

# Notice of Meeting and Agenda Renfrewshire Licensing Forum.

Date	Time	Venue
Monday, 04 October 2021	14:00	Remotely by MS Teams,

KENNETH GRAHAM  
Head of Corporate Governance

## Membership

C Cardosi; C Dickson; M Dymond; F Hewitt; S McLean; P Pieraccini; D Reid; I Robertson.

## Chair

M Dymond, Convener.

## Recording of Meeting

This meeting will be recorded for subsequent broadcast via the Council's internet site. If you have any queries regarding this please contact Committee Services on 01416187103. To find the recording please follow the link which will be attached to this agenda once the meeting has concluded.

## Items of business

### Apologies

Apologies from members.

### Declarations of Interest

Members are asked to declare an interest in any item(s) on the agenda and to provide a brief explanation of the nature of the interest.

- |           |  |                |
|-----------|--|----------------|
| <b>1a</b> | <b>Minute of Previous Meeting</b>  | <b>1 - 6</b>   |
|           | Minute of meeting held on 9 September 2020.  |                |
| <b>1b</b> | <b>Note of Inquorate Meeting</b>   | <b>7 - 8</b>   |
|           | Note of inquorate meeting of the Joint Licensing Board/Licensing Forum.            |                |
| <b>1c</b> | <b>Note of Inquorate Meeting</b>   | <b>9 - 10</b>  |
|           | Note of inquorate meeting of Renfrewshire Licensing Forum held on 3 February 2021. |                |
| <b>2</b>  | <b>Matters Arising</b>   |                |
| <b>3</b>  | <b>Police Scotland - Update</b>  |                |
|           | Verbal report by Police Scotland representative on local licensing issues.         |                |
| <b>4</b>  | <b>Licensing Standards Officer - Update</b>  |                |
|           | Verbal report by the Licensing Standards Officer on local licensing issues.        |                |
| <b>5</b>  | <b>Annual Functions Report 2020-2021</b>   | <b>11 - 22</b> |
|           | Report by the Clerk to the Licensing Board.  |                |
| <b>6</b>  | <b>Festive Terminal Hour 2021/22</b>   | <b>23 - 26</b> |
|           | Report by the Clerk to the Licensing Board.  |                |
| <b>7</b>  | <b>Alcohol Focus Scotland</b>  |                |
| <b>7a</b> | <b>E-Newsletter</b>  | <b>27 - 36</b> |
|           | September 2020.  |                |
| <b>7b</b> | <b>E Newsletter</b>  | <b>37 - 44</b> |
|           | October 2020.  |                |

<b>7c</b>	<b>E-Newsletter</b> March 2021.	<b>45 - 52</b>
<b>7d</b>	<b>E Newsletter</b> June 2021.	<b>53 - 62</b>
<b>7e</b>	<b>E-Newsletter</b> July 2021.	<b>63 - 72</b>
<b>7f</b>	<b>E-Newsletter</b> August 2021.	<b>73 - 82</b>
<b>8</b>	<b>Future Meetings</b> Report by Clerk.	<b>83 - 86</b>



## Minute of Meeting Renfrewshire Licensing Forum.

Date	Time	Venue
Wednesday, 09 September 2020	14:00	Remotely via MS Teams,

### Present

C Cardosi, C Dickson, M Dymond, S McLean, D Reid, I Robertson and E Smith.

### Chair

M Dymond, Convener, presided.

### In Attendance

D Campbell, Assistant Managing Solicitor (Licensing) and P Shiach, Committee Services Officer Renfrewshire Council (both Renfrewshire Council).

### Apology

P Pieraccini.

### Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest intimated prior to the commencement of the meeting.

## 1 Minute of Previous Meeting

There was submitted the Minute of the previous meeting of the Renfrewshire Licensing Forum held on 5 February 2020.

**DECIDED:** That the Minute be approved.

## 2 Matters Arising

It was noted that there were no matters arising from the previous Minute.

## 3 Licensing Standards Officer - Update

C Dickson, Licensing Standards Officer (LSO), provided an update in relation to licensing activity undertaken since February 2020.

He advised that visits had stopped on 16 March as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, and that 34 compliance visits had been undertaken. There had been no revisits or enquiries.

The Forum was advised that an additional visit had been undertaken on 27 May 2020 following the issue of a Section 14 Failure to Comply notice in terms of a partial premises licence fee.

The LSO provided figures in terms of the number of premises currently licenced as under: -

On sales 101  
On/off sales 196  
Off sales 144  
Total 441

The Licensing Standards Officer indicated that COVID-19 had been the biggest issue being dealt with prior to Phase 2 of the lockdown. Premises managers and agents had submitted requests to undertake deliveries, however these could only be undertaken if deliveries had been included previously in their operational (business) plans. Some premises managers were now considering including these in their operational plans however this would involve their having to submit major variation applications. He indicated that phase 2 of lockdown had also led to a significant rise in applications for occasional licences for external drinking areas at licensed premise, with car parks being converted into beer gardens.

The Licensing Standards Officer was then heard in answer to questions from Forum members on the content of the report.

**DECIDED:** That the update be noted.

## 4 Police Scotland Update

I Robertson, Police Scotland, provided a verbal update on local licensing issues which had arisen since the last meeting of the Forum on 5 February 2020.

He indicated that during lockdown officers from K-Division had worked closely with officers from the Council's Trading Standards services. He advised that following the Scottish Government decision to allow licensed premises to facilitate external drinking area at licensed premises, Police Scotland had been inundated with the relevant applications.

Sergeant Robertson advised that 331 inspections had been undertaken with 54 incidents relating to social distancing or anti-social behaviour. He indicated that the policy of Police Scotland at this time was to encourage compliance rather than enforcement.

Sergeant Robertson was then heard in answer to questions from Forum members on the content of the report.

**DECIDED:** That the report be noted.

## **5 Alcohol Focus Scotland**

(a) E Focus Newsletter – February 2020

There was submitted the Alcohol Focus Scotland newsletter for February 2020.

The newsletter provided information on evidence which demonstrated that alcohol advertisements led to youth drinking; the effect of alcohol duty on the poor; the global alcohol Policy Conference 2020; the cross-party group #scothealth2021; research; training; and events.

**DECIDED:** That the newsletter be noted.

(b) E Focus Newsletter – April 2020

The Clerk advised that the April 2020 would be circulated to members for information.

**DECIDED:** That the information be noted.

(c) E Focus Newsletter – August 2020

The Clerk advised that the April 2020 would be circulated to members for information.

**DECIDED:** That the information be noted.

## **6 Licensing of Additional Outdoor Drinking Area**

There was submitted a report by the Clerk to the Licensing Board providing information in relation to licensing applications for new external drinking areas at licensed premises.

The report indicated that in the months leading up to 6th July 2020, licensed premises were unable to operate as a result of restrictions set out in the Health Protection (Coronavirus) (Restrictions) (Scotland) Regulations 2020. These restrictions were eased to allow outdoor drinking areas to operate with effect from that date, with the

rules being further eased to allow the operation of indoor areas from 15th July 2020. Both outdoor and indoor areas continue to be subject to strict social distancing and other health protection requirements. These restrictions are enforced by the Council's Environmental Health and Trading Standards teams, working with officers in Licensing and Police Scotland as required.

The report advised that in anticipation of the above relaxations to the rules, the Council's licensing officers engaged extensively with licence holders enquiring about obtaining occasional licences for external drinking areas (or additional areas). A standard response was developed advising of the regulatory processes licence holders were required to follow and a procedure was agreed with officers in the Roads team to simplify the process for applicants and avoid them having to submit separate applications for licences and road occupation permits. The Council's licensing team also widened the consultation on these applications and arrangements were made to refer contentious licence applications to Members of the Licensing Board. These arrangements were made to ensure a balance between the interests of the licensed trade and the interests of the local community, particularly neighbouring residents.

The report indicated that to date, a total of 24 licensed premises have obtained occasional licences for outdoor drinking areas, or additional such areas. These premises were located throughout Renfrewshire as follows:

- Paisley 11
- Johnstone 1
- Bishopton 3
- Erskine 3
- Houston 3
- Linwood 0
- Inchinnan 1
- Bridge of Weir 1
- Renfrew 1
- Total 24

The report advised that a further three premises had applications for occasional licences for new outdoor areas pending. These premises were in Paisley, Renfrew and Bishopton. A further 13 premises had made enquiries with the Licensing team in the period from July to date, but these enquiries had not yet resulted in a licence application. Recent trends, as monitored by teams across the Council, were that levels of interest and activity in establishing outdoor trading arrangements had now peaked.

The Assistant Managing Solicitor (Licensing) was then heard in answer to questions from the Forum on the content of the report.

**DECIDED:** That the report be noted.

## **7 Proposed Future Meetings of the Forum**

There was submitted a report by the Clerk relative to proposed arrangements for meetings of the Forum until May 2021.



The report advised that in terms of the Constitution approved at the meeting of the Forum held on 2 October 2007, there was a requirement for the Forum to meet no less than four times per year and for one of these meetings to be a joint meeting with Renfrewshire Licensing Board.

It has been the custom and practice that the Forum meet on a quarterly basis, with meetings being held during February or March, April or May, August or September and October or November.

The report proposed that meetings of the Forum be held on:-

Wednesday 18 November 2020  
Wednesday 3 February 2021, and  
Wednesday 26 May 2021.

**DECIDED:** That the proposed dates for future meetings until May 2021, as detailed in the report, be approved.



## Minute of Meeting

### Joint Renfrewshire Licensing Forum and Licensing Board.

Date	Time	Venue
Wednesday, 18 November 2020	14:00	Remotely by MS Teams,

#### Present

##### REPRESENTING THE LICENSING FORUM

Colin Dickson; Margaret Dymond; Shirley McLean and Donna Reid, (Renfrewshire Drug and Alcohol Partnership).

