



A Meeting of the Forum will be held via MS Teams  
on

**Wednesday 4 September 2024 at 16.00hrs**

**AGENDA**

1. Apologies for absence
2. Declarations of interest – members should declare any interests they have in any business on the agenda, or any conflicts of interests arising, and decide if they should withdraw from dealing with any item of business
3. Order of Business
4. Confirm Draft Minute of Licensing Forum Meeting held on 5 June 2024 (herewith)
5. Minutes of Licensing Board – For Information Only
  - a) [10 May 2024](#)
  - b) [12 July 2024](#)
6. Updates:
  - a) Chair Update
  - b) Police Update
  - c) Other Updates
7. Alcohol Focus Scotland
  - a) E-Focus May 2024(herewith)
  - b) E-Focus June 2024 (herewith)
  - c) E-Focus July 2024 (herewith)
8. [Statement of Licensing Policy](#) & Update from LSO – LSO
9. Formulation of a workplan – NHS
10. Flash report feedback
11. Joint West Lothian Licensing Board and Licensing Forum Meeting 2024

12. Euro 2028 Commercial Rights Protection Consultation

13. Membership and Recruitment

14. Workplan (herewith)

**NEXT MEETING – 4 December 2024**

**FORUM OBJECTIVES**

- (a) To keep under review the operation of the 2005 Act in West Lothian and in particular, the exercise by the West Lothian Licensing Board of its functions under the Act.**
- (b) To give such advice and to make such recommendations to the Board in relation to those matters as the Forum considers appropriate.**

For further information contact Anastasia Dragona 01506 281601

[anastasia.dragona@westlothian.gov.uk](mailto:anastasia.dragona@westlothian.gov.uk)

MINUTE of MEETING of WEST LOTHIAN LOCAL LICENSING FORUM held within MS TEAMS VIRTUAL MEETING ROOM, on WEDNESDAY 5 JUNE 2024

### **Present and Apologies**

<b>First Name</b>	<b>Surname</b>	<b>Category</b>	
Helen	Davis	WL Youth Action Project	Apologies
Mike	Duncan	WL CHCP	Present
Douglas	Frood	LSO	Apologies
Lisa	Moore	Education	Present
Laura	Dougall	NHS Public Health	Present
Mark	Vance	Social Work/Health	Present
Arun	Randev	Trade	Present
Alison	Smith	Housing	Apologies
Donna	Pearey	Police Scotland	Present
Anastasia	Dragona	Clerk	Present

### **1. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest made.

### **2. LICENSING FORUM MINUTES**

The Forum approved the minutes of its meeting held on 6 March 2024.

### **3. MINUTES OF LICENSING BOARD**

The Forum noted the Licensing Board minutes of 9 February 2024, 8 March 2024 and 12 April 2024.

### **4. UPDATES**

Chair's update – The flash reports template had been circulated for discussion. Members were asked for their views and the matter was to be kept on the agenda for further feedback.

#### Decision

1. To keep flash reports on the agenda in case members want to use them in the future.
2. To note suggestion of a small presentation at the start of each meeting by one or more members.

Police update – Police Scotland had been busy with the local summer

events, which had been running smoothly. Focus was also given on the night-time economy, which, it was noted, did not attract the same footfall compared to pre-Covid time, with some premises suffering as a result. Police continued to Visiting premises to reemphasise the importance of concepts such as overconsumption, drug misuse and Challenge 25. Checks on licensed premises were ongoing as well as the monitoring of businesses suspected of fronting illegal activities. The importance of intelligence and working together was emphasised.

Decision

To note the update from Police Scotland.

**5. ALCOHOL FOCUS SCOTLAND**

The Forum noted the E-Focus Newsletters dated February 2024, March 2024 and April 2024.

Decision

To note the updates.

**6. STATEMENT OF LICENSING POLICY**

The forum noted the previously circulated update from the LSO.

Decision

To note the update from the LSO.

**7. FEEDBACK FROM ALCOHOL FOCUS SCOTLAND TRAINING SESSION**

Mark Vance Chaired the meeting for part of this item while the Chair resolved a technical issue.

