

Public Document Pack



ABERDEEN CITY COUNCIL

To: Councillor Boulton (Convener); and Councillors Cameron, Carle, Dickson, Forsyth, Grant Jaffrey and Lawrence.

And: George Wyatt, Convener; Craig Adams, Vice Convener, Gerard Rattray (Representatives of Holders of Premises Licences/Personal Licences); Inspector John Soutar, Grampian Police; Sandy Kelman (Alcohol and Drugs Partnership); David Wright, (Education); Mairi MacLeod (Children's Services); Tom Cowan (Social Care); Linda Smith (Health); Heather Manning (Samaritans); Garry Burnett, Michelle Wall, and Mike Saint (Community Safety); Mary Crawford, Allan McIntosh, Ken Eddie, Councillor Martin Greig (Representatives of Residents within the Forum's Area); Barry Black and Callum Martin (Representative of Youth) and Diane Sande (Licensing Standards Officer).

Town House,
ABERDEEN 09 August 2012

JOINT MEETING OF ABERDEEN CITY LICENSING BOARD AND ABERDEEN LOCAL LICENSING FORUM

The Members of the **ABERDEEN LICENSING BOARD AND THE LOCAL LICENSING FORUM** are requested to meet in Committee Room 2 - Town House on **THURSDAY, 16 AUGUST 2012 at 1.00 pm.**

JANE MACEACHRAN
HEAD OF LEGAL AND DEMOCRATIC SERVICES

BUSINESS

1 **WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS**

1.1 **Licensing Board Members**

1.2 **Licensing Forum Members**

2 **LICENSING BOARD**

2.1 Update from Licensing Clerk

3 **LICENSING POLICY**

3.1 Changing Times - Report by Alcohol Focus Scotland & Scottish Health Action on Alcohol Problems (Pages 1 - 12)

3.1.1. Five Licensing Objectives

3.1.2. Off Sales/ On Sales

3.1.3. Availability

3.1.4. Policy Statement

4 **MOVING FORWARD**

4.1 Joint Aims and Objectives

4.2 Preparation for New Licensing Policy (published 2013)

4.3 Identification of Key Partners for this Work

4.4 Data Sets/Evidence (Pages 13 - 24)

4.4.1 National

4.4.2 Local

4.5 Overprovision (Off Sales / On Sales)

4.6 Whole Population Approach

4.7 Building in Measurement for Assessing Impact of Policy

4.8 Getting Examples of Best Practice (Pages 25 - 30)

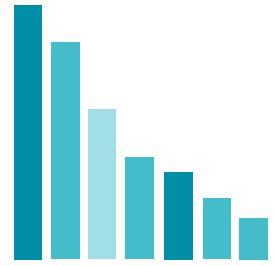
4.8.1 West Dunbartonshire

4.8.2 Extracts from AFS newsletters June/July

5 **AOCB**

Website Address: www.aberdeency.gov.uk

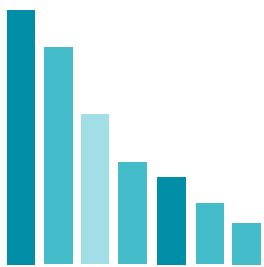
Should you require any further information about this agenda, please contact Lynsey McBain on 01224 522123 or email lymcbain@aberdeency.gov.uk



Changing Times



Why we need to change licensing practice
[A guide for stakeholders](#)



What is alcohol licensing?

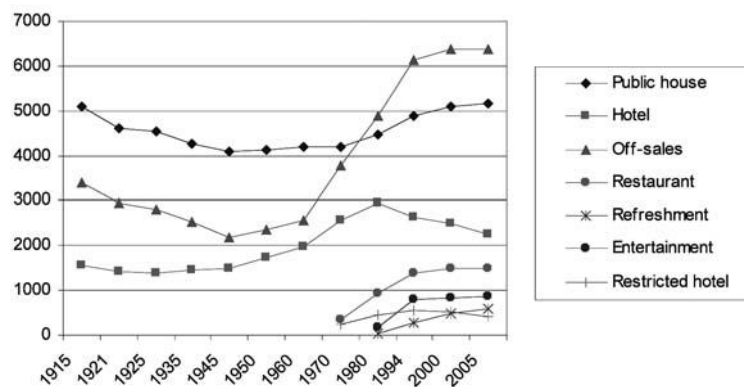
Licensing is a system of granting permits to retailers to sell alcohol. Although legally available and widely consumed in Scotland, alcohol is a drug with known toxic, intoxicating and addictive effects. Controlling the supply of alcohol is something that public authorities have done for centuries to reduce the risk of harm to individuals and society from its use. Licensing regulates who can sell alcohol, where it can be sold, the conditions of sale, the hours and days of sale, and the total number of premises permitted to sell alcohol.

Why do we need to 're-think' alcohol licensing?

For many decades, the main focus of licensing work has been on regulation of the on-trade to prevent noise, nuisance, and social disorder associated with drinking in public houses. However, there have been several significant changes in recent years, which make this traditional approach to licensing increasingly out of date. Firstly, where we drink has changed. Today more alcohol is sold in Scotland from off-sales than on-sales and a majority of people do most of their drinking at home. Secondly, what we know about the consequences of drinking has changed. Alcohol has a wide range of negative impacts that extend far beyond public drunkenness and anti-social behaviour in the streets. Harmful alcohol use impairs long-term health, has a detrimental effect on family and community life, and damages the productive capacity of the economy. There are growing demands for the licensing system to operate in a way that reflects these changes. Finally, licensing law has changed. A new licensing act, the Licensing (Scotland) Act 2005, came into force in September 2009. The new Act requires a different approach to alcohol licensing.

Number of liquor licences in force in Scotland by licence type 1915 to 2005

Sources: Clayson Committee report; Scottish Government



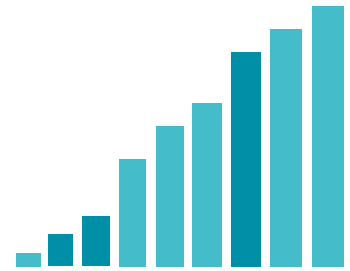
What is different about the new Scottish licensing legislation?

Unlike previous licensing legislation, the 2005 Act establishes objectives for licensing and for the first time requires a consideration of the impact of the sale of alcohol on public health. The five licensing objectives included in the 2005 Act are the prevention of crime and disorder; securing public safety; preventing public nuisance; protecting children from harm; and the protection and improvement of public health. These objectives provide a clear purpose for the licensing system. The 2005 Act also introduces for the first time a duty on licensing boards to publish a statement of licensing policy setting out what action they will take to promote the licensing objectives. This means that individual licensing decisions should now be guided by evidence-based policy. In principle, the new legislation extends the scope of licensing boards to take action to manage and restrict the supply of alcohol in the public interest. However, the potential of the new legislation will only be realised if it changes licensing practice.