##### REPRESENTING THE LICENSING BOARD

Councillor Bill Brown; Councillor Jennifer Adam-McGregor; Councillor Jim Paterson and Councillor Andy Steel.

#### In Attendance

D Campbell Assistant Managing Solicitor (Licensing) R Devine, Senior Committee Services Officer and P Shiach, Committee Services Officer (all Renfrewshire Council).

#### Apologies

Councillor M Campbell, Councillor K Montgomery, Councillor M McGurk, C Cardosi and P Pieraccini.

## **1 Quorum**

Ten minutes after the appointed time for the meeting a quorum was not present and in terms of the constitutional document agreed at the meeting of the Forum held on 2 October 2007 the meeting stood adjourned.

## Minute of Meeting Renfrewshire Licensing Forum.

Date	Time	Venue
Wednesday, 03 February 2021	14:00	Remotely by MS Teams,

### PRESENT

Colette Cardosi; Colin Dickson; Margaret Dymond; I Robertson, Police Scotland

### IN ATTENDANCE

D Campbell Assistant Managing Solicitor (Licensing) P Shiach, Committee Services Officer and K O'Neill (all Renfrewshire Council).

### APOLOGIES

S McLean, P Pieraccini and D Reid.

### QUORUM

Ten minutes after the appointed time for the meeting a quorum was not present and in terms of the constitutional document agreed at the meeting of the Forum held on 2 October 2007 the meeting stood adjourned.



# **RENFREWSHIRE LICENSING BOARD**

## **The Licensing (Scotland) Act 2005**

### **Annual Functions Report 2020-2021**

Clerk to the Licensing Board  
Renfrewshire Council  
Renfrewshire House  
Cotton Street,  
Paisley  
PA1 1TT

## **1. INTRODUCTION**

1.1 This Annual Functions Report has been prepared by Renfrewshire Licensing Board ("the Board") in terms of Section 9A of the Licensing (Scotland) Act 2005 ("the Act"). The Act requires this report to include the following:

1. A statement explaining how the Board has had regard to –
  - a) The licensing objectives; and
  - b) Their licensing policy statementin the exercise of their functions under the Act during the financial year.
2. A summary of the decisions made by (or on behalf of) the Board during the financial year; and
3. Information about the number of licences held under the Act in the Board's area (including occasional licences).

The Board may also include other information about the exercise of the Board's functions as the Board considers appropriate.

1.2 This Annual Functions Report has been prepared for the financial year 2020-2021.

## **2. BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

2.1 When undertaking its functions, the Board has regard to the Licensing Objectives under the Act and to its own Statement of Licensing Policy. The Board published its current Statement of Licensing Policy, as required under the terms of the Act, in November 2018.

2.2 The Act sets out the Licensing Objectives, which are:

- Preventing crime and disorder;
- Securing public safety;
- Preventing public nuisance;
- Protecting and improving public health; and
- Protecting children and young persons from harm.



### **3. SUMMARY OF DECISIONS AND INFORMATION ABOUT LICENCES HELD**

3.1 Under the Act and the Board's current Statement of Licensing Policy, matters which are dealt with at a meeting of the Board are:

- Premises licence applications;
- Major variations to premises licences;
- Application for transfer of a premises licence where the applicant has been convicted of a relevant offence or a foreign offence; or where a notice recommending refusal or other information is provided by the Chief Constable;
- Personal licence applications or renewals where there is a recommendation for refusal from the Chief Constable;
- Reviews of premises licences and personal licences;
- Closure orders; and
- Refusal of any application for confirmation of a provisional premises licence.

3.2 The Clerk and Depute Clerks have delegated authority to determine most of the applications which do not fall within the above categories, provided that there are no objections or representations received from the Chief Constable or other consultees and the application is within policy hours. If there is an objection or representation to an occasional licence or an extended hours application, or if the hours sought are outwith the policy hours, then the application will be considered by two members of the Board. In practice, one of the members who determines the application is usually the Convener of the Board. Further information on the Board's decision-making framework is set out in the Board's Statement of Licensing Policy at Paragraphs 5.3 to 5.7.

3.3 These delegated powers ensure that the Board provides an efficient and cost-effective service to all those involved in the licensing process. At the same time, the delegated powers are limited to ensure that any potentially controversial applications are appropriately scrutinised by members of the Board while having due regard to the Licensing Objectives and the Board's Statement of Licensing Policy.

3.4 A summary is provided in Annex 1 of licences (including occasional licences) held in Renfrewshire in the financial year 2020-2021 and the number of licensing applications/ reviews considered, and the decisions made in relation to them. It should be noted that the number of liquor licence applications received in 2020 to 2021 was lower for most application types than in 2019 to 2020 as a result of the global pandemic and the restrictions imposed upon on-

licensed premises, which required to be closed during certain periods of the year. The Licensing Board were also unable to hold meetings between the onset of the pandemic and late summer 2020. A notable exception to the reduction in applications is in relation to occasional licences, the number of which increased, due to applications received and considered to enable premises to offer external drinking areas.

- 3.5 Eight premises licence applications (including provisional licence applications) were received during the financial year 2020-2021. The number of such applications considered in the same period was three, all of which were applications for provisional premises licences, and these applications were granted. Several of the applications made within the period were not received until late in the financial year and were not therefore able to be considered before 31<sup>st</sup> March.
- 3.6 However, in approving each of these applications the Board attached additional conditions. In the case of one of the premises, the Board granted the licence subject to a condition in relation to CCTV, as requested by Police Scotland. As all three of the applications related to the provision of off sales of alcohol, the Board attached the conditions set out in its Statement of Licensing Policy in relation to alcohol deliveries, which they considered necessary for the purposes of protecting children and young persons from harm.
- 3.7 In addition to applications for proposed new licensed premises, the Board also received 16 applications for major variation, 11 of which were considered before the end of the financial year (as with applications for new licences, a number of applications were received towards the end of the period). While the Board granted the 11 applications, they considered it necessary, in a number of them, for the purposes of the licensing objectives to impose additional conditions and in two cases the terminal hour for external areas was restricted to 9pm. In three cases, further conditions were imposed in relation to the management of external areas, for the purpose of preventing crime and disorder and preventing public nuisance. The Board also imposed, in two of these cases, conditions for the purpose of protecting children and young persons from harm. In four other cases, the Board attached conditions relating to alcohol deliveries where off sales were being provided, in accordance with the Board's Statement of Licensing Policy.
- 3.8 Five premises licence review hearings were held during 2020-2021. One review related to non payment of an annual fee. No action was ultimately taken by the Board, in circumstances where payment was made at the time of the hearing and an application was received seeking transfer of the licence to another party. In relation to the other review hearings, two were concerned with incidents where premises were alleged to have breached public health restrictions relating to the coronavirus. In one of these reviews, the Board,

having regard to the licensing objectives of preventing crime and disorder and protecting and improving public health, found the licence holder no longer fit and proper to hold the licence and accordingly required to revoke that licence. In the other, the Board found grounds for review to be made out, but accepted that culpability lay with a personal licence holder for the incident and that, on learning of the incident, the premises licence holder had taken appropriate measures. As such, the Board decided to take no further action.

- 3.9 The other two review applications considered by the Board during the year related to grounds said to be relevant to the licensing objectives of preventing crime and disorder, securing public safety, preventing public nuisance and protecting children and young persons from harm and were made by Police Scotland following alleged incidents on premises. In one of these reviews, the Board found the grounds for review established and varied the licence by adding conditions to achieve improved monitoring of the premises by management. In the other review, the Board continued consideration of the application to allow monitoring of action to be taken by the licence holder on a voluntary basis as they had agreed with Police Scotland. The matter as such remains to be determined by the Board.
- 3.10 A personal licence application was refused during 2020-2021 on the basis the Board considered the applicant not to be a fit and proper person. Four reviews of personal licences were also considered. One of these resulted in no action being taken by the Board, while another resulted in a licence being endorsed as necessary for the purposes of preventing crime and disorder and securing public safety. The other two reviews concerned alleged breaches of public health restrictions relating to the coronavirus. The Board found both personal licence holders to no longer be fit and proper to hold their licences, having regard to the licensing objectives of preventing crime and disorder and protecting and improving public health, and as such the Board were required to revoke these personal licences.
- 3.11 As stated at Paragraph 3.4 above, an increased number of occasional licence applications was received during 2020-21 as compared with the previous year. Applications for occasional licences which related to external drinking areas were considered and determined by two Members of the Licensing Board, with the Licensing Standards Officers preparing a report containing information on these applications. In addition, officers extended the notification procedure for occasional licence applications to include Council Services with a potential interest in the suitability of locations and/or the current public health requirements, to allow them to comment in appropriate cases. With applications being referred to Board Members to determine, further scrutiny was able to be given to any likelihood of public nuisance from outside areas, particularly in the case of premises in the vicinity of residential properties, and

to determine suitable terminal hours for the sale of alcohol and for appropriate children and young persons' access, where applicable.

- 3.12 One occasional licence application in respect of an external area was refused due to concerns over the suitability of that area based on the information provided and another was refused due to public nuisance concerns. However, in numerous cases, Members restricted the terminal hour of outside areas, having regard to the licensing objective of preventing public nuisance, or restricted the terms of children and young persons' access, having regard to the licensing objective of protecting children and young persons from harm.