The importance of the formulation of an action plan including aims, steps to achieve them, outcomes and measures was reiterated and a draft action plan was shared with the members for discussion. It was noted that having a tangible document to share with potential members might help attract membership. It was also noted that including examples of the forum's work in that way might be useful for updating the forum's web page.

It was also suggested that a member from another area's forum could be invited to discuss examples of their own workplan with the forum.

Decision

1. A two-page description that used to be circulated to potential members to be located for use on the forum's web page.

2. The action plan to be circulated for members to populate with proposed tasks.
3. Members to continue sharing input to help develop the proposed workplan template.

## **8. FLASH REPORT FEEDBACK**

### Decision

To keep the item on the agenda – see also Chair’s update.

## **9. MINIMUM UNIT PRICING**

It was noted that the decision to raise the minimum unit price had been passed. It was noted that in light of the increased prices alcohol theft had increased.

### Decision

To note the update on raising the minimum unit pricing.

## **10. ASB AT LIVINGSTON CENTRE**

It was noted that community Police Officers were regularly deployed to the Centre to tackle anti-social behaviour issues, which usually involved young people. The Police presence had had a positive impact on the issue, as evidenced by the decline in incidents from early to mid-March onwards. It was also noted that further support around diversion activities was being offered as well as training for staff.

### Decision

To note the updates on anti-social behaviour at the Centre.

## **11. EURO 2028 COMMERCIAL RIGHTS PROTECTION CONSULTATION**

### Decision

It was agreed that the item would be carried forward to the next agenda.

## **12. MEMBERSHIP AND RECRUITMENT**

### Decision

1. To note above decisions about improving the forum’s web page and

action plan.

2. To note suggestion of potentially inviting another forum's LSO to discuss their workplan.
3. To keep the matter on the agenda as ongoing.

**13. MEETING DATES 2024**

It was noted that the next meetings were scheduled to take place on 4 September and 4 December 2024.

Decision

To approve the September and December meeting dates.

**14. WORKPLAN**

Decision

To note the workplan and to continue to work on the new format as per above decisions.

## Dragona, Anastasia

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**From:** Alcohol Focus Scotland <enquiries@alcohol-focus-scotland.org.uk>  
**Sent:** 30 May 2024 15:07  
**To:** Dragona, Anastasia  
**Subject:** Alcohol Focus Scotland latest - May 2024

Newsletter from Alcohol Focus Scotland

[View this email in your browser](#)



May 2024

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## Contents

- **The impact of alcohol harm in the UK**
- **AFS welcomes new Board Members**
- **New AFS website**
- **Kinder, Stronger, Better: new LGBTQI+ alcohol & substance use wellbeing service launched**
- **Project that reduced teenage drinking and drug taking in Iceland trialled in Dundee**
- **A Vision for the Public's Health**
- **AFS Response to Consultation on restricting HFSS promotions**
- **Commercial Determinants of Health and Public Attitudes: A Deliberative Research Approach**
- **Handle with care: The need for responsible alcohol delivery**
- **Enhanced Alcohol Awareness**
- **Distinguished Lecture Series: Commercial determinants of health – the evidence and importance for public health practice**
- **Imagining Scotland with less booze**



## The impact of alcohol harm in the UK

Alcohol harm **costs England £27.44 billion each year** according to the Institute for Alcohol Studies. Reducing alcohol consumption at a population level is crucial to reducing both the harm and cost of alcohol to society. Weighing up the economics, there is little convincing evidence to suggest that lower spending on alcohol would harm the UK economy, and many grounds to believe that reducing drinking could be of economic benefit.

It is **estimated** that alcohol use costs the Scottish economy up to £10 billion each year, including up to £700 million in health and social care costs. These figures are likely underestimates as they present estimates for **previous studies**, adjusted for inflation, but without accounting for changes in drinking patterns or levels of harm.

The new figures for England, which are far higher than previous estimated, highlight the need for an updated economic assessment of the true cost of alcohol to Scotland. Additionally, they reiterate the need for an emergency response to the growing problems Scotland faces from alcohol harm.