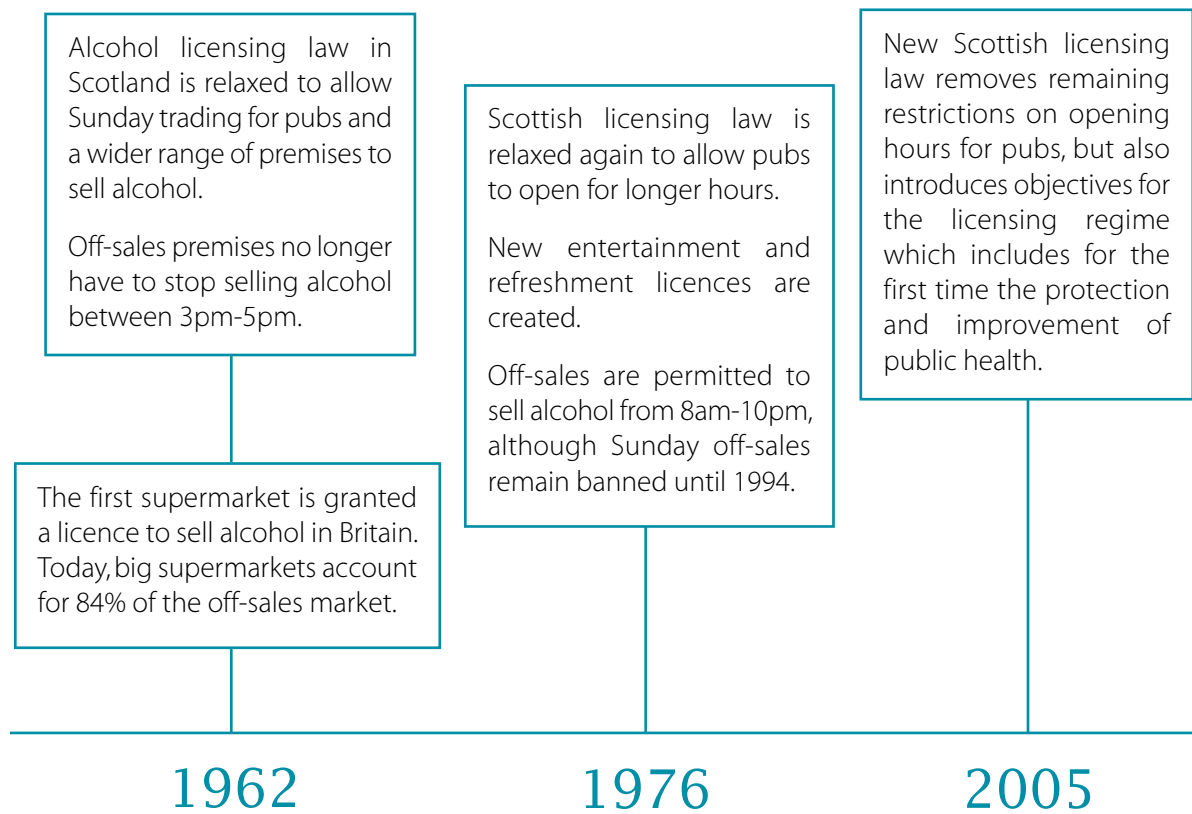
Where we drink In the 1950s 70% of the alcohol drunk in Britain was beer, and most drinking took place in pubs. Today, the most common drinking location for all age groups in Scotland apart from 16-24 years old is the home. Two thirds of the volume of pure alcohol sold in Scotland is now bought from off-sales.

But isn't excessive drinking in Scotland a cultural issue, not a licensing problem?

Licensing is part of Scottish drinking culture, not something separate from it. Changes in licensing law and practice in Scotland over the past fifty years have helped shape current attitudes to alcohol and drinking behaviour. Granting more licences to a wider range of retail premises and for longer trading hours have enhanced access, visibility and promotion of alcohol. Permitting supermarkets to sell alcohol has allowed the 'grocerisation' of alcohol, a process in which alcohol has been repositioned as an everyday shopping item to be purchased alongside bread and milk. The growth in off-sales premises, particularly supermarkets, has contributed to the rise in affordability of alcohol as competition between major supermarkets has led to more price promotions and discounting. This expansion and extension in the supply of alcohol has influenced drinking patterns and problems. If Scottish drinking culture is to change, then licensing attitudes and practice will also need to change.



Trends in alcohol licensing in Scotland



How can licensing work to reduce alcohol problems in society?

Licensing can work to reduce alcohol problems in two main ways. By carefully controlling the overall availability of alcohol through the number, type and opening hours of licensed premises, and by regulating the way individual pubs and off-licences do business. Evidence shows that applying conditions to how individual licensed premises operate can work in reducing certain types of alcohol problems. However, evidence also shows that independent of the way premises are managed, the general availability of alcohol in an area can have an impact on a range of alcohol-related harms. More premises and longer hours have been linked to increased rates of alcohol-related deaths, violence, traffic accidents, self-reported injuries and suicide, sexually-transmitted disease and child abuse and neglect. In the UK, availability and affordability of alcohol was reduced during the First World War and interwar period, and consumption and liver cirrhosis mortality fell to the lowest rates in decades.

The impact of the increased regulation on drinking behaviour during the interwar years was commented on in a report by a Royal Commission on Licensing in Scotland in 1931 which concluded :-

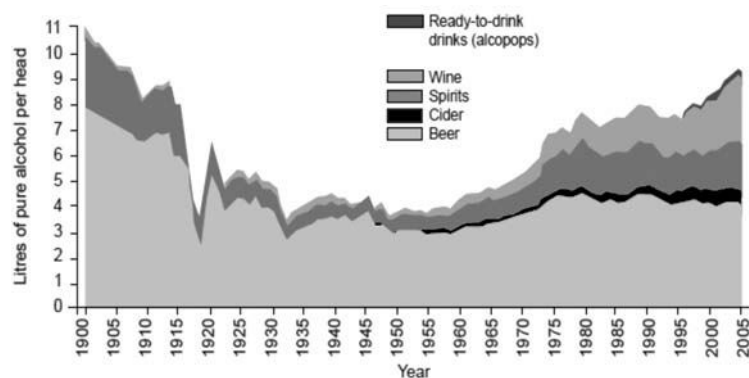
"Sobriety has increased, instances of public drunkenness have become fewer.....a younger generation is growing up to which, as a whole, any resort to alcoholic excess as a necessary or usual practice is almost totally unknown."

