



MEMORANDUM

To:
Phillip TART
Director of Law, Property and Human Resources.

Ref:

Ext:

From:
Sgt 4351 Hinton
Lye and Cradley Neighbourhood Team

Date:
18/5/09

SUBJECT:
Lye Town Centre- Alcohol Team

I have supervised the Lye Neighbourhood team for the last 12 months. The alcohol ban has been in force in Lye for some time prior to that.

Lye is unique within the Dudley Borough. It has a large resettlement centre for homeless persons which are situated close to the town centre. Many of those centre residents, have personal problems with alcohol. Prior to the ban the area especially the main high street was blighted by drunken persons. They were openly urinating in the street, being abusive and generally causing nuisance and harassment to people using the town centre and residents within the area.

The ban has no doubt had a very positive effect.

Lye has seen significant reductions in crime since the introduction of the ban. In particular violent crime and offences associated with alcohol. A 16 % overall reduction last year alone. The officers tell me that their job has been made far easier by the alcohol ban and they have visibly seen a vast improvement in the overall look and feel of the area. The ban has been well received by the vast majority of the public.

Other than the occasional person who flouts the ban, I have not had a negative report from any member of the public concerning it.

Should the alcohol ban be lifted I am sure it will be detrimental to the quality of life for both residents' and the general public of Lye. I would only ask that consideration be given to maintaining the current alcohol ban.

Sgt Andy Hinton
Lye and Cradley
Neighbourhood team