

Overprovision – workshop notes 8/11/2022

Group 1

Off sales – not really a provision for supermarkets.

Don't like overprovision clause. Is it fair to not allow new shop?

Share custom with others. If there are new businesses, it would not increase harms.

No over provision problem in Aberdeen. Great excuse for people who do not want pubs and shops.

People will drink regardless of their being an overprovision policy.

Market will determine. Provision is commercially driven by supply and demand.

Additional places would not drive up demand.

What about gambling? Is there overprovision of gambling shops?

Group 2

Overprovision not an issue for on-sales. Amount of bars closing at the moment.

There may still be some concentrated areas. Be careful with city centre. Aberdeen does not appear to be awash with bars now.

Evidence – maybe gather data on public nuisance?

Some pubs are rowdier than others, every place has its bad stories.

Police presence would help.

Off sales – more of a problem?

Children more likely exposed to off sales, alcohol more visible. Density of off sales.

Depends what they are selling? E.g. Alcopops.

Visibility of alcohol. Consider impact of hiding cigarettes.

Group 3

City of Dundee – off sales over provision. No impact on health.

Alcohol focus Scotland and Health board argue that density of availability effects peoples drinking. However, they will just go elsewhere.

No actual evidence, they are modelling beliefs.

There is no difference for off sales.

On sales is market driven.

Does one extra bar create a problem?

If we stop people bringing in new ideas, then old places won't change. Won't get vibrant city centre.

Group 4

On sales – let market decide.

Off sales – as long as let supermarkets, then difficult to change. Would have to change nature of offsales, i.e. behind a counter only.

Off sales – different markets. People just go elsewhere.

More premises affects prices. Minimum pricing changed that.

There is more of a problem with under provision.

Effects of alcohol on people and areas differs. Less drinking in on sales, more people drinking a home?

Decline in retail and hospitality. Purple flag status to be considered.

Events around experiences to try bring people into the city.

Curtailling hospitality has impacts on others.

Group 5

Blunt instrument, not a useful policy.

Off trade, another Tesco – over supply of cheap alcohol.

Theory that the more opportunities to buy alcohol, the more is bought. Difficult to pin to a locality, difficult policy to justify, off sales in particular, not a workable policy.

Limit proportion of sales space to alcohol? Scope for limiting but if someone wants to buy alcohol, it wont make a difference.

The minimum alcohol pricing changes the cheaper alcohol argument.

City centre should be a destination. Purple flag status should be maintained.

On sales is market driven.

Some sort of restriction on off sales – look at evidence of sales area.

Summary

On sales – market driven, declining market following restrictions, no need for OP policy.

Off sales – people will just go to where alcohol is, no evidence that additional shops encourage people to drink more. Need to consider impact of large supermarkets on smaller shops. OP policy not effective.