Royal Commission on Licensing in Scotland 1931

Since the 1960s, alcohol has become increasingly affordable and available due to a more relaxed licensing regime. Consumption and deaths from liver cirrhosis mortality have reached record highs.

UK per capita consumption of pure alcohol 1900 to 2005

Source: BBPA Statistical Handbook 2007



Isn't the purpose of licensing to regulate the sale of alcohol, not how it is consumed?

The 2005 Licensing Act makes provision for regulating the sale of alcohol and regulating licensed premises on which alcohol is sold. However, regulation is there for a purpose: it is not an end in itself. Liquor licensing has been put in place to manage the selling of alcohol in such a way as to reduce the risks of harm to individuals and society from its use. The value and effectiveness of the licensing system is measured by the extent to which it achieves that purpose.

Availability of alcohol In the 1950s there were around 8000 premises licensed to sell alcohol in Scotland. Today there are around 17,000.

Why is the overall availability of alcohol important in promoting the licensing objectives?

Harm from alcohol can be caused during a single drinking occasion in one licensed premises, but is more likely to result from many drinking episodes with alcohol bought from many licensed premises. Harm can occur regardless of how well-managed individual licensed premises are. Effective licensing practice therefore requires that attention is paid to the general availability of alcohol as well as the operating conditions of individual premises as both have an influence on rates of alcohol-related harm.

The 2005 Act places a duty on licensing boards to assess overprovision of licensed premises in their area and refuse premises licence applications where it considers a locality is overprovided for. The inclusion of a duty to assess overprovision recognises that the total number and capacity of licensed premises in an area, or licensed premises of a particular type, can exacerbate alcohol problems.

Traditionally, overprovision has been considered in relation to quite small areas, such as half a street in a city centre, or 200-500metres around individual premises. However this approach is increasingly at odds with the reality of how we buy and consume alcohol today. We live in highly mobile societies and drink more alcohol bought from off-sales, meaning that alcohol-related problems in one locality may not arise from alcohol bought in that locality. Overprovision needs to be considered over larger geographical areas to ensure that licensing remains relevant and effective as a regulatory mechanism.

How much we drink In the 1950s the amount of pure alcohol drunk in Britain was around 5 litres per adult (16+). Today we drink more than 10 litres per adult.

How can public health be promoted in licensing?

Public health in relation to alcohol is commonly measured by the number of alcohol-related deaths and hospital admissions in an area. Evidence indicates that rates of alcohol-related health harm can be affected by the overall availability of alcohol, including the number, type, capacity and opening hours of licensed premises. In seeking to promote the public health objective in practice, licensing boards need to consider how each of these factors can be modified to protect and improve public health.

What is the value of policy statements in licensing?

The policy statement is the engine that drives a licensing regime in an area. Formulating a statement of licensing policy provides licensing boards with an opportunity to consider the bigger picture in relation to licensing. What can be observed in terms of long term licensing trends? How is the make-up of licensed premises changing? What is the impact of these changes on indicators of alcohol problems? How can licensing practice be modified to reduce alcohol problems? The policy statement will help to provide coherence and consistency to individual decision-making and to ensure that the sum total of a licensing board's decisions serve to promote the licensing objectives. The development of licensing policy and the public consultation that is part of the process also gives members of the community an input into shaping the licensing environment in their area.

Alcohol harm In the 1950s, the liver cirrhosis mortality rate amongst men in Scotland was about 5 deaths per 100,000 of the population. Today the male mortality rate is around 30.

Is there a sound legal basis for using a policy statement to decide whether or not to grant a licence?

Some licensing boards have queried whether there is a proper basis in law for using policy statements to guide decisions on individual premises licence applications. The 2005 Act lists the grounds for refusal for a premises licence application and although being considered contrary to a board's licensing policy is not one of them, the Act states clearly that a licensing board must have regard to its policy statement when exercising its functions under the Act. Deciding on premises licence applications is one of a board's functions. Even before the 2005 Act came into force, the use of policy statements by licensing boards was accepted by the courts:

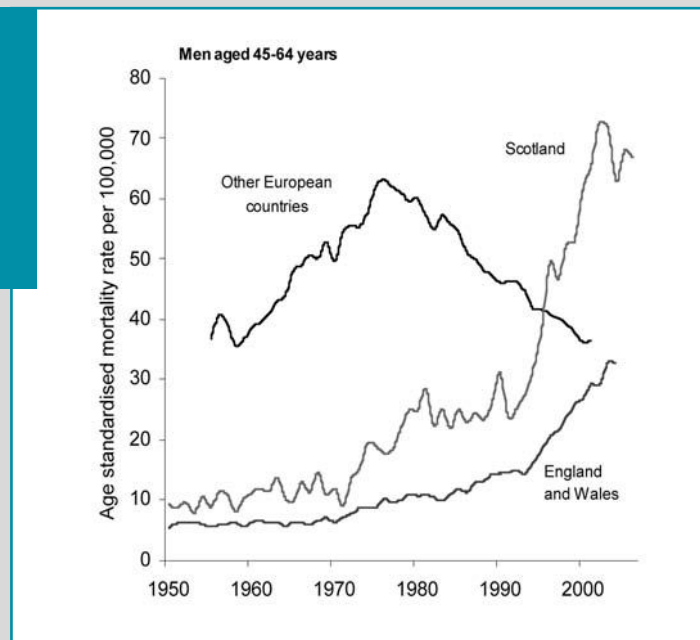
"Where a statutory body having discretionary power is required to consider numerous applications there is no objection to it announcing that it proposes to follow a certain general policy in examining such applications."

Elder v Ross and Cromarty DLB

The accepted proviso to the use of policy statements is that any applicant is granted an opportunity to explain why they should be regarded as an exception to the policy. Policy statements must also be clearly related to the licensing objectives to be considered lawful.

Chronic Liver Disease Mortality Rates, 1950 - 2006

Source: Leon and McCambridge 2006 (updated)

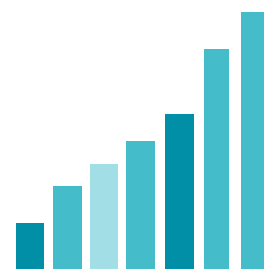


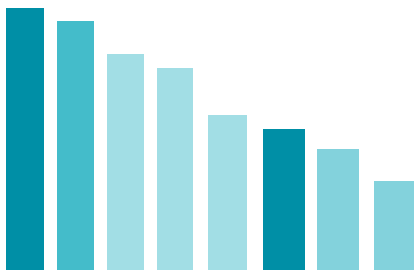
Will the use of policy statements by boards mean they will be more at risk of legal challenge?