Following the recent change in leadership, Alcohol Focus Scotland is calling on the Scottish Government to take urgent action to effectively address the public health emergency of alcohol harm and reduce pressure on our NHS. This includes:

- Implementing an automatic uprating mechanism for minimum unit pricing to ensure the policy's positive effects are protected into the future
- Restricting alcohol marketing to protect children and young people and people in recovery from alcohol problems
- Increase investment in treatment and care to identify those at risk of harm and improve person-centred treatment and recovery support
- Introduce an alcohol harm prevention levy to help fund local prevention, treatment, and care services



ALCOHOL FOCUS SCOTLAND

According to the most recent estimates, alcohol harm in Scotland between 2010 and 2015 cost the Scottish economy £1.5 billion per year

#AlcoholEmergency

## Cost of Alcohol to Scottish Economy

### UPDATE

## AFS welcomes new Board Members

Alcohol Focus Scotland is delighted to welcome our new Board Members, each bringing a wealth of experience and expertise.

- **Ewan Carmichael:** Youth consultant with public health and equalities policy experience, studying at the University of Glasgow.
- **Nason Maani:** Lecturer at the University of Edinburgh, specialising in inequalities and global health policy.
- **Andrea Mohan:** Lecturer at the University of Dundee, focusing on alcohol policy and the lived experiences of those with alcohol and drug problems.
- **James Morris:** Research Fellow at London South Bank University, with expertise in alcohol problems, stigma, and problem recognition.
- **Colin Shevills:** Communications specialist and former leader of Balance, England's regional alcohol programme.
- **Louise Vickers:** HR and finance professional, now a therapeutic counsellor volunteering for an alcohol addiction charity in Fife.

We look forward to their contributions in reducing alcohol harm in Scotland.

 [Read more about our team](#)

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## UPDATE

### **New AFS website**

We are delighted to announce the launch of our new website.

As Scotland's national charity working to prevent and reduce alcohol-related harm, we understand the importance of providing comprehensive and accessible resources. Our new website includes a wealth of information, including our research, consultation responses, and press releases.

You can also find a range of training courses to help people understand, manage, and prevent the harm caused by alcohol.

 [Visit our new website](#)

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## UPDATE

### **Kinder, Stronger, Better: new LGBTQI+ alcohol & substance use wellbeing service launched**

In response to the unique and additional challenges faced by the LGBTQI+ community concerning alcohol and substance use, Kinder Stronger Better, in partnership with Glasgow Council on Alcohol, has launched the new service to provide tailored support and resources for both the LGBTQI+ community & other professionals. LGBTQI+ people generally use alcohol socially without experiencing serious harm, however various factors like anxiety, social isolation, trauma, historical stigma, or mental health issues can lead to alcohol & substances becoming an issue for individuals.

The service was developed to address the intersectionality of identity, societal pressures, and mental health issues that can contribute to substance use within the

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LGBTQI+ community. This new service offers a safe and non-judgmental space for support and help while committing to promote health equity and addressing the specific needs of LGBTQI+ individuals in connection with their substance use.

 [Read more about the service](#)

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## UPDATE

### **Project that reduced teenage drinking and drug taking in Iceland trialled in Dundee**

A project inspired by Iceland's Planet Youth initiative is being trialled in Dundee to reduce teenage drinking and drug use. Reykjavik, which had similar issues 25 years ago, reduced teenage drinking from 42% in 1998 to 6% by offering free activities like sports and music. Dundee's pilot, supported by a £1.5m Scottish Government investment, is one of six pilot areas in Scotland.

Zahra Hedges, CEO of Winning Scotland, praised the initiative for creating healthier environments based on teenagers' insights. St Paul's RC Academy's headteacher, Kirsty Small, highlighted the importance of giving young people a voice in policymaking. Councillor Stewart Hunter emphasised the council's commitment to using data to enhance youth protection and support.