#### **4 LICENSING POLICY STATEMENT**

- 4.1 The Board's current Statement of Licensing Policy ("Statement") was published in November 2018.
- 4.2 In its Statement, the Board considers that Paisley Town Centre is overprovided in respect of "Liquor or Pub Type Premises", being pub type premises used wholly or predominantly for the sale of alcohol. Restaurant, hotel and nightclub premises are excluded from this policy. The Board's current Statement also provides, amongst other things, for local conditions relating to deliveries of alcohol which provide additional safeguards to protect children and young persons from harm.
- 4.3 The above overprovision policy, subject to some revisions, has been in place for a number of years and the licensed trade and their representatives are familiar with its terms. In the financial year 2020-2021, the Board did not receive, nor require to consider, any premises licence applications for "liquor or pub type premises" within the Paisley Town Centre overprovision area. Accordingly, no further such licences have been issued within this area.
- 4.4 As stated above at Paragraphs 3.6 and 3.7, the Board attached the conditions set out in its Statement in relation to alcohol deliveries to a number of premises licences. Where applicants sought to include off sales in, or to add alcohol deliveries to, their licence, applicants were invited to address these policy conditions in their submissions at hearings before the Board, as in the previous year, and in such cases the standard policy conditions relating to alcohol deliveries were attached by the Board. Similarly, Licensing Standards Officers highlighted the need for such conditions in relation to occasional

licence applications, where applicable, to allow officers or Board Members, as appropriate, to consider attaching similar conditions to those licences.

- 4.5 In accordance with Paragraph 15.4 of its Statement, the Board normally approves a policy on extended hours for licensed premises during the festive period. Although, in 2020-21, officers consulted the Licensing Forum on this matter as provided for in the policy, it became apparent in late 2020 that there was little prospect of extended licensed hours over the festive period given the ongoing level of restrictions generally and in relation to licensed premises in particular.
- 4.6 The Board has otherwise had regard to the terms of its Statement in considering applications and reaching decisions under the Act in the financial year 2020- 2021. All decisions were made in accordance with the Scheme of Delegation set out in the Board's Statement covering that period. As stated above, applications requiring to be considered by the Board were referred to a hearing before the full Licensing Board and occasional licence applications outwith the terms of the Board's policy, or where comments had been received, were referred to two Members of the Licensing Board for a decision (this was the case for all applications for external drinking areas, as detailed at Paragraph 3.11). In these cases, Members of the Board considered applications referred to them on their individual merits, balancing the terms of the Statement of Licensing Policy and the submissions received, with appropriate consideration of the licensing objectives.

## **5 FURTHER ACTIONS OF THE BOARD RELATING TO THE LICENSING OBJECTIVES**

- 5.1 Throughout 2020-21, officers and Board Members recognised that the licensed trade, particularly on-sales premises, faced considerable financial and logistical challenges as a result of closure of premises and restrictions to their usual trading models. Officers and Board Members accommodated the licensing of external areas through occasional licence applications and endeavoured to deal with these applications as quickly as possible, while Licensing Standards Officers ensured that sufficient information in relation to the location of premises, proximity to any residential dwellings and other relevant issues (for example, suitability for children's access) was provided to allow robust consideration of applications relative to the licensing objectives.

- 5.2 Licensing Standards Officers prepared a set of conditions which they would propose in relation to any external drinking area applications received, in advance of restrictions being eased in early July 2020. These conditions were designed to ensure the licensing objectives would be met, with particular focus on preventing crime and disorder, preventing public nuisance, securing public safety and protecting and improving public health. In relation to the latter, a condition was developed and requested that premises would only operate where permitted by, and in accordance with, legislation, regulations, directions and guidance of the UK and Scottish Governments, relative to the COVID-19 pandemic, whether relating to the protection of public health, restrictions of social gatherings, requirement for social distancing or otherwise. The condition is now also regularly requested by Police Scotland and is understood to be in use also in other Licensing Board areas.
- 5.3 As detailed at Paragraph 3.11, officers extended the notification procedures for occasional licence applications relating to external areas beyond the statutory minimum requirements. This was particularly to ensure sufficient information was available from relevant Council Services as to the suitability of areas and to ensure there was no inconsistency with the licensing objectives in granting any application, while also ensuring that those responsible for enforcement of public health restrictions were able to comment in appropriate cases. However, licensing officers also worked more extensively with Renfrewshire Council Services in relation to the licensing of external drinking areas. To simplify the procedures for those intending to operate an outside area, a streamlined process was developed to allow any necessary Road Occupation Permit to be obtained in tandem with the licensing process. Further, a working group was established to allow licensing officers to meet regularly with colleagues in Planning, Roads, Environmental Health/Trading Standards and Regeneration to ensure appropriate co-ordination on these matters where required.
- 5.4 The Licensing Board held its annual joint meeting with Renfrewshire Licensing Forum in November 2020. Licensing Standards Officers are members of the Forum and attend the Forum's scheduled meetings throughout the year. A Depute Clerk to the Licensing Board attends Forum meetings regularly to provide updates as required. A report was submitted by the Clerk to the Licensing Board, on the licensing of additional outdoor drinking areas, to the Forum's September meeting in 2020.
- 5.5 The Licensing Board considered and discussed, at their meeting on 28<sup>th</sup> January 2021, a detailed report by the Renfrewshire Alcohol and Drugs

Commission, which had been set up in 2019 to address the challenges posed by alcohol and drugs in Renfrewshire. The Commission is the first of its kind to be established, relating to both alcohol and drugs.

- 5.6 The Commission's report set out a number of aims with a view to improving the lives of people and families impacted by alcohol and drugs over a five year period, following a period of engagement and evidence-gathering. As well as setting out detailed findings and making recommendations in relation to alcohol harms and available support and providing statistical information, the Commission recognised the important role of the Licensing Board to implement legislation to improve public health, while noting that less data on alcohol related harms exists than in relation to drug related harms. The report recognised that these gaps required to be addressed, to allow the Board access to information not currently available to them. The Commission's report also found that there was potential to strengthen alcohol licensing policy at a national level. The Board Members, in addition to considering the Commission's report at their meeting (as stated at Paragraph 5.5), had given earlier consideration to the report, as Renfrewshire Councillors, at a meeting of the Council in late 2020. It is anticipated that there will be opportunities for Licensing Board Members to further consider the Commission's findings in 2021-22.
- 5.7 The Board's legal officers were not required to complete Continuing Professional Development (CPD) in the period to the end of October 2020 and, in consequence of this, fewer formal training opportunities were available. Officers continued to attend meetings of the Society of Local Authority Lawyers and Administrators (SOLAR) Licensing Group, by remote means. Officers also continued to develop their licensing knowledge through less formal means, including familiarising themselves with, and using, new emergency legislation which relaxed some of the normal procedural requirements in liquor licensing on a temporary basis in light of the pandemic. A Licensing Standards Officer also completed gambling training, part of which related to gambling in liquor licensed premises.
- 5.8 In previous years, Licensing Standards Officers carried out extensive programmes of compliance visits to licensed premises, both in relation to minimum unit pricing and more generally. In 2020-21, licensing compliance visits to licensed premises were limited and in any event many licensed premises required to be closed or to operate under considerable restrictions during a substantial part of the year. However, some visits were carried out. In particular, a Licensing Standards Officer visited licensed premises upon the

easing of lockdown restrictions in early July 2020 as part of a multi-agency initiative involving Police Scotland and Communities, Housing and Planning Services (as they then were) in order to check compliance with both the conditions of occasional licences for external drinking areas and the Health Protection regulations in place at that time. In addition to providing reports in relation to numerous applications to license external areas, Licensing Standards Officers have also addressed complaints against licensed premises (five were received in 2020-21, relating to noise and antisocial behaviour) and have offered mediation between licence holders and neighbouring residents as required.

## **6. CONCLUSION**

- 6.1 The Board is satisfied that, in all decisions made in the financial year 2020-2021, the Board and its officers have had regard to the Licensing Objectives and the Board's Statement of Licensing Policy in their exercise of functions under the Act. The Board has taken firm action when necessary for the Licensing Objectives. At the same time, the Board appreciates the considerable challenges currently facing the licensed trade and continues to encourage and support them to maintain good practice in their premises for the benefit of the people of Renfrewshire.



## Liquor Licensing Statistics for Year 2020-21 (Period 01/04/2020 to 31/03/2021)

<b>Local Authority - Renfrewshire</b>	
<b>Premises Licence Statistics</b>	
Licences in Force on <b>31 March 2021</b> (this should equal total of a+b+c)	<b>428</b>
(a) on license only	96
(b) off license only	148
(c) both	184
Applications received during 2020-21 (including provisional applications)	
(a) on sale	1
(b) off sale	6
(c) both	1
Applications refused during 2020-21 under section 23	0
Applications granted during 2020-21 under section 23	3
Applications for review of premises licence during 2020-21 under S36 & S37 resulting in:-	
(a) written warning	0
(b) variation	1
(c) suspension	0
(d) revocation	1
(e) no action	2
<b>Occasional Licence Statistics</b>	
Number of Occasional Licences granted during 2020-21	<b>611</b>
<b>Personal Licence Statistics</b>	
Personal Licences in Force on <b>31 March 2021</b>	<b>1312</b>
Applications during 2020-21 under section 72:-	
(a) refused	1
(b) granted	62
Proceedings taken during 2020-21 under section 83 (notice of conviction) resulting in:-	
(a) endorsement	0
(b) suspension	0
(c) revocation	0
(d) no action	0
Proceedings taken during 2020-21 under section 84 (conduct inconsistent with licensing objectives) resulting in:-	
(a) endorsement	1
(b) suspension	0
(c) revocation	2
(d) no action	1
Proceedings during 2020-21 under section 86 (multiple endorsements) resulting in:-	
(a) endorsement	0
(b) suspension	0
(c) revocation	0
(d) no action	0
Revocations of personal licences during 2020-21 under section 87(3) (failure to provide evidence of having undertaken refresher training)	0
<b>Staff employed at 31 March 2021</b>	
Number (full-time equivalent) of licensing standards officers employed	1



**To: Renfrewshire Licensing Board**

**On: 20 September 2021**

**Report by Clerk to the Licensing Board**

**Extended Hours for the Festive Period 2021/2022 under the Licensing (Scotland) Act 2005**

## **INTRODUCTION**

### **1. Policy**

It has been the normal practice of the Renfrewshire Licensing Board to make a policy for extended hours for the festive period each year. In previous years, this policy was considered at the Board's October quarterly meeting under the Licensing (Scotland) Act 1976 regime and a similar practice has continued under the Licensing (Scotland) Act 2005, except in 2020/2021 due to public health measures being in place.