Protection against legal challenge comes from ensuring that statements of licensing policy are well-prepared, evidence-based, and demonstrate a clear line of reasoning from the evidence to the policy position adopted and to the objectives of the Act.

What counts as evidence in the development of licensing policy?

As a general legal principle any policy has to have a sound factual basis. The 2005 Act states that a licensing board must ensure that its statement of licensing policy seeks to promote the licensing objectives. It is therefore incumbent on a licensing board to obtain sufficient information on each of the licensing objectives to be able to meaningfully promote the licensing objectives in a policy statement. It is difficult to see how a licensing board can develop effective licensing policy if it does not have all the relevant information at its disposal. There are many sources of evidence that can be used to inform a policy statement. A board's knowledge and experience of licensing matters in their area can count as evidence, but it is not sufficient. Trends in alcohol-related health, such as hospital admissions, can only be known by examining routinely collected health statistics. The same is true for certain types of crime and social problems related to alcohol use. A range of statistics is available and should be used by licensing boards to develop their policy positions. Local agencies, such as the police, health boards, and alcohol and drug partnerships, can be called on to assist licensing boards in the gathering and analysis of evidence.





Alcohol Focus Scotland is Scotland's national alcohol charity working to reduce the harm caused by alcohol.

www.alcohol-focus-scotland.org.uk

SHAAP was established by the Scottish Royal Medical Colleges and Faculties to advocate for evidence-based measures to reduce alcohol-related harm.

www.shaap.org.uk

Voice!

Questionnaire 26
June 2012

Aberdeen City  **Voice!**

Fire Safety

In 2010, Grampian Fire and Rescue Service (GFRS) asked the City Voice to tell them about their experience of free home fire safety visits. Since then, the fire service has been working to increase awareness of these visits and wants to measure the impact of these changes. The information you give will help the fire service to review how they advertise free fire safety visits and contribute to the design of future fire safety campaigns.

Grampian Fire and Rescue Service can provide FREE home fire safety visits and if required, can provide and fit a free smoke alarm, including smoke alarms designed for the deaf or hard of hearing. This safety check is carried out by firefighters from your local fire station and will take approximately 20 minutes. It can be conducted at a time convenient to you and is free to all Aberdeen City residents.

Q1. Were you aware that Grampian Fire and Rescue Service offered fire safety visits at home before reading about it in the City Voice?

- a) Yes
- b) No (go to Q6)

Q2. Did you know the home fire safety visits are free?

- a) Yes
- b) No

Q3. Did you know that a free home fire safety visit can be carried out at a time that suits you, including evenings and weekends?

- a) Yes
- b) No

Q4. Have you had a home fire safety visit in the last two years?

- a) Yes (go to Q6)
- b) No

Q5. If no, what is the main reason you have not arranged a home fire safety visit? (please tick one)

- a) I feel that my home is safe enough
- b) I intend to but I've not got round to it yet
- c) I'm not interested
- d) I'm too busy
- e) I had a visit, but it was more than 2 years ago
- f) I live in a rented property and didn't know if I was entitled to one
- g) I didn't know about them
- h) I didn't know it could be done at evenings and weekends
- i) I don't know how to arrange one
- j) It's too difficult to arrange one
- k) I didn't know they were free
- l) Other (please specify)

Q6. Were you aware that Grampian Fire and Rescue Service can fit free smoke detectors where needed before reading about it in the City Voice?

- a) Yes
- b) No

Q7. Following suggestions made by City Voice panellists, Grampian Fire and Rescue Service has increased its advertising to make people aware that free home fire safety visits are available. Have you seen any advertising about home fire safety visits?

- a) Yes
- b) No (go to Q9)

Q8. If you answered Yes to Q7, where did you see or hear about them? (tick all that apply)

- a) Radio advert
- b) Television advert
- c) Newspaper advert
- d) Billboard or bus advert
- e) Leaflet
- f) Posters in local shops, pubs, other places
- g) At a community event
- h) On a website
- i) Other (please specify)

Fire Safety messages

Over the last year, there have been several local and national fire safety campaigns. We want to know which of these campaigns you have seen, where you saw them advertised and whether they influenced your behaviour.

Our 'Don't Fry and Die' campaign was launched in September 2011 to help reduce cooking related fires.

Q9. Were you aware of this Grampian Fire and Rescue Service campaign before reading about it in the City Voice?

- a) Yes
- b) No (go to Q14)

Q10. If you answered Yes to Q9, where did you see or hear about it? (tick all that apply)

- a) Radio advert
- b) Newspaper article
- c) Leaflet
- d) Poster
- e) At a community event
- f) On Grampian Fire and Rescue Service website
- g) Other (please specify)

Q11. If you answered Yes to Q9, has it influenced your behaviour?

- a) Yes
- b) No (go to Q13)

Q12. If you answered Yes to Q11, in what way did it influence your behaviour?

- a) I'm now more careful when I'm cooking
- b) I've stopped cooking after having an alcoholic drink
- c) I remain in the kitchen now while food is cooking
- d) I get a take away instead of cooking after I've been out drinking
- e) Other (please specify)

Q13. If you answered No to Q11, can you tell us why not?

We launched our 'Remember December' campaign at the beginning of December 2011 to inform people that Grampian Fire and Rescue Service deals with more house fires in December than any other month, and offers ways to prevent them.

Q14. Were you aware of this Grampian Fire and Rescue Service campaign before reading about it in the City Voice?

- a) Yes
- b) No (go to Q19)

Q15. If you answered Yes to Q14, where did you see or hear about it? (tick all that apply)

- a) Radio advert
- b) Television
- c) Newspaper article
- d) At a community event
- e) On Grampian Fire and Rescue Service website
- f) Other (please specify)

Q16. If you answered Yes to Q14, has it influenced your behaviour?

- a) Yes
- b) No (go to Q18)

Q17. If you answered Yes to Q16, in what way did it influence your behaviour?

- a) I made sure electrical appliances were switched off when not in use
- b) I stopped using candles
- c) I was more careful when cooking
- d) Other (please specify)

Q18. If you answered No to Q16, can you tell us why not?

The Scottish Government ran the television campaign 'Back to the Start', showing a house fire caused by a washing machine being left on at night.

