

# Public Document Pack



To: Sandy Kelman, Convener; Vacancy, Vice Convener; and Dave Bliss, William Christie, Craig Cole, Ken Eddie, Inspector Jim Hume, Andrew Jones, Struan King, Emily Queen, Diane Sande and Linda Smith.

Town House,  
ABERDEEN, 11 June 2014

## **LOCAL LICENSING FORUM**

The Members of the **LOCAL LICENSING FORUM** are requested to meet in Committee Room 5 - Town House on **WEDNESDAY, 18 JUNE 2014 at 1.30pm.**

JANE MACEACHRAN  
HEAD OF LEGAL AND DEMOCRATIC SERVICES

### **BUSINESS**

- 1 Minute of Meeting of 23 April 2014 (Pages 1 - 10)
- 2 Matters Arising
- 3 Membership Updates
- 4 Training Programme - Police
- 5 Air Weapons and Licensing (Scotland) Bill
- 6 Conflict Management Training (Pages 11 - 12)
- 7 Attitudes Towards Alcohol in Scotland - Results from the 2013 Scottish Social Attitudes Survey (Pages 13 - 20)

**INTELLIGENCE (TO INFORM THE WORKING GROUP OF THE LICENSING FORUM)**

**LICENSING OBJECTIVE 1 : PREVENTING CRIME AND DISORDER**

8.1 Update from Police Scotland

**LICENSING OBJECTIVE 2 : SECURING PUBLIC SAFETY**

8.2 Update from Licensing Standards Officer

**LICENSING OBJECTIVE 3 : PREVENTING PUBLIC NUISANCE**

8.3 Update from Unight Representative

**LICENSING OBJECTIVE 4 : PROTECTING AND IMPROVING PUBLIC HEALTH**

8.4 Update from NHS Grampian and Alcohol and Drugs Partnership

**LICENSING OBJECTIVE 5 : PROTECTING CHILDREN FROM HARM**

8.5 Update from Children's Services Representative

9 Progress Statement (Pages 21 - 26)

10 Licensing Board - Agenda for 17 June 2014 (for information)

<http://committees.aberdeency.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=151&MId=3050&Ver=4>

**DATE OF NEXT MEETING - 1PM, WEDNESDAY 17 SEPTEMBER 2014**

Website Address: [www.aberdeency.gov.uk](http://www.aberdeency.gov.uk)

Should you require any further information about this agenda, please contact Steph Dunsmuir, tel. 522503 or email [sdunsmuir@aberdeency.gov.uk](mailto:sdunsmuir@aberdeency.gov.uk)

**Substantive Members (voting)**

|  |
|--|
| <b>Holders of premises licences and personal licences</b>                        |
| (Vacancy), UNIGHT<br>William Christie, Off Sales                                 |
| <b>Chief Constable for the police area in which the Forum's area is situated</b> |
| Inspector Jim Hume   |
| <b>Persons having functions relating to health, education or social work</b>     |
| Sandy Kelman, Aberdeen Alcohol and Drugs Partnership, <u>Convener</u>            |
| Linda Smith, NHS Grampian  |
| Craig Cole, Aberdeen Samaritans  |
| Emily Queen, Community Safety Partnership  |
| Andrew Jones, Education, Aberdeen City Council                                   |
| Dave Bliss, Children's Services, Aberdeen City Council                           |
| <b>Young People</b>  |
| Struan King, Youth Council<br>Dan McCroskrie (sub.)                              |
| <b>Persons resident within the Forum's area</b>                                  |
| Ken Eddie, Aberdeen Civic Forum  |
| <b>Licensing Standards Officer</b>   |
| Diane Sande (or Tara-Erin Gilchrist)   |

**Co-optees (non-voting)**

|  |
|--|
| <b>Holders of premises licences and personal licences</b>                    |
| George Wyatt   |
| Craig Adams  |
| <b>Persons having functions relating to health, education or social work</b> |
| Street Pastors Representative – <i>to be confirmed</i>                       |
| <b>Persons resident within the Forum's area</b>                              |
| Piotr Teodorowski, Aberdeen Civic Forum                                      |
| <b>Other</b>   |
| Bob Westland, Door Security  |

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## LOCAL LICENSING FORUM

Wednesday 23 April 2014

Members Present:

Sandy Kelman, Convener; and Dave Bliss, William Christie, Ken Eddie, Tara-Erin Gilchrist, Emily Queen, Linda Smith and Sergeant Gill Flett (as substitute for Inspector Jim Hume).

Also present:

Heather Wilson and Shamini Omnes, NHS Grampian; Jane Blake, Samaritans (on behalf of Craig Cole), Steph Dunsmuir.