The Board has in terms of its current Statement of Licensing Policy at Paragraph 15.4 set out the following:-

"The Board has an existing practice permitting longer licensed hours over the festive period and that will continue to be the case. The festive period for the purposes of this aspect of the policy will be determined by the Board on an annual basis." Accordingly, the Board now require to determine the festive period for such longer licensed hours to apply for the festive period 2021/2022.

It should be noted that many premises licence holders when making an application for a premises licence to the Board included within the Seasonal Variations section of their applications a reference to the hours to be determined by the Board in respect of their festive policy to be applied to their licences as a seasonal variation. Accordingly, such licence holders will not require to make further application to the Board for "extended hours" to cover the festive period determined by the Board. Other licence holders who have not included a seasonal variation in their operating plans are required to submit separate applications for extended hours.

### **2. Consultation on Festive Policy**

The views of individual members of Renfrewshire Licensing Forum, including Police Scotland and the Renfrewshire Health & Social Care Partnership, and the Council's Community Safety Resilience and Deployment Manager have been sought as to what should be agreed by way of a festive hours policy for 2021/2022. Responses Page 53 have been received from a resident member of the Forum, Police Scotland and the Council's Community Safety Resilience and Deployment Manager. These responses were supportive of festive hours similar to those agreed for 2019/2020. No further responses have been received from members of the Licensing Forum.

Having regard to Paragraph 15.4 of the Board's Statement of Licensing Policy as set out at Paragraph 1, previous festive policy hours and the views of the membership of Renfrewshire Licensing Forum, the Board will require to determine if they wish a similar festive policy to 2019/2020. The proposed festive hours set out below reflect the hours allowed by the Board for the festive period 2019/2020.

### **3. Proposed Festive Policy Hours**

If the Board so determine, it is proposed that the extended hours for the festive period 2021/2022 are as follows:-

"Festive Period" to be defined as the period (i) from Friday 3rd December 2021 to Saturday 4th December 2021, inclusive and (ii) Friday 10th December 2021 to Sunday 2nd January 2022 inclusive and the proposed policy hours are set out below.

References to the terminal hour below are to the last hour's trading on any day affected by the proposed policy and shall be construed so that the terminal hour stated will be on the morning immediately after the trading date shown, so that the terminal hour stated for Sunday 12th December 2021 in respect of on sale premises (including registered clubs) other than those with the primary purpose of offering entertainment in the form of dancing is 1am on Monday 13th December 2021.

#### **All Licensed on sale premises (including registered clubs), except premises the primary purpose of which is to offer entertainment in the form of dancing**

**Terminal Hour – 1.00am** Sunday 12, Monday 13, Tuesday 14, Wednesday 15, Thursday 16, Sunday 19, Monday 20, Tuesday 21, Wednesday 22, Thursday 23, Sunday 26, Monday 27, Tuesday 28, Wednesday 29 and Thursday 30th all December 2021 and Sunday 2 January 2022.

**Terminal Hour – 2.00 am** Friday 3, Saturday 4, Friday 10, Saturday 11, Friday 17, Saturday 18, Saturday 25, all December 2021, and Saturday 1 January 2022.

**Terminal Hour – 3.00 am** Friday 24 December 2021 and Friday 31 December 2021.

#### **On Sales Premises, the primary purpose of which is to offer entertainment in the form of Dancing**

**Terminal Hour – 3.00 am** Sunday 12, Monday 13, Tuesday 14, Wednesday 15, Thursday 16, Sunday 19, Monday 20, Tuesday 21, Wednesday 22, Thursday 23, Sunday 26, Monday 27, Tuesday 28, Wednesday 29 and Thursday 30 all December 2021 and Sunday 2 January 2022

#### **Terminal Hour 4.00 am**

**Where premises are members of Paisley Town Centre Radio Link**

Friday 3, Saturday 4, Friday 10, Saturday 11, Friday 17, Saturday 18, Saturday 25 all December 2021 and Saturday 1 January 2022.

**Terminal Hour – 4.00am** Friday 24 December 2021 and Friday 31 December 2021.

The Board will note that no festive hours policy was agreed for the festive period 2020/2021 due to public health measures being in place at that time, as stated at Paragraph 1 above. Should the Board agree a policy for the festive period 2021/2022 as proposed above, this would be subject to any public health legislation which might be in place during the above period. As the Board will be aware, any regulations would take precedence over the terms of any policy agreed by the Board permitting longer hours.

#### **4. Last Date for Applications**

As indicated previously at Paragraph 1, a number of licence holders have included the Board's festive policy hours in their operating plans and no further application is required. In relation to those licence holders who will require to submit extended hours applications, it is proposed that such applications be submitted at least 28 days in advance of the first date applied for to allow for the timeous processing of applications.

#### **5. Requirement for Notification**

It has been the Board's practice for several years that all premises licence holders who provided in their operating plans for a seasonal variation, in relation to the festive hours, advise both Police Scotland and Renfrewshire Licensing Board of the dates on which they intend to utilise their seasonal hours. It is proposed that similar notification be given by those licence holders by Wednesday 1 December 2021. Intimation can be made via email to the following: -

Police Scotland - [RenfrewshireInverclydeLicensing@scotland.pnn.police.uk](mailto:RenfrewshireInverclydeLicensing@scotland.pnn.police.uk)  
Renfrewshire Licensing Board - [enforcement.licensing.cs@renfrewshire.gov.uk](mailto:enforcement.licensing.cs@renfrewshire.gov.uk)

#### **6. Recommendations**

6.1 It is recommended that:-

6.1.1 The Board agree that there be extended hours for the festive period having regard to its position as set out at Paragraph 15.4 of the Statement of Licensing Policy which indicates that the current policy of allowing longer licensed hours over the festive period will continue;

6.1.2 Thereafter, the Board approve the proposed hours and dates detailed in this Report for the festive period, or such other hours as the Board considers appropriate, and authorise the Clerk to take such steps as required to advise appropriate individuals and organisations of this year's festive policy;

6.1.3 The Board agree, in cases where premises licence holders have the benefit of festive hours included in their Operating Plans, that those licence holders require to advise the Board and Police Scotland no later than 1st December 2021 of the dates they intend to utilise their seasonal hours during the festive period;

6.1.4 The Board agree in cases where licence holders have not included the Board's festive policy in their operating plans that extended hours applications will be required. Such applications should be made at least 28 days in advance of the first date for which extended hours are sought.

Kenneth Graham  
Clerk to the Licensing Board

Monthly newsletter from Alcohol Focus Scotland

[View this email in your browser](#)



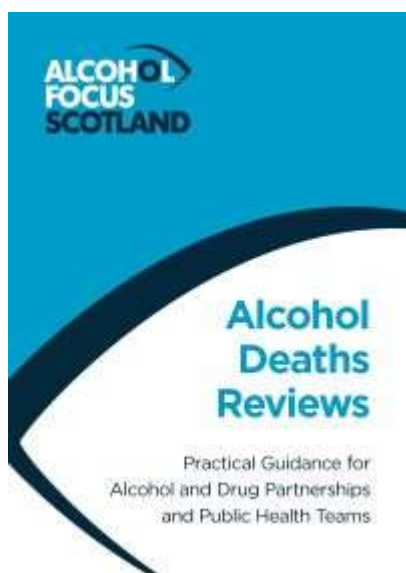
reducing harm caused by alcohol



## eFocus September 2020

### news

#### Alcohol Focus Scotland publishes deaths review guidance



The launch of our Alcohol Deaths Review Guidance for ADPs and Public Health teams took place on September 24th, with an excellent turnout from around the country. We were pleased to welcome Joe FitzPatrick, Minister for Public Health, Sport and Wellbeing to speak at the event where he encouraged local teams to make use of the guidance and AFS's project support.

The guidance is the result of 12 months of research with previous review teams, and for the first time establishes a method for reviewing which can be implemented around the country, cutting the time for reviews from 3 years to 12-18 months.

Ongoing project support is available from Simon Jones, at introductory meetings and through the Alcohol Deaths Researchers' Network, please contact [Simon](#) for more information. [Read the guidance.](#)

## Leading health charities call for action in Scotland

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Working with other charities in Scotland, we're calling for all political parties to commit to take actions that could save thousands of lives from preventable diseases.

During September's Global Week for Action on NCDs (non-communicable diseases), a joint letter from ten of Scotland's leading health charities called for all political parties to commit to the measures necessary to tackle these conditions – including heart disease, cancer, stroke and chronic lung conditions – that cause around two thirds of all deaths in Scotland.



We believe many of these deaths and lost healthy years of life are preventable through addressing modifiable and societal risk factors. Official statistics estimate that each year around 14,000 deaths in Scotland could be prevented through public health interventions.

As a collective, we have set out a series of priorities to tackle three of the biggest risk factors that affect people today – tobacco use, alcohol consumption and unhealthy diets – to improve the health of everyone in Scotland. [Read more.](#)



## Commission on Alcohol Harm: MPs and peers call on Government to urgently address Britain's alcohol harm crisis

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The independent Commission on Alcohol Harm was set up by alcohol health experts and UK Parliamentarians to examine the full extent of alcohol harm across the UK. In its [final report](#), the Commission outlines recommendations for reducing harm and calls for a new comprehensive alcohol strategy for England.

The report was launched at an online event hosted by the Alcohol Health Alliance UK. Speakers included SFAD volunteer Beverly who said, "After reading the report, I see that there are thousands of families like mine out there."

Help support the recommendations of the Commission by sharing the report with your MP [now](#).

## NICE Guidelines: Surveillance or Support?

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NICE's consultation on new guidance on preventing Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders (FASD) has made headlines, with disagreement on whether health data can and should be shared. How can we ensure people with FASD get support while

supporting women's health? [Read more in this blog post.](#)

## Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD) Awareness Day

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Ahead of Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders (FASD) Awareness Day AFS created resources to raise awareness of FASD and signpost families and professionals to sources of support. The resources were widely shared by ADPs, Public Health teams and other professionals.