Q19. Were you aware of this national campaign before reading about it in the City Voice?

- a) Yes
- b) No (Q23)

Q20. If you answered Yes to Q19, has it influenced your behaviour?

- a) Yes
- b) No (go to Q22)

Q21. If you answered Yes to Q20, in what way did it influence your behaviour?

- a) I make sure electrical appliances are switched off when not in use
- b) I booked a free home fire safety visit
- c) I've fitted smoke detectors in my home
- d) Other (please specify)

Q22. If you answered No to Q20, can you tell us why not?

Fire Safety and Vulnerable People

National statistics tell us that some people are significantly more at risk of serious injury or death in house fires. These people include those with disabilities, dementia, drug or alcohol dependency and depression. The following questions will help us understand how aware the panel are of this issue and how we can raise further awareness in a campaign later this year.

Q23. Before reading about it in the City Voice, were you aware that certain people were significantly more at risk of death or serious injury in house fires?

- a) Yes
- b) No

Q24. If you suspected someone you knew was more at risk, what would you do? (tick as many as appropriate)

- | | |
|---|--------------------------|
| a) Call the fire service for advice | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| b) Suggest the person at risk calls the fire service for advice | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| c) Suggest the person arranges a home fire safety visit | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| d) Give them a fire safety visit leaflet | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| e) Contact your Councillor/ MP/ MSP | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| f) Contact a family member/ friend | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| g) Contact the Police | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| h) Contact a social worker | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| i) Suggest the person contacts their G.P. | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| j) Nothing | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| k) Don't know | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| l) Other (please specify) | <input type="checkbox"/> |

Q25. Later this year, the Fire Service will be launching a campaign to increase awareness of this issue. Which of these methods do you think will be most effective at getting the message across? (Please tick up to 3 options)

- | | |
|---|--------------------------|
| a) Produce an information leaflet available in Council buildings, libraries, hospitals, community buildings etc | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| b) Provide information online | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| c) Posters displayed in public areas | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| d) Posters on buses | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| e) Television | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| f) Radio | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| g) Local press coverage | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| h) Publicise in community magazines | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| i) Other (please specify) | <input type="checkbox"/> |

If you would like to arrange a free home fire safety visit, please contact GFRS on: Tel: 01224 696666 or Text FIRE to 61611. You can also email us at info@grampianfrs.org.uk

Alcohol Purchase and Promotion

The Aberdeen City Alcohol and Drugs Partnership (ADP), is a multi agency partnership including Aberdeen City Council, NHS Grampian, Grampian Police, Grampian Fire and Rescue Service and the Third Sector. The partnership was formed in 2009 to deliver improvements in the quality of life for the people of Aberdeen, particularly their health and well being in relation to alcohol and drugs. The partnership has recently updated their Alcohol Strategy in light of recent national policy developments and is keen to find out about alcohol availability, purchasing behaviour and associated attitudes in Aberdeen City.

We know that off-sales account for two-thirds of all alcohol sales across Scotland but the ADP would benefit greatly from having information at a local level. Your responses will help to compare our City with nationally available statistics to help inform future local policy developments.

The following questions focus specifically on alcohol 'off-sales'. This refers to alcohol purchased to consume **outwith** pubs, bars, restaurants and clubs.

Alcohol sales**Q1. Have you purchased alcohol off-sales anywhere that is not a pub, bar, restaurant or club, in the last 12 months?**

- | | |
|----------------------------------|--------------------------|
| a) Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| b) No (please go to Question 12) | <input type="checkbox"/> |

Q2. If yes, where did you buy it? (please tick all that apply)

- | | |
|---|--------------------------|
| a) Supermarket | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| b) Alcohol Off License/ Specialist Alcohol Retailer | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| c) Local shop / Convenience Store / Grocer | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| d) Online | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| e) Brought back from abroad | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| f) 'Carry out' from licensed premise | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| g) Garage / Petrol Station | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| h) Other (please specify) | <input type="checkbox"/> |
-

Q3. Excluding pubs, bars, restaurants and clubs, which of the following do you buy alcohol from most FREQUENTLY? (please tick one)

- | | |
|---|--------------------------|
| a) Supermarket | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| b) Alcohol Off License/ Specialist Alcohol Retailer | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| c) Local shop / Convenience Store / Grocer | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| d) Online | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| e) Abroad | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| f) 'Carry out' from licensed premise | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| g) Garage / Petrol Station | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| h) Other (please specify) | <input type="checkbox"/> |
-

The following questions are about where you most **FREQUENTLY** buy off-sales alcohol as indicated in your response to Question 3.

**Q4. Why are you more likely to buy alcohol from there?
(Please tick up to 3 answers)**

a) Price	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Wide selection	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Convenience (of location)	<input type="checkbox"/>
d) Convenience (of opening hours)	<input type="checkbox"/>
e) I buy it whilst shopping for other things	<input type="checkbox"/>
f) Bulk deals	<input type="checkbox"/>
g) Specific brand / type	<input type="checkbox"/>
h) Local advertising (mailing / flyer)	<input type="checkbox"/>
i) Other (please specify)	<input type="checkbox"/>

Q5. On average, how often do you buy alcohol there?

a) Every day	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) 2-6 times a week	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Once a week	<input type="checkbox"/>
d) 1-3 times a month	<input type="checkbox"/>
e) 6-11 times a year	<input type="checkbox"/>
f) 1-5 times a year	<input type="checkbox"/>
g) Less than once a year	<input type="checkbox"/>

Q6. How do you generally travel there?

a) Car/ van/ motorbike	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Walk/ by foot	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Bicycle	<input type="checkbox"/>
d) Public transport	<input type="checkbox"/>
e) Home delivery	<input type="checkbox"/>
f) Other (please specify)	<input type="checkbox"/>

Q7. On average, how long does it take to get there?

a) Up to 5 minutes	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Around 5 -15 minutes	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Between 15 – 30 minutes	<input type="checkbox"/>
d) 30 – 60 minutes	<input type="checkbox"/>
e) Over 60 minutes	<input type="checkbox"/>
f) Not applicable	<input type="checkbox"/>

Q8. Do you ever purchase alcohol as part of your grocery shopping?

a) Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) No (go to Q10)	<input type="checkbox"/>

Q9. If yes, which of the following best describes your usual buying habits?

a) I usually purchase the same item(s) on a regular basis	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) I usually decide what to buy when I see the selection available on a given day	<input type="checkbox"/>

Q10. Would you say that the TYPE/BRAND of alcohol you buy is influenced by instore alcohol promotions and offers?