Apologies:

Inspector Jim Hume, Craig Cole, Bob Westland, Piotr Teodorowski.

| Item | Discussion  | Action/Decisions                             | To be actioned by     |
|------|---|--|-----------------------|
| 1.   | Minute of Previous Meeting of 12 February 2014  | The minute was approved as a correct record. |                       |
| 2.   | <p><u>Matters Arising</u></p> <p><u>Benchmarking against other Local Authorities</u></p> <p>The Forum heard that Grace Ball and Tara-Erin Gilchrist had been in attendance at the last Licensing Board meeting.</p> <p>With regard to the suggestion that the Forum might wish to organise a separate event / meeting with the Licensed Trade, the Forum agreed to defer the item and to note that Sandy Kelman and Steph Dunsmuir would discuss the matter separately in relation to how to take this forward.</p> | Noted  | S Kelman / S Dunsmuir |

| Item | Discussion   | Action/Decisions   | To be actioned by  |
|------|--|--|--|
|      | <p><u>National Policy Unit workshop – 28 February</u></p> <p>The Forum heard that Tara-Erin Gilchrist had attended the workshop on behalf of the Forum. Gill Flett explained that part of the session had been about how the Police dealt with licensing processes, particularly around action taken where problematic premises had been identified. There was a national standardised operating procedure, as well as a practical guidance toolkit. Sandy Kelman suggested that this could be part of the Forum training presentation from the Police. Emily Queen noted that Jim Hume had suggested a more local workshop/event being run for the licensed trade and advised that this could be done through the Community Safety Hub.</p> <p><u>Pre Referral Screening</u></p> <p>Dave Bliss advised the Forum that there was no update at present on the review of PRS, but a further meeting was due to be held next week.</p> <p><u>Community Engagement</u></p> <p>Linda Smith and Sandy Kelman advised that they had met with Kincorth and Leggart Community Council on 11 February to give a presentation on the work of the Forum. The</p> | <p>Noted. To suggest that the Forum training presentation from the Police incorporate some information on the national standardised operating procedure / practical guidance toolkit.</p> <p>Noted. Dave Bliss to keep the Forum updated on the review.</p> <p>Noted. Sandy Kelman and Linda Smith to attend Community Council Forum in October.</p> | <p>G Flett / J Hume</p> <p>D Bliss</p> <p>S Kelman / L Smith</p> |

| Item  | Discussion   | Action/Decisions  | To be actioned by |
|---|--|---|-------------------|
|   | <p>Convener of the Community Council Forum had also contacted Linda and she and Sandy would attend a meeting of the Forum on 1 October.</p> <p><u>Door Supervisors Working Group</u></p> <p>The Forum agreed to defer this item to the next meeting when Bob Westland was in attendance to provide an update on the meeting which had been held between Bob, Russell Davidson and Inspector Hume.</p>  | <p>Bob Westland to provide an update at the next Forum meeting.</p>   | <p>B Westland</p> |
| <p>3. Membership Updates – Education Representative / Vice Convener</p> | <p><u>Education Representative</u></p> <p>The Clerk advised that Andrew Jones had been nominated by the Education, Culture and Sport Service to replace David Wright on the Forum. Andrew would attend meetings once he took up post in May.</p> <p><u>Vice Convener</u></p> <p>The Forum heard that that Russell Davidson was no longer with UNIGHT and therefore there would need to be a discussion with UNIGHT about an alternative member, and a further discussion as to whether they would take up the position of Vice Convener.</p> | <p>Noted.</p> <p>It was agreed that the Clerk would contact UNIGHT to establish whether they would retain the place on the Forum.</p> | <p>S Dunsmuir</p> |