The same week the Scottish Parliament held a debate on recognising FASD proposed by Kenneth Gibson MSP following a meeting of the Cross Party Group on Improving Scotland's Health in February where FASD was discussed. AFS contributed a briefing to MSPs in advance of the debate, highlighting the work of the NHS Ayrshire and Arran FFAST team and the FASD Hub Scotland which supports families. Many members participated in the debate and helped raise the profile of the condition, and we are now examining how we can lend support to people working in this area in the coming months. [Watch the debate.](#)



*Kenneth Gibson MSP opened the debate in the Scottish Parliament on recognising FASD.*

## SHAAP launches new 'Rural Matters' report

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SHAAP's new *Rural Matters* report presents findings on the cultural and social context of drinking in rural areas and barriers to accessing services in rural Scotland, from a qualitative research study undertaken from 2019-2020. It draws on evidence from a literature review, as well as five community consultations and 25 semi-structured interviews conducted with healthcare and service providers, individuals with lived experience of alcohol harm, young people and family members of people with alcohol problems, living and working in remote and rural Scotland. Based on this evidence the report makes clear recommendations for research, policy and practice. [Read the report.](#)

## United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (Incorporation) (Scotland) Bill

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AFS warmly welcomes the introduction of a Bill to incorporate the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) into Scots law. We believe this is a significant moment in realising our vision of ensuring all children and young people growing up in Scotland have their human rights respected, protected and fulfilled.



We know from international experience that incorporation encourages a culture change in which children and young people are better valued and respected. In uncertain times like these, the importance of legal protections for children and young people's human rights is more evident than ever. As a member of Together (Scottish Alliance for Children's Rights), AFS signed a [joint letter to MSPs](#) in support of the Bill and we will continue to monitor developments as the Bill is considered by the Scottish Parliament.

The Bill can be [viewed here](#) alongside its accompanying documents.

### **Scottish Parliament's Finance and Constitution Committee call for for views on the UK Government's Internal Market Bill**

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The Finance and Constitution Committee has called for views to inform its scrutiny of the UK Government's Internal Market Bill, which is currently going through the House of Commons.

The Bill sets out to create an internal market for the UK, following the UK's exit from the EU. AFS responded to the Committee's request for views, on the area of the operation of the internal market. We stressed our concern that the Bill would substantially undermine devolved regulatory autonomy and limit the ability of devolved governments to implement measures to improve public health. We also highlighted the potential for the Bill's market access principles to impact public health policies such as minimum unit pricing and alcohol labelling. [Read our response.](#)

## research

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### > **Dark Nudges and Sludge in Big Alcohol: Behavioral Economics, Cognitive Biases, and Alcohol Industry Corporate Social Responsibility**

'Nudges' steer people toward certain options but also allow them to go their own way. "Dark nudges" aim to change consumer behaviour against their best interests. "Sludge" uses cognitive biases to make behaviour change more difficult. Researchers systematically searched websites and materials of alcohol industry (AI)–funded corporate social responsibility (CSR) organisations (e.g., IARD, Drinkaware, Drinkwise, Éduc'alcool). These examples were coded by independent raters and categorized for further analysis. The study identified dark nudges and sludge in alcohol industry CSR materials which undermine the information on alcohol harms that they disseminate, and may normalise or encourage alcohol consumption. Researchers suggested that policymakers and practitioners should be aware of how dark nudges and sludge are used by the alcohol industry to promote misinformation about alcohol harms to the public. [Read the paper.](#)

### > **Signalling Virtue, Promoting Harm: Unhealthy commodity industries and COVID-19**

This report offers a preliminary analysis of results from a crowdsourcing project mapping unhealthy commodity industry actions around the world in response to

COVID-19. Respondents to an online survey contributed 786 submissions describing industry activities in over 90 countries. The report outlines four broad categories of strategic responses evident in multiple countries and across diverse industries: adapting marketing and promotion of product; corporate social responsibility and philanthropy; pursuing partnerships and collaborations; and shaping policy environments. The actions outlined in this report raise concerns about the prospect of a corporate capture of COVID-19 in which the involvement of unhealthy commodity industries in the pandemic response risks directing public policy efforts away from broader health and social goals and towards the entrenchment of industry interests. This highlights the importance of continuing to monitor their corporate political activity around COVID-19 if the potential to build back better is to be realised. [Read the report.](#)

## training

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### Alcohol Focus Scotland learning opportunities

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Learning and development is an integral part of our work at Alcohol Focus Scotland. Our wide range of evaluated training courses can help people understand, manage and prevent the harm caused by alcohol. We can provide training for

- People working in the licensed trade and in the regulation of licensing
- Early years workers, teachers and others working with children and young people affected by a family member's drinking
- Employers who want to raise awareness of and manage alcohol/drug issues in the workplace
- People in a professional or personal role caring for someone affected by alcohol

To find out more about our diverse learning opportunities visit our [website](#), and read our [Learning Brochure](#).

## events

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### Working with the whole person: Alcohol, mental health and complex needs

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#### **Alcohol Change UK's first online interactive conference**

**> Wednesday 2 December and Thursday 3 December 2020**

Alcohol misuse is often just one symptom of the complex challenges someone faces in their life. Drinking may be a means to cope with underlying trauma or ongoing mental distress. It may bring its own problems with it, such as low mood and impaired cognition.

To consider complex needs and solutions Alcohol Change UK is gathering together a multidisciplinary group of academics, practitioners, and people with lived experience, to help us all work towards interventions that support the whole person. [Find out more and book your place.](#)

### Alcohol workshops, seminars and conferences

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Are you organising an alcohol-related workshop, seminar or conference? Please let us know and we can help you promote it here in eFocus and on the AFS website.



Alcohol Focus Scotland, 166 Buchanan St, Glasgow G1 2LW  
tel. 0141 572 6700 email. [enquiries@alcohol-focus-scotland.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@alcohol-focus-scotland.org.uk)

[www.alcohol-focus-scotland.org.uk](http://www.alcohol-focus-scotland.org.uk)



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Our mailing address is:

Alcohol Focus Scotland, 2nd floor, 166 Buchanan St, Glasgow G1 2LW

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reducing harm caused by alcohol



eFocus October 2020

## news

### Working together on alcohol labelling



Public awareness of alcohol harm is limited with over half of people unaware that alcohol causes cancer. Similarly, awareness of the Chief Medical Officers' low-risk drinking guidelines is low with 80% of people unaware that both men and women should consume no more than 14 units per week. Alcohol - like sugary drinks, sweets and crisps - is an entirely discretionary product which cannot be recommended as part of a healthy diet. It provides 'empty' calories that can contribute to obesity.

Earlier this month Alcohol Focus Scotland chief executive Alison Douglas presented to the Food Standards Scotland (FSS) board, highlighting the anomalous way in which alcohol continues to be treated by regulators, despite its status as a discretionary product and high levels of consumption and harm in Scotland. As the body responsible for implementing and monitoring Scottish and

EU food, FSS can play an important role in protecting and promoting the consumer's right to know about the impact of alcohol consumption on health and in supporting people to make healthier choices. AFS's paper suggests specific ways in which FSS might strengthen its contribution to protecting the rights of consumers, such as working with the Scottish Government to ensure effective and well-aligned policies on alcohol and diet/obesity and to develop a comprehensive approach to alcohol labelling. [Read the paper.](#)

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### **Better alcohol labelling – A way to boost awareness of the risk between alcohol and cancer?**

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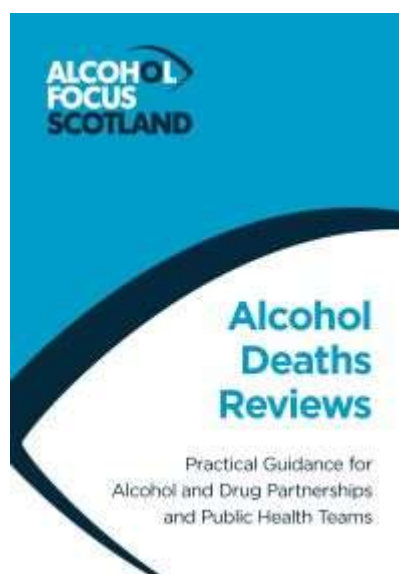
Guest blogger, Ben Chiu, Policy Manager (Prevention & Health Services, Devolved), at Cancer Research UK, highlights the link between alcohol and cancer, and why we need to encourage the UK and devolved governments to consider requiring alcohol products to contain information to help consumers understand what is in their drinks. [Read the blog.](#)

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### **Alcohol Deaths Review support**

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After launching our Alcohol Deaths Review Guidance for ADPs and NHS Public Health teams, we are now offering ongoing project support to teams around the country as they examine how they can take forward alcohol death reviews in their area. Simon Jones is happy to discuss any aspect of the guidance or process around death reviews if you would like, you can contact him at [simon.jones@alcohol-focus-scotland.org.uk](mailto:simon.jones@alcohol-focus-scotland.org.uk) or 0141 572 6593.



You can find out more about the Alcohol Deaths Review Guidance on the [AFS website.](#)

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## Consultation Response: UNCRC (Incorporation) (Scotland) Bill

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In October Alcohol Focus Scotland responded to the Equality and Human Rights Committee consultation on the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (Incorporation) (Scotland) Bill.

AFS believes that the UNCRC (Incorporation) (Scotland) Bill has the potential to help realise the rights of children and young people in Scotland:

- The UNCRC has provisions to protect children and youth from alcohol marketing.
- Including licensing boards within the scope of UNCRC duties could support and encourage good practice within the licensing system.
- Incorporation could help ensure that children's rights and needs are routinely examined in partnership with them in all forms of care, including addictions support.

