## LICENSING FORUM



## **Meet the Team**



Nicola Wilson

Environmental Health & Licensing Senior Specialist



**Briony Williamson** 

Licensing Specialist John Bickel

Licensing Specialist



Lisa Farrell

Licensing Specialist



## **Licensing Team Update**

- Update on figures
- An update of the key licensing activities and initiatives



### **Premises Licensing Figures**

- Local authorities are required to submit returns to the Home Office every other year. This data includes numbers of licensed premises and club premises certificates.
- The last return was submitted on 31 March 2022. At the time of reporting there were a total of 409 premises licenses of which:
  - 30 club premises certificates
  - 7 large supermarkets and stores
  - 118 premises are licensed for late night refreshments
  - 151 are authorised for both on and off alcohol sales



### **Premises Licensing**

- As of 27 September 2023, there are a total of 515 premises licenses of which:
  - 36 club premises certificates
  - 48 are supermarkets and stores
- The increase is associated with the rise in the numbers of new food businesses since Covid restrictions were lifted and is very similar to the increase in numbers other Kent local authorities are experiencing.



## How do we compare?

#### Kent

The total number of premises licenses and club premises certificates by local authority

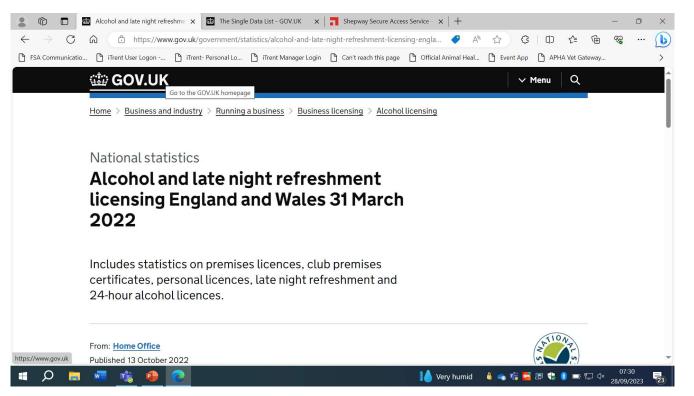
Folkestone & Hythe	Dover District	Ashford Borough	Canterbury
District Council	Council	Council	City Council
515	584	471*	944

\* 2022 figure



#### How do we compare?

#### **England & Wales**





#### How do we compare?



#### **England & Wales**

 As at 31 March 2022, there were 222,500 premises licences in England and Wales, an increase of 5% (+9,700) compared with 31 March 2018 (212,800).



## **Visits to Premises**

 From 01 April 2022 to 31 March 2023 - 795 evening and weekend premises visits were undertaken. These included swabbing for drugs with the Police, advice and monitoring visits.

 During the day an average of 30 premises visits are undertaken per month.



## LICENSING INITIATIVES





Folkestone Area Partnership Against Crime (FAPAC) – covers daytime and nighttime economy. Signing up to FAPAC gives businesses a network to share information regarding crime and disorder. They work in partnership with Kent Police, Folkestone and Hythe District Community Safety Unit, Folkestone Town Council CCTV, the National Association of Business Crime Partnerships and their Members.

Membership benefits include:

- A digital radio network connecting Members to Police, PCSO's and the Town CCTV
- Operating twenty-four hours a day seven days a week
- An interactive website regularly updated with local crime intelligence, images and alerts
- An 'App' giving mobile access to the website. You can also use the App to make incident and intelligence reports which are quickly processed and added to the area
- Intelligence profile by the coordinator
- A monthly crime intelligence meeting
- A scheduled weekly newsletter
- An exclusion process banning serious and persistent offenders from all member premises for 12 months at a time. The exclusion may be re-started if the offender commits further crime during the exclusion period
  Folkestone & Hythe
  - Folkestone & Hythe District Council

• Representation at the Community Safety Unit



The Pubwatch Exclusion Scheme is administered by FAPAC, this ensures the strict rules around data protection are maintained. It is primarily used by the nighttime economy. Pubwatch members share and report information regarding crime and disorder. Membership benefits include:

- An interactive website regularly updated with local crime intelligence, images and alerts
- An 'App' (DISC) giving mobile access to the website. You can also use the App to make incident and intelligence reports which are quickly processed and added to the area
- A monthly meeting
- An exclusion process banning serious and persistent offenders from all Pubwatch member premises for varying periods of time. The exclusion may be re-started if the offender commits further crime during the exclusion period
- Currently FHDC is helping to co-ordinate Pubwatch but ultimately this scheme can be run by licensed premises themselves
- We currently have 33 licensed premises that are members of FAPAC and Pubwatch



# **Other initiatives**



- Working with Kent Police towards reducing violence against women and girls – also known as VAWG
- Licensing attended a VAWG awareness event with the Community Safety Unit and Kent Police to talk to people attending a licensed premises to gauge how safe they feel being out in the District. It was an opportunity to advise people on how to check that taxis are correctly licensed, to be aware of possible drink spiking and to keep their belongings safe
- We have a series of future events arranged including targeting people using public transport and Christmas party events. We want to encourage young people to be more aware of how much they are drinking and give them tips on how to stay safe in the nighttime economy
- We will be promoting the Ask for Angela scheme with flyers and posters. This scheme encourages people to ask for help at the bar (also being promoted in shops and on public transport) if they are feeling uncomfortable. The 'Ask for Angela' and the bar staff then arrange for them to be taken to a safe area and help get them home



# **Other initiatives**

- Raising awareness around drink spiking and strength/quantity of alcohol being consumed
- Noise nuisance from premises and customers leaving
- Best Bar None working with Kent Police to promote this scheme which promotes good management in licensed premises, ensuring a safer environment for staff and customers
- Attending festivals and events
- Trauma Packs
- Fake ID awareness
- Taxi marshalls