| Item | Discussion   | Action/Decisions   | To be actioned by  |
|------|--|--|--|
| 4.   | <p>The Clerk advised that she had set up a draft webpage for the Forum, and sought feedback from members as to what they wished to see included on the page.</p> <p>At present, the webpage provided background information on the Forum membership, and linked to its agendas and meeting papers.</p> <p>The Forum suggested that Community Councils could use the generic <a href="mailto:locallicensingforum@aberdeencity.gov.uk">locallicensingforum@aberdeencity.gov.uk</a> address to submit any issues for the Forum.</p> | <p>The Forum noted the webpage and suggested that there could also be further engagement with the Civic Forum, and the ACVO bulletin could be used to circulate information.</p> <p>It was suggested that once the content of the webpage was more detailed, a meeting could be arranged for a future date between the Convener, the Clerk, Tara-Erin Gilchrist and Karen Riddoch, the Community Council Liaison Officer to discuss how best to establish a link between the Forum and Community Councils.</p> | S Kelman / T-E Gilchrist / S Dunsmuir (over summer period)                                 |
| 5.   | <p>The Clerk advised the Forum that she had contacted the Convener of the Licensing Board and the proposed date for the joint meeting was 10am on Thursday 3 July 2014.</p> <p>The Convener asked that all members consider what they might like to raise with the Board at the joint meeting, and these suggestions could then be discussed at the next Forum meeting on 18 June.</p>   | <p>The Forum agreed the joint meeting date of 10am on Thursday 3 July.</p> <p>All members to bring forward issues for discussion with the Board – for the next LLF meeting on 18 June.</p>   | S Dunsmuir to advise Clerk to the Licensing Board<br><br>All members – for 18 June meeting |
| 6.   | The Forum had before it the finalised Statement of Licensing Policy, as well as the response from the Clerk to the Licensing Board in relation to the suggestions made by the LLF.   | To raise the issue of moving beyond the bounds of restricted policy (for example, responsibilities to children were not simply confined to the Licensing Objective: Protecting Children from Harm) at the joint meeting with the Licensing   | S Dunsmuir – for agenda  |



| Item | Discussion  | Action/Decisions        | To be actioned by |
|------|---|-------------------------|-------------------|
|      | <p>The Forum noted the comments from the Clerk to the Licensing Board in relation to their suggestions, and noted that while the LLF did not agree with all the decisions taken in relation to their comments, there would be the opportunity to revisit any outstanding concerns in a couple of years. It was particularly noted that the Forum would have preferred to see the document move beyond legislation in certain areas – for example, in relation to vulnerable adults. The Forum also noted the implications of the new Children &amp; Young People (Scotland) Act 2014 in terms of a duty of wellbeing, and the impact of the Act in relation to GIRFEC.</p> <p>Dave Bliss suggested that the responsibilities to children were not simply confined to the Licensing Objective: Protecting Children from Harm, and the Forum agreed that the issue of moving beyond the bounds of restricted policy (in relation to child protection and other issues) could be discussed at the joint meeting with the Board in July.</p> <p>Separately, Ken Eddie discussed the recent non-alcohol event held at The Garage. Heather Wilson advised that there was a commitment from The Garage to run a similar event in future.</p> | <p>Board on 3 July.</p> |                   |

| Item | Discussion   | Action/Decisions  | To be actioned by  |
|------|--|---|--|
| 7.   | <p>Tara-Erin Gilchrist sought clarification from the Forum on the content of the Legislation training. She advised that the LSOs had a Powerpoint presentation which could be provided to the Forum. Sandy Kelman suggested that the LSO presentation could provide information to the Forum on the role of the LSO to help members understand the ongoing work undertaken.</p> <p>It was agreed that the LSO presentation would be postponed until the September meeting of the Forum, and the Police presentation would be given at the June meeting.</p>  | <p>LSO presentation to inform the Forum of the role of the LSO and ongoing work.</p> <p>The Forum agreed that the LSO presentation would be heard in September, with the Police presentation heard at the June meeting.</p>   | <p>T-E Gilchrist / D Sande</p> <p>G Flett</p>                  |
| 8.1  | <p>Licensing Objective 1: Preventing Crime and Disorder - Update from Police Scotland</p> <p>Sergeant Flett sought clarification from the Forum on the type of information they wished to have presented at future meeting. It was suggested that the Forum should receive information on how many objections were made in respect of licensing applications.</p> <p>The Forum considered how the statistical information presented to it could be monitored so it could be used to challenge the Licensing Board on its decisions where necessary. Dave Bliss agreed to lead a workshop session (possibly in September) to discuss in more detail. Sandy Kelman, Dave Bliss and Steph Dunsmuir to meet separately</p> | <p>To note that the Police would amend the statistical information presented to the Forum to reflect how many objections were being made in respect of licensing applications, which would allow the Forum to monitor the consistency of decision-making.</p> <p>Sandy Kelman, Dave Bliss and Steph Dunsmuir to meet separately outwith the meeting to discuss how to take the workshop suggestion forward. Sandy would contact Alcohol Focus Scotland to ask them to be involved in the meeting.</p> | <p>G Flett / J Hume</p> <p>S Kelman / D Bliss / S Dunsmuir</p> |