[Read the response.](#)

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## research

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### > **Global burden of 87 risk factors in 204 countries and territories, 1990–2019: a systematic analysis for the Global Burden of Disease Study 2019**

Analysis of levels and trends in exposure to leading risk factors and of their effect on human health are important to identify where public health is making progress, and in which cases current efforts are inadequate. The Global Burden of Diseases, Injuries, and Risk Factors Study (GBD) 2019 provides a comprehensive

assessment of the magnitude of risk factor exposure, relative risk, and attributable burden of disease. In 2019, as in 1990, alcohol use is the leading risk factor for death, disability and ill health globally for people aged 25-49 years old. [Read the paper.](#)

#### > **The Scottish Diet - It needs to change 2020 update, Food Standards Scotland**

This report by Food Standards Scotland shows that there continues to be a lack of progress towards the Scottish Government dietary goals and improving obesity and diet related poor health. We continue to buy a lot of discretionary foods and drinks, such as confectionery, cakes, biscuits, pastries, savoury snacks, sugary drinks and alcohol from shops and supermarkets, and these tend to be heavily promoted. It highlights that for drinkers, alcohol contributes to 9% of calorie intake and notes the UK CMOs' advice that regular drinkers should not exceed 14 units per week to keep their health risks low. [Read the report.](#)

## training

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### **Alcohol Focus Scotland learning opportunities**

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- Employers who want to raise awareness of and manage alcohol/drug issues in the workplace
- People in a professional or personal role caring for someone affected by alcohol

To find out more about our diverse learning opportunities visit our [website](#), and read our [Learning Brochure](#).

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### **SQA Updated Scottish Certificate for Personal Licence Holder Qualifications – 1 December 2020**

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The updated Scottish Certificate for Personal Licence Holders (SCPLH) and Scottish Certificate for Personal Licence Holders Refresher (SCPLHR) qualifications will be available from accredited Awarding Bodies, including Alcohol Focus Scotland from 1 December 2020.



Alcohol Focus Scotland contributed to the working group which considered the content of the qualifications alongside the licensed trade, awarding bodies, training providers, Police Scotland, local authorities, and other licensing experts.

The revised qualifications covers both the initial course, SCPLH at SCQF Level 6, and the refresher course, SCPLH (Refresher) at SCQF Level 6, will be accredited by SQA Accreditation and replace the current qualifications.

For more information, visit the [Alcohol Focus Scotland website](#) or contact our [training team](#).

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## events

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### Working with the whole person: Alcohol, mental health and complex needs

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#### **Alcohol Change UK's first online interactive conference**

**> Wednesday 2 December and Thursday 3 December 2020**

Alcohol misuse is often just one symptom of the complex challenges someone faces in their life. Drinking may be a means to cope with underlying trauma or ongoing mental distress. It may bring its own problems with it, such as low mood and impaired cognition.

To consider complex needs and solutions Alcohol Change UK is gathering together a multidisciplinary group of academics, practitioners, and people with lived experience, to help us all work towards interventions that support the whole person. [Find out more and book your place.](#)

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## Think about Drinking' – with the British Liver Trust

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### > Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> November at 11am – 12:30pm.

As part of Alcohol Awareness week this November, the British Liver Trust Scotland and Wales teams are hosting a 'Think about Drinking' virtual awareness event.

The event will include:

- An overview of the work of the British Liver Trust
- An explanation of how alcohol affects the liver
- Discussions around stigma and accessing support
- Conversations about the benefits of support groups for people affected by alcohol -related liver disease
- Explore improving our community engagement
- Signposting and contact details

For anyone interested in attending, please

contact [gillian.macleod@britishlivertrust.org.uk](mailto:gillian.macleod@britishlivertrust.org.uk) - a link to register for the event will then be sent out.

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## Alcohol workshops, seminars and conferences

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Are you organising an alcohol-related workshop, seminar or conference? Please let us know and we can help you promote it here in eFocus and on the AFS website.

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Alcohol Focus Scotland, 166 Buchanan St, Glasgow G1 2LW  
tel. 0141 572 6700 email. [enquiries@alcohol-focus-scotland.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@alcohol-focus-scotland.org.uk)

[www.alcohol-focus-scotland.org.uk](http://www.alcohol-focus-scotland.org.uk)

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Newsletter from Alcohol Focus Scotland

[View this email in your browser](#)



March 2021



## PREVENTION IS POSSIBLE

Alcohol Focus Scotland launches manifesto to tackle harm from alcohol.

Our new **manifesto** focuses on effective policies that, by reducing consumption, can save and improve the lives of people in Scotland.

Ahead of the election in May, Alcohol Focus Scotland is calling on all parties and candidates to commit to:

1. Take action to restrict alcohol marketing.
2. Mandate nutrition and health information on alcohol labels.
3. Address the low-cost of alcohol.
4. Tackle the easy availability of alcohol.
5. Provide support that saves lives and promotes recovery.

 [Read the full manifesto.](#)



## HEALTH WARNINGS COULD BOOST RISK AWARENESS

A [new study](#) found that young adult drinkers in Scotland are supportive of health warnings being included on alcohol packaging, and suggest that they could effectively raise awareness of alcohol harms. The young adults believed that current alcohol labels are ineffective and unnoticeable, and they expressed mistrust in the alcohol industry to put health information on labels voluntarily. It was suggested by participants that alcohol manufacturers seek to minimise this information as much as possible.



The research, commissioned by Alcohol Focus Scotland and conducted by the

University of Stirling, demonstrates that alcohol labels as they currently stand, do not provide consumers with the opportunity to make informed choices when selecting alcoholic drinks. Most participants thought that health warnings could increase awareness of alcohol-related harms, especially for younger or potential future drinkers. Health warnings on specific health issues, such as cancer and liver disease, were considered particularly attention-grabbing and taken seriously.

Alison Douglas, chief executive of Alcohol Focus Scotland, said, “This new research demonstrates just how important it is for health and nutritional information to be provided on product labels where it can usefully inform our decisions. Alcohol producers continue to show a complete disregard for our right to know what is in our drinks and what the risks associated with alcohol consumption are. Currently more information is required on a pint of milk than on a bottle of wine and this is unacceptable”.

 [Read more.](#)



## **MUP LINKED TO 3.5% DROP IN ALCOHOL SALES, NEW FIGURES SHOW**

A study by Public Health Scotland and the University of Glasgow evaluated the impact of minimum unit pricing on off-trade sales. They found in the year following the implementation of MUP, there was a 3.5% reduction in off-trade per adult alcohol sales as compared to what would have been expected (using England and Wales as a comparator, where MUP is not implemented). The reduction in off-trade sales was driven by cider, perry, and to a lesser extent, spirits.

Despite the decrease in sales being slightly lower than previous reports have shown, it is still hugely encouraging to see that minimum unit pricing for alcohol seems to be changing our drinking habits for the better. Even a small reduction in the amount of alcohol consumed in Scotland will mean fewer lives damaged by or

lost to drink.

This is an update to previously published analysis, following improved data collection methods.

 [Read more](#) about this research.



## **UPDATE**

# WHAT DO YOUNG PEOPLE WANT TO KNOW ABOUT ALCOHOL?

Do you work with young people or have links with organisations that do?

Alcohol Focus Scotland is looking to understand the type of information young people would like to know about alcohol and where they currently go to find this information. To capture these views, we have created a short [online survey](#). The

feedback from the survey will help us shape useful and relevant information for young people.

The survey is open to everyone aged 13-25 years old and closes on Tuesday 20th April at 5pm. All participants will have the opportunity to enter a prize draw to win a £20 multi store gift card.

**Please pass on the link** and encourage your networks to participate.

✉ If you have any questions about the survey, please contact **Megan McGarrigle**, Youth Engagement Officer.



## **SUPPORT FOR MANAGING ALCOHOL AND DRUG MISUSE IN THE WORKPLACE**

At Alcohol Focus Scotland, we strongly recommend support for alcohol and drug misuse as part of employer's wellbeing offer including a robust, supportive policy, and education for staff and managers.

We offer a range of training courses aimed at providing participants with

- an introduction to alcohol.

- understanding of the impact alcohol can have on the individual, the workplace and wider Scottish society.
- how to make informed choices about consumption.
- specific guidance on how to address alcohol and drug related issues in the workplace.


 Find out more about our full ***Alcohol in the Workplace*** courses as well as bitesize sessions on key topics.

## TRAINING

### PERSONAL LICENCE HOLDER TRAINING

Alcohol Focus Scotland are now offering regular online courses for the updated Scottish Certificate for Personal Licence Holders (SCPLH) and refresher (SCPLHR) qualifications.

Our one-day course will be delivered online and exams will be conducted via City & Guilds new remote invigilation service.

 For further information, course dates and to book visit the **Alcohol Focus Scotland website**

## RESEARCH

**Exposure to unhealthy product advertising: Spatial proximity analysis to schools and socio-economic inequalities in daily exposure measured using Scottish Children's individual-level GPS data.**

## RESEARCH

**The socioeconomic distribution of alcohol-related violence in England and Wales.**

The aim of the study was to understand if socioeconomic status (SES) impacts upon the probability of



This study explored proximity of advertising of unhealthy commodities, including foods high in fat, sugar or salt, alcohol, and gambling, to schools in the central belt of Scotland, using google street view to capture bus stop adverts and GPS data gathered from children aged 10-11 years. While there was no evidence that placement of unhealthy commodity advertising was higher in more deprived areas, children from more deprived areas have greater contact with the transport system, and therefore, more exposure to the advertisements of unhealthy products on their way to and from school. A city or country wide restriction on advertising on transport networks may be needed to reduce inequalities in unhealthy commodity advertising among children.

 [Read the article.](#)

alcohol-related violence using five waves of data drawn from the Crime Survey for England and Wales (2013-2018). Although overall alcohol related violence was low, incidences of violence were more prevalent among lower SES groups. Regarding domestic violence, the study also found that alcohol related domestic violence was higher within lower SES groups.

