

Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Wednesday, 9th February,
2011

MINUTES

Present:

Councillor Diane Thomas (Chair), Councillor Anita Clayton (Vice-Chair) and Councillors Peter Anderson, Bill Hartnett, Robin King, Brenda Quinney, Mark Shurmer and Graham Vickery

Also Present:

Andrew Brazier and Carole Gandy

Officers:

M Bough, E Hopkins, J Pickering and H Bennett

Committee Services Officer:

J Bayley and M Craggs

APPENDIX 4

Relevant extract from the meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 9th February 2011.

Minute 183

CRIME AND DISORDER SCRUTINY PANEL - CHAIR'S UPDATE

The Chair of Crime and Disorder Scrutiny Panel provided a summary of his written report which detailed the Panel's most recent meeting held on 20th January 2011.

The Chair referred the Committee to a formatting error within the report that misrepresented a comment regarding the effect of changes to the licensing law to mistakenly state that the new licensing laws *had* produced the expected outcomes expected that were hoped for, that of reduced alcohol consumption, sensible drinking and the café culture. Officers agreed to amend the report as necessary.

The Committee queried whether the Alexandra Hospital's policy of admitting intoxicated under age alcohol users was consistent with

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Chair

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the policies of other hospitals. Concerns had been raised that this policy might have created a misconception of the town's drinking culture when compared to that of other areas. The Chair of the Panel undertook to contact relevant authorities to ascertain whether the hospital's policy was rare or common practice. The Chair did suggest, however, that it was useful to have a clear picture of the town's drinking patterns in order to provide appropriate support for those in need.

RESOLVED that:

- 1) the Chair of the Crime and Disorder Scrutiny Panel write to both Worcestershire County Council and the relevant Government Minister to clarify the alcohol related admissions practices at hospitals outside Redditch; and**
- 2) the report be noted**