- a) Yes, I often buy alcohol because it is on promotion or offer
- b) Yes, I sometimes buy alcohol because it is on promotion or offer
- c) No, I am not influenced by promotions or offers

Q11. Would you say that the AMOUNT of alcohol you buy is influenced by instore alcohol promotions and offers?

- a) Yes, I often buy more if it's on promotion or offer
- b) Yes, I sometimes buy more if it's on promotion or offer
- c) No, I am not influenced by promotions or offers

Q12. If you wanted to buy off-sales alcohol (that is not from a pub, bar, restaurant, or club) roughly how many places could you potentially make a purchase from within a 5 MINUTE WALK of your home?

- a) None
- b) 1
- c) 2-3
- d) 4-5
- e) 6 -10
- f) Over 10
- g) Don't know / Not sure

Q13. Do you feel that the number of places to buy alcohol in your local area is....

- a) Too few
- b) About right
- c) Too many
- d) Don't know

Q14. In your opinion, do you think the range of premises selling alcohol should be restricted?

- a) Yes
- b) No (go to Q16)

Q15. If yes, which of the following should NOT be permitted to sell alcohol? (tick all that apply)

- a) Supermarket
 - b) Alcohol Off License/ Specialist Alcohol Retailer
 - c) Local shop / Convenience Store / Grocer
 - d) Online retailers (website)
 - e) Garage / Petrol Station
 - f) Other (please specify)
-

Drinking at home

**Q16. What do you think are the main factors that influence people to drink alcohol in the home rather than at a licensed premise?
(Please tick up to 3 options)**

a) Convenience	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Cost of going out for a drink	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Pricing and promotions of off-sales alcohol	<input type="checkbox"/>
d) Transport (cost)	<input type="checkbox"/>
e) Transport (availability)	<input type="checkbox"/>
f) Changing lifestyles, e.g. home entertaining	<input type="checkbox"/>
g) Because you can smoke	<input type="checkbox"/>
h) Lack of suitable venue(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>
i) Difficulty getting out to venue / getting home from venue	<input type="checkbox"/>
j) Personal safety	<input type="checkbox"/>
k) Other (please specify)	<input type="checkbox"/>

Q17. Over the last 12 months, have you had a few drinks at home or at a friend's house before going out to a pub, bar, restaurant or club?

a) Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) No (please go to Q20)	<input type="checkbox"/>

Q18. If yes, how often would you do this?

a) Every time I go out	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Most of the times I go out	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Occasionally when I go out	<input type="checkbox"/>

Q19. What is the major reason that you do this? (please tick one)

a) To get 'into the mood'	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) The price of alcohol in licensed premises	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Because my friends all do it	<input type="checkbox"/>
d) I like drinking and it's part of my routine	<input type="checkbox"/>
e) I can smoke in my home/ friend's house	<input type="checkbox"/>
f) Other (please specify)	<input type="checkbox"/>

Alcohol promotion and children

In Scotland, there are licensing restrictions on children (under 16 years of age) entering some premises. There are also restrictions on where children can go within these premises.

Q20. Do you think similar restrictions should apply within off-sales establishments, for example supermarkets, local shops and other outlets (which are not pubs, bars, restaurants or clubs)?

a) Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) No	<input type="checkbox"/>

Q21. Is there anything else you think that would minimise exposure to alcohol for children (under 16 years of age) within off-sales outlets?

ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS

Planning and Sustainable Development

The planning system is used to make decisions about future development, and the use of land in our city. It considers where development should happen, where it should not, and how development affects its environment and the surrounding population. The system balances competing demands to make sure that land is used and developed in the long-term interests of the public.

Masterplans are produced for development sites in the city and set the framework within which details are decided when a planning application is submitted for that area. Planning permission is needed for most developments that take place in Aberdeen, although some minor work especially alterations to residential property, is considered 'permitted development' and does not require planning permission. Aberdeen City Council's Planning and Sustainable Development Service monitors developments to ensure that planning controls and building standards are being followed, but there is also a role for the public in alerting the council to any planning-related problems which they become aware of.

The purpose of the following questions is to get an understanding of how aware you are of the planning system in Aberdeen City. We are also giving panellists the opportunity to participate in a focus group later in the year. The aim of these groups is to identify ways that we can improve our planning service - no prior knowledge of planning is necessary for this.

Q1. How familiar do you think you are with the process of how the Council deals with planning applications, building warrants and masterplans?

- | | |
|--|--------------------------|
| a) I have a good understanding of the planning process | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| b) I have some understanding of the planning process | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| c) I have no understanding of the planning process | <input type="checkbox"/> |

Q2. Have you ever submitted a planning or building warrant application or been involved in some way in such an application, e.g. by responding to a neighbourhood notification relating to a proposed development in your locality?

- | | |
|---------------|--------------------------|
| a) Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| b) No | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| c) Don't know | <input type="checkbox"/> |

Q3. How important do you think it is to have a planning process in Aberdeen that decides on how land and buildings in our city are developed?

- | | |
|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| a) Very important | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| b) Quite important | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| c) Not very important | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| d) Not at all important | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| e) No opinion | <input type="checkbox"/> |

Q4. Would you be willing to take part in a focus group to identify improvements that Aberdeen City Council could make to the customer service that it offers to the public in relation to its planning function?

- | | |
|--------|--------------------------|
| a) Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| b) No | <input type="checkbox"/> |

If you ticked 'yes' to Q4, the City Voice Co-ordinator will pass your contact details onto the Planning Service and they will contact you directly.

The Planning and Sustainable Development Service offers a range of services to the public. Information on these services can be viewed on the Council's website: http://www.aberdeencity.gov.uk/planning_environment/planning_and_environment.asp