 [Read the article.](#)







June 2021



## LATEST EVIDENCE ON MINIMUM UNIT PRICING

It's been a bumper month for studies which form part of the evaluation of minimum unit pricing. See below for a round-up of the reports published in June 2021.

### Lowest alcohol sales in Scotland for 26 years

The latest findings from the annual MESAS monitoring report show that alcohol sales in Scotland fell to the lowest since 1994. However, adults continued to consume above the recommended low-risk drinking guidelines, drinking an average of 18 units per week per adult. The volume of pure alcohol sold in Scotland was 6% higher than in England and Wales, the smallest difference seen in the available time series.

 [Read more](#)

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## Minimum unit pricing has lasting impact study shows

Recent evidence from researchers at Newcastle University, published in the Lancet, provides insight into the impact of minimum unit pricing (MUP) in both Scotland and Wales.

The study found a sustained decrease in alcohol purchases in Scotland two years following the implementation of MUP. The study also provides early evidence that MUP in Wales, more recently implemented, also had an immediate impact in reducing alcohol purchases, particularly in heavier drinking households.

 [Read more](#)

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## Price distribution of alcohol following MUP

Public Health Scotland published an analysis of alcohol price distribution data, which finds that the introduction of MUP was associated with changes in the volume of off-trade alcohol sold at different price bands in Scotland, compared to both England & Wales (where MUP did not apply in the timeframe considered) and Scotland before MUP.

After MUP was implemented, almost two-thirds of off-trade alcohol was categorised in the 50 to 64.9ppu price range (65.3%), approximately double that in England & Wales (33.6%) and in the previous year in Scotland (31.9%).

As expected, it is the cheapest, high-strength products, favoured by heavier

drinkers, that have increased in price the most - namely beer, spirits, cider and perry.

 [Read more](#)

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## **Impact of MUP on people dependent on alcohol and accessing treatment**

This first report from the University of Sheffield presents data on participants' awareness of changes in product availability and price, responses to MUP and the need for targeted support. Researchers found little evidence of negative consequences of MUP, such as a shift to use of illicit substances, among people who are alcohol dependent and accessing treatment services.

Alcohol Focus Scotland welcomes this first report - there was limited evidence before its introduction of the impact MUP might have on this group, so it's really helpful that this study has been undertaken and that further work is planned. We also need to seriously consider how to better support people with existing alcohol dependence to ensure that we can support them into recovery.

 [Read more](#)

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## Young people and their views on alcohol marketing

Ahead of the Scottish Government consultation on alcohol marketing, Alcohol Focus Scotland is working with young people to understand how they view alcohol and alcohol marketing in their daily lives.

AFS Youth Engagement Officer, Megan McGarrigle, recently delivered online focus groups with young people from partner organisations to find out more about their views and experiences.

The young people shared their thoughts on several topics in relation to alcohol marketing including the impact alcohol messaging, alcohol advertising and sports sponsorship has on them. This continued work will allow us to provide examples of young people's exposure to and awareness of alcohol marketing.

 [Read more](#)

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## **Euros renews call for action to protect children from alcohol sports sponsorship**

Deliberate product placement of Heineken beer in front of footballers at the Euros 2020 tournament renewed the call to protect children from alcohol sport sponsorship.

Sporting events such as the Euros are commonly viewed and attended by millions of under-18s, with research showing that alcohol sponsorship is associated with alcohol consumption among children.

Alcohol Focus Scotland have called on the Scottish Government to curb alcohol sponsorship of sporting events, in line with World Health Organization recommendations.

 [Read more here.](#)

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## **UK Government proposals to restrict online and TV advertising for HFSS foods**



The UK Government has **announced** that it will introduce advertising restrictions on products high in fat, sugar and salt (HFSS) via the upcoming Health and Care Bill. This includes a 9pm watershed on TV and UK-based on-demand services, and restrictions on paid-for advertising online. Ofcom will be the statutory regulator although it is likely that the Advertising Standards Authority (ASA) will be appointed as a frontline regulator. The restrictions are expected to come into force at the end of 2022.

Although welcome, these restrictions should also include alcohol to ensure a consistent approach to advertising regulation of harmful products. We're also concerned that both the various exemptions to the restrictions and the continued reliance on self- and co-regulation with the advertising industry will significantly undermine the effectiveness of the restrictions.

 Read our responses to the **2019** and **2020** consultations.

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## ALCOHOL IN THE WORKPLACE

Alcohol can have a profound impact on your staff's health and wellbeing,

absenteeism and productivity. As employers, we also have important legal duties to protect employees' health and safety.

To help you support your staff we offer a range of online training courses aimed at providing participants with

- an introduction to alcohol
- understanding of the impact alcohol can have on the individual, the workplace and wider Scottish society
- how to make informed choices about consumption
- specific guidance on how to address alcohol and drug related issues in the workplace



Find out more about our full ***Alcohol in the Workplace*** **courses as well as free bitesize sessions on key topics.**

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## TRAINING

### PERSONAL LICENCE HOLDER TRAINING

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For further information, course dates and to book visit the **Alcohol Focus Scotland website**

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## REBUILD AND RECOVER

### Alcohol Change UK's 2021 online conference

On 22 and 23 September, Alcohol Change UK will be bringing you a conference that puts alcohol in context: an opportunity to reflect on the reasons people drink, and the many routes to harm reduction and recovery for a diverse population.

Across the two days of **Rebuild and Recover**, we'll be seeking to learn the lessons of the lockdown and understand how best to respond to the challenges of the post-pandemic world. Speakers include:

- Dr Lee Hogan and members of Moving On In My Recovery, on providing peer support in the pandemic
- Justina Murray of Scottish Families Affected by Alcohol and Drugs (SFAD), on supporting the families of drinkers through lockdown and beyond
- Dr Emmert Roberts, on what can we learn about alcohol harm reduction from the hotel-based emergency housing programme
- Author Millie Gooch, on changing how we think about not drinking
- Community development specialist Cormac Russell, on remaking connections post-Covid-19.



 [Find out more and book your places here](#)

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July 2021



## ALCOHOL LABELS CONTINUE TO LACK IMPORTANT HEALTH INFORMATION

The UK Government are expected to consult in the near future on labelling of alcohol products as part of their Obesity Strategy. In 2018 the Scottish Government committed to press alcohol producers to place health information on physical products and packaging labels and to consider mandatory action in Scotland if progress wasn't made. AFS and others have been gathering evidence

and calling for mandatory labelling requirements for alcohol and have outlined some of the recent evidence on why this is important below.

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## **Call for nutritional information on alcohol labels.**

The Alcohol Health Alliance, Alcohol Focus Scotland and leading health experts are calling for better alcohol labelling as new research suggests that most people do not know the nutritional information of popular alcoholic drinks. The research also showed that the majority of Scots do not know the Chief Medical Officers' drinking guidelines and were unlikely to look beyond the label in order to find health information on alcohol.

Findings showed that in Scotland only 22% of people were able to correctly estimate the number of calories in a medium glass of wine, while just 23% of people in Scotland knew the low risk drinking guidelines.

Unless labelling requirements are set out in law we will continue to be kept in the dark about what is in our drinks and what the health risks are. We need reliable health and nutritional information directly on bottles and cans, to enable us to make informed decisions.

 [Read more](#)

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## **How can current alcohol labels be improved?**

Alcohol Focus Scotland commissioned a review of global evidence to understand what impact health messaging and product information on alcohol labels have on people.

The researchers from Glasgow Caledonian University and the University of Stirling found that large, prominent, and colourful pictograms would increase awareness and comprehension of alcohol-related harms. It was also found that health warnings focusing on both specific diseases (such as cancer) as well as the

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short-term harms of alcohol (for example violence and accidents) may be the most effective. Finally, to help people, make healthier choices graphical representations of nutritional information would be beneficial, such as, serving sizes.

 [Read the blog](#)

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## Action on Sugar Podcast with AFS

Nicola Merrin, senior policy and research coordinator at Alcohol Focus Scotland joined Holly Gabriel, nutrition manager at Action on Sugar, to discuss the importance of including nutritional information on alcohol labels, the current regulation for alcohol labelling, and how better labelling can encourage people to make healthier choices.

 [Listen to the podcast](#)

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## Knowledge Exchanges on alcohol marketing and labelling

AFS held two Knowledge Exchanges for ADP colleagues, focused on alcohol marketing, to examine what marketing means in the context of wider partnerships. The first session considered any potential barriers and opportunities for partners' involvement in marketing work, while the second focused on alcohol labelling ahead of the expected UK Government consultation on this topic. We also shared relevant research which ADPs could use in any submissions they may make as part of the consultation process – if this research would also be of interest to you then please contact [Simon Jones](#) at AFS.

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## European Commission call for feedback on alcohol labelling proposals

AFS responded to the European Commission's call for feedback on their inception impact assessment on the revision of rules on information provided to consumers for alcoholic beverages. Although the proposals will not directly affect the UK, they could establish best practice that other jurisdictions seek to match. AFS agreed with Eurocare that specifically adopted legislation for alcohol products would be ideal, but that of the proposed changes, the only acceptable option is to remove the exemption currently in place for alcoholic drinks. This would mean mandating nutritional information and ingredients on alcohol labels, as is currently the case with food and other drink.

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## New Licensing Forum Members Guide

Alcohol Focus Scotland has developed and published a new guide for Local Licensing Forum Members. The guide provides information to support people in their role as a local licensing forum member, along with practical suggestions and tips to support forums to function effectively. Informed by direct engagement with forum members the guide links to key reference materials and additional resources to enable people to access these documents easily. We hope that the guide can be used as a high quality, interactive, learning resource.

 [Read the guide](#)

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## Global evidence shows link between alcohol and cancer

The global study by the International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC) published in the Lancet identified that in 2020, over 740,000 cancer cases globally, were alcohol related.