| Item | Discussion  | Action/Decisions  | To be actioned by                  |
|------|---|---|------------------------------------|
|      | <p>outwith the meeting to discuss how to take the matter forward.</p> <p>The Convener asked if the Samaritans recorded when they felt a caller had been drinking, and Jane Blake advised that this did not happen at present, but could possibly be considered in future.</p> <p>The Forum discussed the duty of care which door security had towards people on their premises and Sergeant Flett advised that the police used a training video (Who are You?) for premises where there had been incidents in the past. She suggested that the video link could be circulated to the Forum for information.</p> | <p>To note that Jane Blake would discuss with the Samaritans the possibility of recording the number of calls where it was felt that the person had been drinking.</p> <p>To note that the link to the 'Who are You?' training video would be circulated via email.</p> | <p>S Dunsmuir</p>                  |
| 8.2  | <p>LO 2: Securing Public Health – Update from LSO</p> <p>Tara-Erin Gilchrist advised that the LSOs had compiled a report for the Licensing Board which provided further detail on offences committed. It was suggested that this report could be put on the agenda for the next meeting of the Licensing Forum.</p>   | <p>To request that the LSOs report be put on the agenda for the next LLF meeting in June.</p>   | <p>T-E Gilchrist / S Dunsmuir</p>  |
| 8.3  | <p>LO 3: Preventing Public Nuisance - Update from Unight Representative</p> <p>Emily Queen provided the update on behalf of UNIGHT, and advised that the UNIGHT AGM would be held in May. UNIGHT had recently amended their charter to include city centre pubs. She noted that office bearers would be</p>   | <p>Noted.</p> <p>To monitor the vacant licensed trade place on the Forum following the UNIGHT AGM in May.</p>   | <p>E Queen to advise the Forum</p> |

| Item | Discussion  | Action/Decisions   | To be actioned by |
|------|---|--|-------------------|
| 8.4  | <p>LO 4: Protecting and Improving Public Health - Update from NHS and ADP</p>               | <p>electd at the AGM in May, and so it might be possible after that meeting to identify a representative to take up the vacant place on the Licensing Forum.</p> <p>Linda Smith advised the Forum that Grace Ball had attended the last two Licensing Board meetings in relation to objections made by the NHS. She added that Grace was leaving her current post, and Heather Wilson would attend meetings of the Board in future.</p> <p>Linda explained that the NHS was monitoring the decisions of the Licensing Board in terms of consistency with policy.</p> <p>Sandy Kelman advised that the fourth quarter ADP figures were not currently available.</p> | Noted.            |
| 9.5  | <p>LO 5: Protecting Children from Harm - Update from Children's Services Representative</p> | <p>Dave Bliss advised the Forum that work was being undertaken in relation to the number of child protection investigations, particularly those going to the case conference stage. He added that the percentage going to case conference was increasing. Domestic violence and alcohol were significant factors in many cases.</p>  | Noted.            |
| 10.  | Progress Statement  | Noted.   |                   |

| Item | Date of Next Meeting | Discussion | Action/Decisions   | To be actioned by |
|------|----------------------|------------|--|-------------------|
| 11.  |                      |            | It was noted that the next meeting would be held on Wednesday 18 June. Following discussion, the Forum agreed that the meeting should start at 1.30pm. |                   |

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# Agenda Item 6

**Members – the Licensing Forum has been approached by SALVAS, a training provider for conflict management. They would like to attend a future meeting of the Forum, so I have advised that I would put the request to you for discussion.**

Hi Stephanie

Thank you for your reply.

We are a leading training provider who currently work with Aberdeen City Council delivering conflict management skills training to groups like City Wardens and Aberdeen Inspired Ambassadors.

I work closely with Tony Holyland ,Competency Manager at the Security Industry Authority (SIA )who regulate the Private Security Industry in the UK.

The SIA recognises that violence and related risks to staff and to customers (I.e. restraint related) are a major issue in the licensed retail sector. Also that it cannot reduce these risks simply through the training of door supervisors i.e. a number of strategies are required.

The SIA Board has agreed to a Violence Reduction Initiative that will engage with key stakeholders in reducing risks, including:

Security providers

Security personnel

Venue owner/operators

Licensing Standards Officers

Police

Health and Safety Executive

Insurers

Local Community Safety partnerships.

It will seek to establish best practice in violence reduction and the SIA is keen to establish positive case studies.

I have signposted Tony to look at including Aberdeen as part of the project given the high standard of partnership working already in place. He is keen to work with you and is willing to visit a meeting of your group to present an overview of the project.

His contact details are

Tony Holyland

SIA Competency Manager

[Email](#)

Direct tel:

This is a great opportunity for Aberdeen to influence the whole aspect of Violence reduction in the UK night time economy.

Best regards

Michael Greville

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# Attitudes towards alcohol in Scotland: results from the 2013 Scottish Social Attitudes Survey

June 2014

Clare Sharp,  
Anna Marcinkiewicz and  
Lisa Rutherford,  
ScotCen Social Research

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## **Acknowledgements**

First and foremost, we would like to thank the 1,497 participants who gave up their free time to take part in the survey.

