BARONESS NEWLOVE VISITS DERRY FOLLOWING COMMUNITY ALCOHOL PARTNERSHIP SUCCESS

Community Alcohol Partnership’s Chair, Baroness Newlove, visited the “Challenging Underage Drinking Initiative”, the CAP scheme in Derry, at the beginning of January.

The visit came as the scheme announced results of the interim evaluation which shows the major impact it had during 2011 on underage drinking and related anti-social behaviour in the Creggan, Rosemount, Beechwood and Glen areas of the city.

The interim report outlines that over the period May – Sept 2011, compared to the same period in 2010:

- Reports of alcohol related incidents where youths were causing annoyance dropped by 50%
- Referrals to youth diversion officers dropped by nearly 50% for the full year
- Reports of rowdiness and nuisance dropped by 31%

Baroness Newlove, who is the UK Government’s Champion for Active Safer Communities, was invited to Northern Ireland to discuss her report “Our Vision for Safe and Active Communities”, which aims to tackle anti-social behaviour through community action. She met with First Minister Peter Robinson in Belfast on Wednesday to discuss the report and anti-social behaviour issues more widely.

Speaking on the visit, Baroness Newlove said:

“I wanted to come and see for myself the outstanding effect this project is having on the quality of life for Derry people. This initiative is an excellent model for how local communities can pull together and tackle the serious issues they face, such as underage drinking and anti-social behaviour.”

“I applaud the energy and determination of the public, to help solve their problems by coming up with a local solution. It’s clear that the project is really making a difference to the local people here and we can learn a lot from its success.”

Karen Philips, the Project Manager from Derry City Council added:

“We are delighted to welcome Baroness Newlove to Derry to show her the significant improvements we have made over the past year. The report shows that the Partnership in Derry is making real progress. We recognise that there is still much to do in order to tackle this important issue and will continue to work together in order to progress the project.”

MID DEVON CAP SEES SIGNIFICANT UNDERAGE SALES DROP

The pilot CAP scheme in Mid Devon is proving successful according to an interim evaluation of the project.

The Mid Devon Community Alcohol Partnership (CAP) brings together enforcement and regulatory bodies, including Devon County Council, Mid Devon District Council and Devon & Cornwall Police, with local retailers, schools and health organisations to challenge young people’s attitudes to drinking and restrict the supply of alcohol to those under the legal age.

A report published last month showed that since the scheme launched in February 2010 there had been a significant drop in the number of sales made to underage people during test purchasing operations.

Overall, the rate of illegal sales had dropped from 34% to just 14% as a result of CAP interventions.

The full report can be found at: http://www.devon.gov.uk/cap_report_first_year_81211.pdf
CAPS HIGHLIGHTED IN HOME OFFICE CONSULTATION

A consultation by the Home Office has highlighted Community Alcohol Partnerships as a best practice scheme for reducing problem drinking. The consultation concerns the Government’s proposed Late Night Levy, which could see premises with late night licenses charged an additional fee for operating between midnight and 6am. The money raised will be split between the police and the local authority to cover the cost of policing the late night economy.

However, in recognition of their contribution to reducing alcohol related harm, local authorities will be given the opportunity to offer a discount to premises that operate Community Alcohol Partnerships or other schemes such as Best Bar None. Participation in each scheme could qualify licensees for a 10% discount, with a total reduction of 30% available. The Levy is scheduled to come into force in England and Wales in October.

Any organisation is welcome to respond to the Consultation, which is available at: http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/media-centre/press-releases/late-night-drinking?version=1

Community Alcohol Partnerships in Focus - Barnsley

Barnsley CAP began work in two pilot areas – Penistone and Dearne, in February 2011 and now encompasses four individual CAPs covering a diverse range of neighbourhoods across Barnsley.

Led by Chief Inspector Shaun Morley of South Yorkshire Police, active partners include schools, youth services, drug and alcohol services, trading standards, voluntary groups, health services and local and national retailers.

The CAP model enabled the police, licensing and trading standards to work with Tesco to develop a bespoke training package for local retailers; over 60 people attended sessions in the two pilot areas and the Co-operative is now offering training to the newer CAP areas.

Barnsley uses the flexibility of CAP to allow each scheme to respond to the needs of its own particular community whilst benefitting from the overall strategic partnership approach. Here, police and youth services take a combined approach to interventions for young people found in possession of alcohol; offering a workshop for both the youngsters and their parents run jointly by youth workers and police officers. In the Dearne scheme, 76 young people and their parents have attended the workshop with only 5 re-offending.

Local co-ordination and focused engagement work in each CAP area has transformed relationships with retailers; intelligence is now routinely shared between partners resulting in some high profile prosecutions for proxy sales.

The success of Barnsley CAP is clear; anti social behaviour was reduced by 29% year on year over the latest measured period, and positive signs are beginning to emerge in the newer CAP areas. Plans are now in place to roll out the model across each neighbourhood area in Barnsley.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

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New CAP Schemes about to launch

In addition to the expansion of existing schemes, the CAP project team have been very busy working on additional new schemes which we expect to be launched over the next few months. These include:

- Midsomer Norton, Bath
- Caversham, Berkshire
- Sutton Coldfield, Birmingham
- Hastings, East Sussex
- Gloucester, Gloucestershire
- Havant & Gosport, Hampshire
- Medway, Kent
- Great Yarmouth, Norfolk
- Brecon, Wales
- Glasgow, Scotland

COMMUNITY ALCOHOL PARTNERSHIPS ADVISORY BOARD

The Community Alcohol Partnerships’ Advisory Board is appointed to support the operation of the organisation. The board comprises of retailers as well as senior representatives from the police, trading standards, public health and voluntary community. The full board includes:

Chair: Baroness Helen Newlove

Retailer Board Members:
- Nick Grant, Sainsbury’s
- Adrian Hill, Co-Op
- John McLaughlin, Tesco’s
- Shane Brennan, ACS

Independent Members:
- Nikki Pasek MBE, Cambridgeshire Trading Standards
- Simon Antrobus, Addaction
- Sir Denis O’Connor, Her Majesty’s Inspectorate of Constabulary
- Dr Terry Ryall, V Inspired

For more information please contact: carlo@communityalcoholpartnerships.co.uk

Community Alcohol Partnerships are supported by: Association of Convenience Stores, Aldi Stores Ltd, Asda Stores Ltd, Bargain Booze Limited, Booker Premier, British Retail Consortium, BP, Co-operative Group Ltd, Lidl, Marks & Spencer plc, Mills Group, Musgrave, Budgens, Londis, Wm Morrison Supermarkets plc, Nisa-Today’s, One Stop Stores Limited, Rontec, Sainsbury’s Supermarkets Ltd, Spar, Snax 24, Tesco Stores Ltd, Waitrose Ltd, WineMark, Beverage Brands, Brown Forman Bacardi, Diageo, Heineken, Molson Coors, Wine and Spirit Trade Association