The study found that 77% of cancer cases occurred in men, and that the largest number of cases were for oesophagus, liver, and breast cancer.

To address the harm caused by alcohol, the researchers suggest that restrictions on the availability and affordability of alcohol and health warnings on the product packaging would be beneficial.

### [Read more](#)

The authors suggest that a range of interventions could reduce the burden of alcohol, these include, restricting availability, affordability, and attractiveness of alcohol.

### [Read more](#)

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 [Find out more and book your places here](#)

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August 2021

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## ALCOHOL DEATHS AT DECADE HIGH

There were 1,190 alcohol-specific deaths in 2020, up 17% from 1,020 in 2019, according to statistics published recently by National Records of Scotland.

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These figures show a return to the recent upward trend in the number of alcohol-specific deaths in Scotland following a decline in the previous year. This is the largest number of deaths due to alcohol recorded since 2008.

Alison Douglas, chief executive of Alcohol Focus Scotland said, "In 2019 we saw a positive reduction in the number of deaths caused by alcohol. This sudden increase of 17% is devastating to see and a tragedy for everyone affected. It is a stark reminder that we cannot afford to take our eye off the ball where alcohol harm is concerned."

The high number of deaths in 2020 has **renewed calls to raise the minimum unit price**. Alcohol Focus Scotland and others have been calling for the Scottish Government to make good on their commitment to review the minimum unit price, and increase it to at least 65p per unit.

 **Read more.**

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## **Three quarters of Scots back new controls to help protect children from alcohol advertising**

Newly published findings from YouGov asked the public whether they would support measures to limit the exposure of children and young people to alcohol advertising.

The poll of Scottish adults found:

- 75% of Scots support controls to limit the exposure of children and young people to alcohol advertising
  - 68% of people support stopping alcohol adverts from being shown on TV before 9pm
  - 71% of people support only allowing alcohol advertising in cinemas for films with an 18 certificate
-

- 51% of people support not allowing alcohol advertising in outdoor and public spaces such as streets, parks and public transport

The Scottish Government has previously committed to consult on measures to restrict alcohol marketing to protect children and young people given the extensive evidence that exposure to marketing increases alcohol consumption.

Alcohol use is the biggest risk factor for death, ill-health and disability among 15 to 49-year-olds worldwide. Just recently the National Records for Scotland published figures showing that deaths caused by alcohol had increase by 17% in 2020 yet little has been done to limit the promotion of alcohol- despite this being one of the key recommendations by the World Health Organization to reduce alcohol consumption.

 [Read more.](#)

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## **UPDATE** **WORK WITH US**

### **ENGAGEMENT & PARTNERSHIPS COORDINATOR**

We are looking for an enthusiastic and experienced professional to strengthen our engagement work. You will have a lead role in developing relationships and joint advocacy with stakeholders and communities, so that their insight and experience can help deliver positive change. Working with key stakeholders including Alcohol and Drug Partnerships (ADPs) and licensing

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practitioners you will help improve policy and practice at both local and national levels.

### **SENIOR LEARNING & DEVELOPMENT COORDINATOR**

We are looking for a creative and experienced senior learning and development practitioner to join our dedicated and skilled team. If you have experience of designing and delivering high quality training, including developing creative resources and tools, to meet the current and emerging needs of stakeholders and to deliver learning outcomes we want to hear from you.



**[Visit our website for more details and to apply.](#)**



## **Scotland's Public Finances in 2022-23 and the Impact of COVID**

AFS responded to the Scottish Parliament Finance and Public Administration Committee's **consultation** on Scotland's public finances in 2022-23 and the impact of COVID. We highlight the avoidable human and economic costs of alcohol harm to Scotland and the 'best buy' policies to reduce this burden: increasing the price of alcohol, reducing its availability and restricting marketing. We note how the impact of COVID on drinking patterns could further increase inequalities in alcohol harm, and the need for increased investment in recovery-oriented alcohol services that matches the significant investment in drug treatment, to fulfil people's right to access support and treatment when experiencing an alcohol problem. We propose that the Scottish Government use its devolved and local tax powers to make those who profit from the sale of alcohol contribute towards alcohol-related harm costs and preventative action, through re-establishing a Public Health Supplement or



establishing a new Alcohol Harm Prevention Tax, which would apply to all alcohol sold by retailers in the off trade.

 [Read our response.](#)

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## **CONSULTATIONS**

### **Consultation events on National Care Service**

The Scottish Government are consulting on the way social care is delivered in Scotland. This includes support for people with or recovering from alcohol or drug addictions.

They will be hosting a series of online engagement events in September and October to enable stakeholders, individuals and communities to come together to share their views on the National Care Service.

Some of these events will cover all aspects of the consultation, and some will be themed towards specific aspects of the consultation. A summary report will be produced from each event for the Scottish Government to consider alongside the official consultation responses.

 [Find out more](#)

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## **TRAINING**

### **Scottish Young Carers Festival**

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## d Play

Working with East Dunbartonshire Health Improvement Team, Alcohol Focus Scotland attended Snack and Play sessions in local primary schools during the school summer holidays. In the sessions AFS shared our **'Oh Lila' and 'Rory' resources** with the children to encourage them to speak to a trusted adult if they had any worries or concerns.



We also explored alcohol sponsorship with the older primary aged children who shared their thoughts on what they think about alcohol and sport. Off the back of the summer European football events where players removing sponsored drinks at news briefings, the children designed  adverts that they would prefer to see at sporting events instead of alcohol.

We also shared our **'Home for Rory'** series of books with workers to use with children being looked after by family or kinship carers.



**Find out more about our learning**

resources for working with children, young people and families.


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## Personal Licence Holder Training

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## Health Harming Products and Non-Communicable Disease Prevention in Scotland

A cross-party discussion on the impact of health-harming products to launch new report from ten of Scotland's leading health charities.

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## **Online Report Launch Event**

### **6 September 2021 12.00 – 13.30**

On the 6th September, ten of Scotland's leading health charities, will publish a report calling for action on health-harming products to prevent ill health and death from non-communicable diseases – such as cancer, diabetes, heart disease, lung disease and stroke.

The paper will focus on actions the Scottish Parliament and Government should take to shape the environment around us to support people to live healthier lives, through action on issues such as the availability, marketing and price of health-harming products.

The event will feature a pre-recorded address by the Minister for Public Health, Maree Todd MSP, on the themes of the report.

We will also be joined by Sandesh Gulhane MSP (Scottish Conservative), Gillian MacKay (Scottish Greens), Carol Mochan MSP (Scottish Labour), Alex Cole-Hamilton MSP (Scottish Liberal Democrats) and Emma Harper MSP (Scottish National Party) for a discussion of the need for action on tobacco, alcohol and unhealthy food and drinks.

 **Book your place**

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## Recovery Walk Scotland Perth 2021

After a brief break last year, Scotland's largest recovery event 'Recovery Walk Scotland' is back for 2021 in Perth.

Recovery Walk Scotland is the largest recovery event in Scotland and has been held in different locations across the country since 2013. This year the event is comprised of three parts: Roses in the River Memorial, Recovery Walk Scotland procession through the city centre and a Recovery Festival and Village in North Inch Park, Perth.

 [Find out more and register here](#)



## Health Harming Products: Public Health Action Beyond COVID-19

Holyrood events

16 September 2021 10.00 - 15:00

Online

Reducing levels of obesity, alcohol consumption and tobacco use are key if we are to see any significant drop in non-communicable disease (NCD) deaths in Scotland. This has been acknowledged by government, the public health community and, indeed, wider society for many years now. However, with obesity and the use of alcohol and tobacco thought to increase the risk of severe COVID-19, the case for further preventative population level action has been strengthened.

As the new parliamentary term begins, this event will provide delegates with a timely opportunity to discuss what further steps need to be taken in relation to the availability, marketing and pricing and promotion of unhealthy products.

Sponsored by the British Heart Foundation (BHF) Scotland, it will bring together key stakeholders from across public health, academia and the third sector, in a bid to drive forward positive, meaningful change.

 **[Find out more and register here](#)**

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**To: Renfrewshire Licensing Forum**

**On: 4 October 2021**

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**Report by: Clerk**

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**Heading: Dates for Future Meetings**

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**1. Summary**

- 1.1 This report details proposed arrangements for meetings of the Renfrewshire Licensing Forum until September 2022.
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**2. Recommendations**

- 2.1 That the Forum considers and approves the dates for future meetings of the Forum as detailed in the report; and
- 2.2. That it be delegated to the Clerk in consultation with the Conveners of the Forum and the Licensing Board to determine a date for the Joint meeting with the Licensing Board.
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**3. Background**

- 3.1 In terms of the Constitution approved at the meeting of the Forum held on 2 October 2007, there is a requirement for the Forum to meet no less than four times per year and for one of these meetings to be a joint meeting with Renfrewshire Licensing Board.

- 3.2. It has been the custom and practice that the Forum meet on a quarterly basis, with meetings being held during February or March, April or May, August or September and October or November.
- 3.3. It is proposed that meetings of the Forum be held on: -
- Monday 7 February 2022;  
Monday 23 May 2022; and  
Monday 12 September 2022.
- 

## **Implications of the Report**

1. **Financial – None**
2. **HR & Organisational Development - None**
3. **Community Planning - None**
- 4 **Legal – None**
- 5 **Property/Assets - None**
- 6 **Information Technology - None**
7. **Equality & Human Rights** - The recommendations contained within this report have been assessed in relation to their impact on equalities and human rights. No negative impacts on equality groups or potential for infringement of individuals' human rights have been identified arising from the recommendations contained in the report because it is for noting only. If required following implementation, the actual impact of the recommendations and the mitigating actions will be reviewed and monitored, and the results of the assessment will be published on the Council's website
8. **Health & Safety - None.**
9. **Procurement - None.**
10. **Risk - None.**
11. **Privacy Impact – None**
12. **CoSLA Position – None**
- 13 **Climate Risk - None**



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