We would like to thank Garth Reid, Project Manager of the module at NHS Health Scotland. We also thank Mark Robinson, Clare Beeston and colleagues at NHS Health Scotland for their input into the questionnaire design and reporting and for their advice and support throughout. Our thanks also go to Rachel Ormston and the SSA research team for their work on the questionnaire development, to John Curtice for his advice on the questionnaire and reporting, and to Lesley Birse for her help in proofing and formatting the report.

Thanks are also due to our colleagues in NatCen's Operations and Computing departments (particularly Emma Fenn and Sue Corbett), Joan Corbett our data manager, and to our team of interviewers and supervisors.

ScotCen Social Research is very grateful to the various organisations who have contributed to funding the **Scottish Social Attitudes** survey over the last decade – particularly Scottish Government Social Research, the Economic and Social Research Council, the Leverhulme Trust and the Nuffield Foundation.

Responsibility for the opinions expressed in this report, and for all interpretation of the data, lies solely with the authors.

Clare Sharp, Anna Marcinkiewicz and Lisa Rutherford

## **Executive Summary**

### **Introduction**

This report presents findings based on a set of questions exploring attitudes to alcohol which were included in the 2013 Scottish Social Attitudes (SSA) Survey. SSA is an annual survey of social and political attitudes in Scotland. Run by ScotCen Social Research since 1999, it provides a reliable and robust picture of changing public opinion over time. Interviews with a representative sample of the Scottish population were conducted between June and October 2013, with 1,497 interviews being achieved.

The questions on alcohol were funded by the Scottish Government and managed by NHS Health Scotland, with the aims of tracking changes in attitudes to drinking alcohol since 2004 and 2007 (when previous alcohol modules were included) and providing a baseline picture of public attitudes to minimum unit pricing (MUP) in Scotland.

In particular, the report addresses the following key questions:

- How aware are people of the unit content of alcoholic drinks and the sensible drinking guidelines?
- What do people in Scotland think about alcohol and drinking, and how have their views changed over time?
- How do views about alcohol and drinking relate to drinking behaviour?
- How important is the social context of drinking to perceptions of different drinking behaviours?
- To what extent are people in favour of minimum unit pricing?

### **Awareness and understanding of the unit content of different drinks and the sensible drinking guidelines**

In 2013, around half of adults in Scotland correctly identified the number of units in a pint of beer, measure of spirits or a glass of wine (47-51%). A smaller proportion (18%) knew the correct number of units in a bottle of wine. Around half (49-53%) did not know the correct number of units in the drinks. Public awareness of the unit content of different alcoholic drinks has changed little over time.

A similar proportion of men and women (42% and 43% respectively) correctly identified the recommended daily alcohol limits for their gender (3 to 4 units for men and 2 to 3 units for women). Awareness of the recommended daily limit for men increased between 2007 and 2013 (from 34% to 39% of adults). One in five people in 2013 correctly identified the recommended minimum number of alcohol-free days per week as two.

## **Attitudes to alcohol and drinking**

Many adults in Scotland recognised the potentially harmful nature of alcohol. Sixty percent thought it was the drug causing the most problems in Scotland (up from 46% in 2004), and 84% thought it caused either 'a great deal' or 'quite a lot of harm in Scotland.' Additionally, most people also disapproved of excessive drinking: only 19% thought that 'getting drunk is a perfectly acceptable thing to do on weekends', whilst 13% thought that 'there's nothing wrong with people my age getting drunk regularly'. Although attitudes to getting drunk have not changed significantly overall since 2004, there has been a drop in the proportion of young people aged 18-29 agreeing that getting drunk at weekends is acceptable (from 53% in 2004 to 40% in 2013).

Views on whether it is possible to enjoy a night out in the pub without alcohol have changed very little over time with 77%, in 2013, agreeing that it's possible to do so. There has, however, been a small but significant increase in the proportion of people who think 'it is easier to enjoy a social event if you've had a drink' (from 35% in 2004 to 39% in 2013). There is also evidence of some shift in attitudes to non-drinking over time. The proportion of drinkers reporting that people would think it odd if they didn't drink at all, increased by ten percentage points between 2007 and 2013 (from 31% to 41%). These increases were observed across all age groups. Non-drinkers' views on how others perceive their behaviour have not changed significantly since 2004. In 2013, over four in ten (44%) non-drinkers perceived that others thought it odd that they abstain from drinking alcohol.

Alongside age, attitudes towards alcohol and drinking play an important part in understanding drinking behaviour in Scotland. In 2013, the groups of people who were more likely than others to be higher risk drinkers were those who:

- agreed that 'it is easier to enjoy a social event if you've had a drink' (69% compared with 26% of those who disagreed)
- had more permissive attitudes to getting drunk (74% compared with 33% of those who held less liberal attitudes)<sup>a</sup>
- agreed that others would think it odd if they didn't drink (68% compared with 46% of those who disagreed).

