located. (If you work in Christchurch, this is the Christchurch City Council)
- Are you in the industry? Do you have a position where you need a manager's certificate? A Managers Certificate cannot be issued unless you need it for your employment.
- Do you have relevant recent experience? As a general rule we are looking for a minimum of 6 months experience working on licensed premises.
- Have you obtained the Licence Controllers Qualification (LCQ)? The District Licensing Agency must receive a copy of the LCQ either with the application or soon after, or the application will be declined.
When you have completed the training the LCQ will be posted directly to you. You must then get it to the Agency. (Don't confuse the LCQ with a Managers Certificate, they are different.)
- Do you have recent convictions? In general, reporting agencies are looking for a period of 2 years clear if you have one prior conviction, and 5 years clear if you have more than one (from the offence date).

If you are applying for a General Managers Certificate you will be interviewed.

During the interview your basic knowledge of the Sale Of Liquor Act will be tested. This is expected by the Liquor Licensing Authority, and assists the Inspector with their inquiry and subsequent report.

When you lodge your application please include the following;

- The completed application form and payment.
- A copy of your Licence Controllers Qualification.
- A written reference from where you are going to be working.
- A written character reference from someone other than family.
- Overseas residents seeking to work in New Zealand should provide a photocopy of their passport details.
- A current CV. The more we know about you the better.

Paul Spang, DLA Staff

6. Good Friday, Easter Sunday and Anzac Day 2009.

This year Good Friday is on the 10th of April, Easter Sunday falls on the 13th April, and Anzac day is on **Saturday** the 25th April.

As a reminder:

Off-licences are not permitted to sell liquor on Good Friday, Easter Sunday, or before 1.00 pm on Anzac day. This means no alcohol can be sold from 12 midnight the day before these sacrosanct days unless a special licence has been obtained.

Hotel or Tavern. No liquor is to be sold on Good Friday, Easter Sunday, or before 1.00 pm on Anzac Day to any person **other than** those who are:

- For the time being living on the premises, or
- Present on the premises for the purpose of dining.

If you are considering applying for a special licence please do so now.

If you are not clear on this requirement, particularly in regards to diners, please don't hesitate to contact Agency staff.

Martin Ferguson DLA Staff

7. Accredited Course Providers Are:

	Telephone
Avonmore Tertiary Academy	977-2700
Christchurch Polytechnic Institute of Technology	940-8000
Liquor Licensing & Training Christchurch Limited	383-4735

8. Contact Telephone Numbers

Christchurch District Licensing Agency

Paul Rogers (Team Leader) 941-8909

Martin Ferguson (Inspector) 941-8956

Natashia Lafituanai 941-8827

Michele Vincent 941-8068

Paul Spang (Inspector) 941-8826

Helen Ward 941-8821

Fax number 941-8792

Email: liquor.licensing@ccc.govt.nz

Web Site: www.ccc.govt.nz/liquor

Community and Public Health

(Medical Officer of Health).....364-1777

New Zealand Police Liquor Licensing.....378-0430

Regards

Christchurch City Council Liquor Licensing Team

Police Alcohol Strategy and Enforcement Team

Community and Public Health Liquor Licensing

**PLEASE CIRCULATE THIS TO ALL YOUR STAFF- ESPECIALLY
DUTY MANAGERS**

And/or place on your notice board