Community Planning
in Aberdeen

WEST DUNBARTONSHIRE LICENSING BOARD

POLICY ON OVERPROVISION

OVERPROVISION

- 1.1 Section 7 of the Act requires each Licensing Board to include in its Policy Statement a statement as to the extent to which the Board considers there to be an overprovision of licensed premises or licensed premises of a particular description in any locality within the Board's area.
- 1.2 The Board, having examined data regarding rates of alcohol related death, alcohol related hospital admissions, police incidents, crime and fire statistics and information regarding the number, type and capacities of licensed premises in localities within West Dunbartonshire, having regard to evidence of a correlation between the density of outlets and alcohol related problems, having regard to its duty to promote the licensing objectives and having undertaken a consultation exercise is of the view that there is overprovision of certain types of licensed premises in a locality within West Dunbartonshire.
- 1.3. The Board considers there to be overprovision of the following types of licensed premises namely:-
 - Vertical drinking establishments (i.e. where the majority of capacity is for patrons standing up to drink as opposed to premises which cater predominately for persons taking meals – this includes pubs but will also include hotels where the bar facilities are not ancillary to the accommodation or dining).
 - Nightclubs
 - Off-sales and local convenience stores
 - Supermarkets
- 1.4 The Board considers there is an overprovision of these types of licensed premises in a locality within West Dunbartonshire comprising the following 15 sub-localities of:-
 - Dalmuir
 - Dumbarton Central - Silverton West/Townend
 - Jamestown/rural Moorland
 - Renton
 - Braidfield
 - Alexandria
 - Whitecrook
 - Dumbarton North East - Bellsmyre/Silverton East
 - Mountblow/Parkhall
 - Radnor Park
 - Bowling
 - Kilbowie
 - Bonhill
 - Hardgate/Faifley

- Dumbarton West - Brucehill/Dennytown/Kirtonhill

This locality, and the fifteen sub-localities, is shown on the plan forming Appendix 1 hereto.

- 1.5 The effect of the policy is to create a rebuttable presumption against the grant of an application within this locality for the foregoing types of licensed premise. Each application still requires to be determined on its merits and there may be exceptional cases in which an applicant is able to demonstrate that the grant of the application would not undermine the licensing objectives, or the objectives would not be undermined if the applicants operating plan were to be modified. The Board will expect applicants who are seeking the grant of a new premises licence or to increase the capacity of an existing premises license within the foregoing categories of premise and locality to provide robust and reliable evidence to the Board why the benefit to the licensing objectives through the grant of their application outweighs the detriment to the licensing objectives and the Overprovision Policy. In particular the Board will expect to be addressed on the benefits of granting the application in terms of each licensing objective.
- 1.6 If an existing licence ceases to be in force this does not necessarily mean that there is capacity for a new licence of a similar capacity. The data and consultation responses considered by the Board provide evidence that there is presently an overprovision of licensed premises in West Dunbartonshire but does not quantify the extent of that overprovision. In these circumstances any application seeking to replace capacity relinquished by other premises will be subject to an individual overprovision assessment. This will have particular regard to the data relating to the sub locality to which the new application or application for increased capacity relates. It will also have regard to the type of premises capacity relinquished compared to the type of premises applied for.
- 1.7 There are 3 sub-localities within West Dunbartonshire where the board considers that there is not presently overprovision of licensed premises. These are Balloch North East/Gartocharn/Mill of Haldane, Dumbarton East – Bowling/Barnhill/Crosslet and Duntocher. The Board is aware that some of these sub localities are in close proximity to areas with significant alcohol related health, crime and disorder problems. The Board is also aware that there is local evidence to suggest that persons in West Dunbartonshire, wishing to obtain alcohol from off-licences will travel up to two miles across sub-localities to purchase alcohol. Similarly persons will travel across the whole of West Dunbartonshire to attend nightclubs. Accordingly any application outwith the overprovision locality for new premises or increased capacity of existing premises where there is a likelihood that customers will be drawn from the Board's overprovision locality will also be subject to an overprovision assessment. This assessment will have regard to the alcohol related crime, disorder and health data relating to both the sub locality in which the application premises are located and the sub localities from where the customers are likely to be drawn.

Welcome to the July edition of eFocus, your monthly update from Alcohol Focus Scotland.

Policy, Research & Consultations

Health impact of alcohol misuse "insidious and pervasive", say MPs

The House of Commons Health Select Committee has published the findings of its inquiry into the Government's Alcohol Strategy. MPs on the Committee warned that the strategy's focus on binge drinking and public order overshadows the health impact of chronic alcohol misuse. The Committee also concluded that the Responsibility Deal is not a substitute for government policy, and that the alcohol industry should acknowledge the link between alcohol advertising and consumption if it wishes to be seen as a serious, committed partner. Read more [here](#).

Quarter of intensive care patients have drink problem

A quarter of patients who end up in intensive care in Scotland have drink problems, a report by the Scottish Intensive Care Audit Group has said. The study of 771 patients across all 24 intensive care units found 25% were alcohol-related and 22% of the patients had chronic alcohol disease. The work, published by the Anaesthesia medical journal, said many young and less well-off people were affected.

Alcohol ban on ScotRail trains comes into force

A ban on drinking or visibly carrying alcohol on board ScotRail trains between 9pm and 10am came into force on 20 July. In the first weekend of the new rules being in operation, no arrests were made although two people were refused travel at Glasgow Central station because, under longstanding railway rules, they were considered unfit to travel due to the effects of alcohol. Read more [here](#).

Dementia risk, even at moderate alcohol consumption levels

Drinking even moderate amounts of alcohol increases dementia risk, US research suggests. The findings challenge the notion that some alcohol could be good for ageing brains. People who stick to recommended alcohol limits are still at risk, as well as binge and heavy drinkers. The study tracked the health over 20 years of 1300 women in their mid-60s. The risk, ranging from mild cognitive impairment to full blown dementia, was higher among those who reported drinking more alcohol. Read more [here](#).

Alcohol and cancer website launched

Eurocare and the Association of European Cancer Leagues have launched a new [website](#) to provide information on the links between alcohol and cancer.

Wish I wasn't here - Children 1st campaign

Children 1st has launched a summer-long campaign to highlight how alcohol-fuelled abuse is blighting children's lives. [Wish I wasn't here](#) features a postcard from Callum, talking about how his holidays were ruined by his mum's drinking. A OnePoll survey found that a quarter of respondents have seen someone who is drunk being aggressive or violent around a child they were looking after. The same survey found that half of all respondents had seen someone drunk in charge of a child.

University of Bath alcohol consumption research

The University of Bath is conducting an academic study in the field of alcohol consumption, looking at prospective changes in the UK market. The study is being conducted in order to investigate the prospective shift in alcohol buying habits away from pubs, bars and clubs to shops and supermarkets. [Take the survey](#).

Alcohol packaging should carry graphic health warnings, urge doctors

Cigarette-style images on alcohol packaging would help the public understand excessive drinking's link to diseases and violence, according to the UK Faculty of Public Health. They say harmful drinking has become so common that "no nonsense" warnings displayed in a prominent place on alcohol products are needed to overcome widespread public ignorance about the dozens of medical conditions alcohol can cause. Read more [here](#).