## **The role of social context in how people perceive drinking behaviour**

It is apparent that adults in Scotland discriminate between different types of drinking behaviour. There was a strong consensus that harmful drinking, irrespective of context, is a 'very' or 'quite serious' problem (mentioned by 92% to 96%). A majority of people also thought that both hazardous (77% and 84%) and binge drinking (66%

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<sup>a</sup> This is based on a score variable combining answers to two questions about the acceptability of getting drunk, ('Getting drunk is a perfectly acceptable thing to do on weekends' and 'Nothing wrong with people my age getting drunk regularly'). Based on their scores, participants were classified as 'more liberal' (score of 2-5), medium (score of 6-7) and 'less liberal' (score of 8-10).

and 84%) were problematic. There was widespread recognition of the long-term health consequences of harmful, hazardous and binge drinking.

However, a sizeable proportion of the population did not see a problem with binge or hazardous drinking. For example, 33% thought that a student binge drinking was 'not very' or 'not serious at all,' whilst 21% the same of a retired person drinking at hazardous levels.

Whilst context made little difference to views about the seriousness of harmful or hazardous drinking, it did appear to matter to how people viewed binge drinking. Views on binge drinking were more permissive when being done by a young student, compared with a middle-aged person with family responsibilities.

### **Attitudes to minimum unit pricing**

To assess how the public view minimum unit pricing (MUP), participants were asked the following question in 2013:

'One idea for trying to reduce problem drinking is to have a minimum price for different alcoholic drinks. The price would be based on how much alcohol is in each drink. In principle, how much are you in favour or against this idea?'

Views on MUP were contrasting in 2013, with a slightly higher percentage in support of the policy (41%) than opposing it (35%). Around one in five people (22%) were neither for nor against the idea of having a minimum price for alcohol. Support for the policy also varied across different groups in society. Women, those with higher educational attainment and lower risk drinkers and non-drinkers<sup>b</sup> were all more likely than others to be in favour of MUP. Support for the policy was also higher among those who thought alcohol caused 'a great deal' of harm in Scotland and those who thought the amount people drink in Scotland is something we should all be concerned about.

To determine why people were supportive of the policy, those in favour were presented with a list of potential reasons for being in support and were asked to choose all that applied to them.<sup>c</sup> The most commonly mentioned were tackling health problems (mentioned by 61% of those in favour of the policy), stopping young people from drinking too much (mentioned by 60%) and tackling problem behaviour from drinking (mentioned by 58%).

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<sup>b</sup> Drinking behaviour was measured using the AUDIT-C tool. Non-drinkers are defined as not drinking alcohol at all. Lower risk drinking is defined as an AUDIT-C score of 1-3 for women and 1-4 for men; higher risk drinking is defined as a score of 4 or more for women and 5 or more for men. See Annex A for more details on how drinking behaviour was measured in the survey.

<sup>c</sup> Participants who said they were in favour of MUP were presented with a card listing possible reasons people might be in favour of the policy and were asked to choose all that were relevant to them.

Reasons for opposing the policy were also varied,<sup>d</sup> with some of the most commonly mentioned relating to a concern about the ability of the policy to influence drinking behaviour (61% thought that 'if people want to drink, they will whatever the price' and 52% thought that the policy 'won't make any difference to heavy drinkers'). Fifty one percent thought it 'punishes everyone for what some drinkers do' and 36% thought it 'should be up to individuals how they spend their money'.

Most people (between 55% and 66% depending on the drink type) thought that the proposed minimum prices which would be applied to beer, wine and vodka were 'about right,' and few thought they were 'too high' (12%) or 'too low' (12-16% depending on the drink type). Additionally, most (65%) said current prices did not restrict the amount of alcohol they wanted to buy and around half (46%) agreed that 'supermarkets sell too much alcohol at very cheap prices.'

## **Conclusion**

The findings from the 2013 SSA suggest some positive changes since 2004 in relation to views on the problematic nature of alcohol relative to other drugs and the views of young people on the acceptability of getting drunk. However, there have been simultaneous increases in the proportion of adults reporting that people would think it odd if they didn't drink at all, suggesting some scope to tackle these perceptions about non-drinking in future health campaigns.

Views on MUP were divided, with slightly more in favour of the policy than against it. Yet, when asked about the proposed prices, the majority (between 55% and 66%) thought they were 'about right'. Consequently, there may be scope to increase public awareness of the potential key impacts of minimum pricing, particularly the evidence which suggests that the impact on those who drink moderately or responsibly is expected to be minimal, whereas those who are heavy drinkers of cheap and high strength alcohol will be affected the most.

