

## Liquor venues join forces

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LIQUOR venues in the Caboolture region have joined forces with police, government departments and local organisations to improve the safety of patrons in and around licensed premises.

More than 30 people attended the launch of the Caboolture Corridor Liquor Industry Action Group (LIAG) on Wednesday at Morayfield Tavern.

LIAG media liaison Craig Allen, of Caboolture Sports Club, said the launch came after about 18 months of discussions between interested parties including Caboolture District Police, Liquor Licensing, Queensland Health, Moreton Bay Regional Council, Queensland Transport Community Renewal and the Department of Communities, local taxi and bus services, youth organisations and security providers and representatives from some of the Caboolture region's licensed premises.

Mr Allen said the goals of the LIAG included curbing drug and alcohol-related issues in and around licensed venues, patron education, security and transport issues.

"The drug issue is coming up more and more today," Mr Allen said.

"Five to 10 years ago it was purely alcohol-related issues."

He said the Caboolture region was no better or worse than anywhere else in the state in regards to drug and alcohol issues in and around venues, but the local LIAG aimed to ensure that patrons at member venues could have a safe night out.

Liquor Licensing representative Michael Gifford said LIAGs in Logan and Ipswich had reduced problems around venues.

Caboolture Acting Senior-Sergeant Jason Renwick said it was important the community worked together to create a safer environment for patrons of licensed venues.

Sen-Sgt Renwick said a long-term goal of the Caboolture LIAG was reducing the road toll by educating young people about the dangers of drink driving.

He said the LIAG would cover an area south to Narangba, north to Elimbah and out to Bribie Island and

Kilcoy.

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