Licensing Update

Crime directly linked to number of off-licences in an area

Academics at the University of Glasgow have found that people living in an area with six alcohol outlets or more can expect crime rates twice as high as those in an area with only three. The study found that poverty was a key factor in relation to crime, after allowing for deprivation, alcohol was identified as the most significant determining factor in crime levels. The study is part of the [Go Well](#) research programme, a long-term study of the impacts of regeneration upon disadvantaged communities in Glasgow.

National Licensing Conference 2012

Alcohol Focus Scotland's annual national licensing conference will take place on Wednesday 12 September in Glasgow's Grand Central Hotel. This year the theme is "Promoting Licensing Action in the Public Interest". Speakers include Cabinet Secretary for Justice Kenny MacAskill, Jon Bannister from the University of Glasgow, and Sir Crispin Agnew QC. There will be panel discussions and presentations showcasing good licensing practice, and opportunities for questions and information sharing. A discount is available for bookings paid for before 10 August. [Book now](#).

Alcohol Focus Scotland News, Training & Events

AFS questions Tesco's 'everyday value' range

In a letter to Tesco, Alcohol Focus Scotland has questioned how their 'everyday value' range of beers, wines and spirits is compatible with them being signatories to the Government's Responsibility Deal. Positioning the cheapest alcohol as an everyday product is inappropriate and irresponsible. Not only does the Scottish Government advise against drinking every day, but the cheapest alcohol is most often drunk by the most vulnerable groups. AFS has yet to receive a response from Tesco.

New Policy & Development Coordinator post

Alcohol Focus Scotland is looking to recruit a Policy & Development Coordinator to provide development support to Alcohol and Drug Partnerships across Scotland. The closing date for applications is 6 August. More information and application form [here](#).

Updated alcohol information leaflets

A reminder that the Scottish Government has updated 5 alcohol information leaflets which can be ordered from Alcohol Focus Scotland. The leaflets are free but postage/packaging charges will apply. The titles are: Alcohol and healthy living, Alcohol and stress, Recognising problem drinking, Alcohol and young people, and Women and alcohol. [Order now](#).

Alcohol Focus Scotland is on Twitter. Follow us [@alcoholfocus](#)

Welcome to the June edition of eFocus, your monthly update from Alcohol Focus Scotland.

Policy, Research & Consultations

Supermarkets sell 71% of alcohol on promotion

A report into European pricing and promotions reveals that 71% of alcohol products sold in the major UK supermarkets were on promotion. In Italy, the second most active European country in terms of alcohol promotions, 33% of alcohol products were sold on promotion. On average, European countries sold between 20% and 30% of alcohol products on promotion. Read more [here](#)

Lower alcohol products - a literature review

Lowering the alcohol content of drinks offers health benefits for drinkers and at a population level, policies that promote the production and consumption of lower alcohol products have the potential to contribute to reductions in alcohol-related harms. Read more [here](#)

Alcohol associated with 2 in 5 trauma cases

A report from the [Scottish Trauma Audit Group](#) (STAG) presents information for 5,045 patients who were admitted to hospital for at least three days or who died as a result of trauma injuries in 2011. It shows that alcohol is associated with 37% of major trauma cases, and the likelihood of the involvement of alcohol rises in line with the severity of trauma sustained.

Alcohol-related hospital discharges 2010/11

[Latest figures](#) show there were 38,825 alcohol-related discharges from general acute hospitals in Scotland during 2010/11. Rates were 7 times higher among those living in the most deprived areas compared with the least deprived, and highest in the 50-54 age group. Alcohol dependence was recorded in 69% (2,807) of all alcohol-related discharges from psychiatric hospitals.

Online alcohol retailers fuelling under-age drinking

Online alcohol sales are creating a significant and emerging battleground in the fight against under-age drinking, according to *Checked Out*, a new report from Serve Legal and Plymouth University. Researchers uncovered a number of websites selling alcohol with no age-check policy or only a simple disclaimer that the consumer needed to be over 18 to complete the purchase. Read more [here](#)

Bulk-buy drink ban has small impact on sales

There has been a modest decline of 4.3% in sales in the 33 weeks since the ban on deals, such as 3 bottles of wine for £10, was introduced last October. A Scottish Government spokesman said: "We have always been clear there is no single solution to tackling Scotland's alcohol problems and the quantity discount ban will be most effective when used alongside minimum pricing, as this will prevent deep discounting of products." Read more [here](#)

Licensing Update

New data profiles to inform decision making

Profiles of the financial cost of alcohol to Scotland's 32 local authority areas will be available soon for the first time. These profiles, published by AFS and [SHAAP](#), provide local estimates of the cost of alcohol use to health, crime, social services and in the workplace. Also available next month is the second part of AFS' licensing toolkit. The factsheet on data collection and analysis explains the importance of using evidence to inform licensing policy and decision making, and includes information on a range of alcohol statistics.

Alcohol Focus Scotland News, Training & Events

AFS challenges supermarkets' 'pick up a case of wine' promotion

A Sainsbury's store in Glasgow apologised for displaying a 'manager's choice' sign encouraging people to buy a case of wine instead of a bottle 'because it's easier'. Alcohol Focus Scotland wrote to Sainsbury's to complain about the sign, saying encouraging people to buy more alcohol than they intended was irresponsible and incompatible with the Government's Responsibility Deal which Sainsbury's have signed up to. AFS also wrote to a Glasgow branch of Morrison's which was displaying the same sign but has yet to receive a response.

Updated alcohol information leaflets

The Scottish Government has updated 5 alcohol information leaflets which can be ordered from Alcohol Focus Scotland. The leaflets are free but postage/packaging charges will apply. The titles are: Alcohol and healthy living, Alcohol and stress, Recognising problem drinking, Alcohol and young people, and Women and alcohol. [Order now.](#)

Community alcohol consultations

As part of Alcohol Focus Scotland's national community project, we have launched a community alcohol consultation with people living and working in Neilston, East Renfrewshire. Findings from a similar consultation in Lochgilphead and Ardrishaig will be published soon. Initial results show that alcohol harm is having a significant impact on community life, with concerns around the impact on families, licensing, drink driving, litter and rowdy behaviour. For more information about this work contact [Caroline Church](#).

Overview of alcohol deaths in Scotland

Alcohol Focus Scotland has produced an [overview](#) of alcohol-related deaths in Scotland. It includes the most recent statistics by gender, age and area, trends over time, and comparisons with UK/Europe. In 2010, there were 3,492 alcohol deaths in Scotland - 2455 men and 1037 women. The majority of alcohol-related deaths were in the 45-59 age group.

Alcohol Focus Scotland is on Twitter. Follow us @alcoholfocus