Policy makers might wish to consider strategies for raising awareness of the likely impact of MUP and to consider how best to translate these to the public in a way that is accessible and easily understood. It will also be important to continue to monitor attitudes over time and explore how they relate to alcohol and drinking in Scotland.

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<sup>d</sup> Participants who said they were against MUP were presented with a card listing possible reasons people might oppose policy and were asked to choose all that were relevant to them.



## ABERDEEN LOCAL LICENSING FORUM

### PROGRESS STATEMENT - FEBRUARY, 2014

Remit of Local Licensing Forums as set out in the Licensing (Scotland) Act 2005 – keeping under review the operation of the Act in the Forum’s area and in particular the exercise by the Licensing Board of their functions including giving advice and making recommendations to the Board in relation to those matters where the Forum considers it appropriate. The Act does not enable a Forum to review or give advice or make recommendations in relation to the exercise by a Board of their function in relation to a particular case. “Case” is taken to mean an application before a Board and in the interests of natural justice is also taken to mean individual licensed premises. The preferred route for consideration of complaints about the running of licensed premises is to write directly to the Clerk or Depute Clerk to the Licensing Board.

The Licensing (Scotland) Act 2005 requires Licensing Boards in exercising any of their functions to have regard to any advice given or recommendations made to them by a Local Licensing Forum and where the Board decides not to follow the advice or recommendation to give the Forum reasons for that decision, the Board must provide copies of relevant statistical information to the Forum as it may reasonably require for the purposes of its general functions.

Licensing Standards Officers have a general function of providing to interested persons information and guidance concerning the operation of the Act, supervising compliance with the Act and the conditions of their licences by holders of Premises Licences and Occasional Licences and mediate between communities and the trade or between any two parties where there is a need to resolve a local problem and develop a local solution. LSOs do not act as “policemen” with regard to licensing but they will liaise with the police and other relevant officials such as Environmental Health Officers in pursuit of the objectives of the Act.

| Item | Meeting Reference | Decision/Action  | Update   | Responsible Lead | Licensing Objective    |
|------|-------------------|--|--|------------------|------------------------|
| 1.   |                   | <p><b><u>Community Engagement</u></b><br/>Find out from communities what are their areas of concern.</p> | <p>The following was agreed in September 2013 -</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Ken Eddie to ask the Civic Forum to discuss ways in which it can offer intelligence</li> </ol> |                  | Securing Public Safety |

| Item | Meeting Reference | Decision/Action  | Update  | Responsible Lead | Licensing Objective    |
|------|-------------------|--|---|------------------|------------------------|
|      |                   |  | <p>to the Local Licensing Forum on alcohol in the community, with the assistance of a summary document from the Public Health Coordinator, to be supplied by Linda Smith.</p> <p>2. Community Council Liaison Officer asked if community councils can be asked to add to agendas as a standing item – Alcohol in the Community. Sandy Kelman and Linda Smith met with CCLO in October.</p> <p><b>In February 2014, Sandy Kelman advised that he and Linda Smith were due to meet with Community Councils.</b></p> |                  |                        |
| 2.   |                   | <p><b><u>Door Supervisors Working Group</u></b></p> <p>At the first meeting of the Licensing Board after the local elections in 2012, one additional member of the Board was appointed to the Doors Supervisor Working Group. As a result, the Board asked if the Forum would also like an additional member on the group.</p> | <p>It was agreed in September 2012 that the additional place be taken up by Unight. This position now needs to be updated, due to the changes in membership of the Forum since that meeting.</p> <p>There was discussion on the status of the group at the joint meeting with the Board on 27 June 2013 and it was agreed that a meeting be called after</p>  |                  | Securing Public Safety |

| Item | Meeting Reference | Decision/Action | Update   | Responsible Lead | Licensing Objective |
|------|-------------------|-----------------|--|------------------|---------------------|
|      |                   |                 | <p>the summer recess.</p> <p>Update from Eric Anderson – if the Forum wishes to ask about the Working Group they are free to do so, but there is currently no meeting scheduled.</p> <p>The Forum also agreed on 11 December 2013 that Bob Westland be asked to provide a summary of the issues around door supervisors, which would allow the Forum to determine whether further information from the Board/a further meeting of the Working Group is needed. It is hoped that a response will be available for this meeting.</p> <p><b>At the February 2014 meeting, it was agreed that Russell Davidson, Inspector Jim Hume and Bob Westland meet separately to discuss consistency in relation to the number of door stewards required, and the Police position in relation to this, to see if any action was required, and to report back to the next meeting of the Forum.</b></p> |                  |                     |

| Item  | Meeting Reference | Decision/Action   | Update   | Responsible Lead                      | Licensing Objective |
|---|-------------------|---|--|---------------------------------------|---------------------|
| <b>Items relating to all Licensing Objectives</b> |                   |   |  |                                       |                     |
| 3.  | 11 December 2013  | <p><b><u>Appointment of Vice Convener</u></b></p> <p>Deferred until February 2014 by which time licensed trade would be in attendance – it was the expressed wish of the Forum to have a licensed trade representative in this position.</p>          | <p>At the meeting in February 2014, Russell Davidson agreed to take up the position of Vice Convener.</p> <p><b>There is still a vacancy in the position of Vice Convener.</b></p>   | Clerk                                 |                     |
| 4.  |                   | <p><b><u>Statistical Information</u></b></p> <p>To receive reports from the Licensing Board containing relevant statistical information.</p>  | The Forum and Board will continue to liaise at joint meetings.   |                                       | All objectives      |
| 5.  | 11 December 2013  | <p><b><u>Statement of Licensing Policy</u></b></p> <p>To request a commentary from the Clerk to the Board on all of the Forum recommendations on the Statement of Licensing Policy, indicating if they were accepted or not, and if not, why not.</p> | <p>At its meeting on 23 April 2014, the Forum noted the response from the Clerk and the finalised Statement of Licensing Policy and agreed to raise the issue of moving beyond the bounds of restricted policy (for example, responsibilities to children were not simply confined to the Licensing Objective: Protecting Children from Harm) at the joint meeting with the Licensing Board on 3 July.</p> | All<br>Clerk for Joint Meeting agenda | All objectives      |
| 6.  | 19 June 2013      | <p><b><u>Evaluation</u></b></p> <p>Having looked at the NHS Report</p>  | Agendas are now displayed outside the Town House to encourage attendance by members of the   |                                       | All objectives      |

| Item | Meeting Reference | Decision/Action  | Update   | Responsible Lead | Licensing Objective |
|------|-------------------|--|--|------------------|---------------------|
|      |                   | <p>evaluating implementation of the Licensing (Scotland) Act 2005, it was agreed to –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Receive occasional presentations from members</li> <li>• Look at the production of a leaflet on the work of the Forum</li> <li>• Place agendas on the display boards outside the Town House</li> <li>• Keep the website updated and look to hold more information there.</li> </ul> | <p>public.</p> <p>At its meeting on 23 April 2014, the Forum noted the draft Forum webpage and suggested that there could also be further engagement with the Civic Forum, and the ACVO bulletin could be used to circulate information.</p> <p>It was suggested that once the content of the webpage was more detailed, a meeting could be arranged for a future date between the Convener, the Clerk, Tara-Erin Gilchrist and Karen Riddoch, the Community Council Liaison Officer to discuss how best to establish a link between the Forum and Community Councils.</p> |                  |                     |
| 7.   | 11 September 2013 | <p><b><u>Training Programme</u></b></p> <p>The Forum agreed to the production of a training programme, and that this include in the first instance information sessions on (1) the relevant legislation; (2) personal licences (3) the Alcohol and Drugs Partnership and (4) admissions to Accident and Emergency. It was also agreed that, as there was no training</p>   | <p>Training to be delivered by the Police on 18 June, and by Tara-Erin Gilchrist and Emily Queen in September.</p>   | All Partners     | All objectives      |

| Item | Meeting Reference | Decision/Action   | Update   | Responsible Lead                           | Licensing Objective |
|------|-------------------|---|--|--|---------------------|
|      |                   | budget, the programme would rely on members and co-optees themselves to provide, and that former member Gerrard Rattray be asked to provide some training on personal licences in the first instance.   |  | George Wyatt to speak to Gerrard Rattray   |                     |
| 8.   | 23 April 2014     | <p><b>Role of Forum / Statistical Information</b></p> <p>The Forum considered how the statistical information presented to it could be monitored so it could be used to challenge the Licensing Board on its decisions where necessary. Dave Bliss agreed to lead a workshop session (possibly in September) to discuss in more detail. Sandy Kelman, Dave Bliss and Steph Dunsmuir to meet separately outwith the meeting to discuss how to take the matter forward.</p> | <p>Sandy Kelman, Dave Bliss and Steph Dunsmuir to meet separately outwith the meeting to discuss how to take the workshop suggestion forward. Sandy would contact Alcohol Focus Scotland to ask them to be involved in the meeting.</p> <p><b>A meeting has been arranged with Linda Bowie for 2 July.</b></p> | Sandy Kelman / Dave Bliss / Steph Dunsmuir | All objectives      |