 [Read more](#)

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## POLICY

### **A Vision for the Public's Health**

The UK Faculty of Public Health (FPH) has launched a new report, "Vision for the Public's Health", which is a national call to action, setting out pragmatic, evidence-informed recommendations to improve health and tackle inequalities.

The Faculty of Public Health (FPH) believes that bold action led by the UK government, the devolved administrations, the NHS and local government to invest in good public

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health would make a profound and rapid difference to our society.

Looking to the challenges of the coming decades, FPH has identified 4 priorities, outlined in 50 recommendations, to advance public health, reduce inequalities and boost economic productivity:

1. Promote policies and programmes that improve the health and wellbeing of people and communities and tackle health inequalities.
2. Tackle poverty to ensure everyone has the chance to live a long and healthy life.
3. Protect the nation from infectious diseases and prepare for health threats and emergencies.
4. Increase investment in public health and prevention as assets for society, and make health a priority for cross-government action.

 [Read the report](#)

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### **AFS Response to Consultation on restricting HFSS promotions**

Alcohol Focus Scotland has responded to the Scottish Government's **consultation** on restricting promotions of food and drink high in fat, sugar or salt (HFSS).

We welcome the recognition within this consultation that to deliver real impact on harm to public health, the environment within which people live, buy, and consume harmful products must be transformed. This is in keeping with international evidence that whole population measures that influence this environment are most effective at reducing consumption and associated harm.

We are disappointed that alcoholic drinks are not included in the food categories within the scope of the proposed restrictions on in-store location and price promotions. The inclusion of alcohol would help support the aims of the restrictions to improve diet and help create a food environment which better supports healthier choices, with a view to reducing diet-related public health harms.

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Although it is positive that the Scottish Government is progressing with restrictions on the location and price promotions of HFSS products, a much more comprehensive approach to tackling the marketing of health-harming products is required.

 **Read our response**

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## RESEARCH

### **Commercial Determinants of Health and Public Attitudes: A Deliberative Research Approach**

The Diffley Partnership has published a **report**, commissioned by the **NCD Alliance Scotland**, exploring public attitudes towards the harms caused by alcohol, tobacco and unhealthy food and drink.

They conducted a nationally representative survey of 1,079 adults across Scotland covering various questions about health inequalities and the determinants of health. They then recruited 25 survey respondents to take part in their Health in Scotland Panel.

#### 5 Key Takeaways

- The public is concerned about, and eager to discuss and tackle health inequalities,
- The public has limited awareness of the scale of health inequalities and its causes; initially people tend to focus on the role of individual behaviours as the primary cause,
- As more expertise is heard and deliberated, the public becomes increasingly open to ecological accounts of health inequalities, though a minority maintain their focus on individual responsibility as the primary cause of health inequalities,
- The public's top priorities for tackling health inequalities are more investment in/improved access to the NHS and greater redistribution of wealth and resources,
- The public wants to see policymakers move to more holistic and longer-term thinking, aimed at addressing the root causes of health inequalities.

The sale of alcohol, tobacco, and high fat, salt, and sugar (HFSS) foods was viewed as increasingly harmful to overall health as sessions progressed. Whilst alcohol received an average score of 7.5 in the public poll, panellists viewed it as extremely harmful on health, reaching a score of 9.9 at Session 4.

The most relevant change for NCD Alliance to be aware of was the change in the perceived impact of legislation and government's role in tackling NCDs – from “hopeless to hopeful”.

 [Read the report](#)

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## RESEARCH

### **Handle with care: The need for responsible alcohol delivery**

New research from Alcohol Change UK shows that alcohol delivery services are making it easier for people to drink more alcohol than they planned, and for young people to be handed alcohol on the doorstep without proper age checks.

The findings show that more needs to be done by apps, online shops, and delivery companies to take better care of the customers using their services when delivering alcohol.

 [Read more](#)

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## TRAINING

### **Enhanced Alcohol Awareness**

The aim of the workshop is to increase your understanding and knowledge of the impact that alcohol related harm has on individuals, others around them and wider society. Increased knowledge and understanding on health and social harms. The training will provide you with an increased confidence in supporting service users and

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signposting them to relevant services.

This one-day workshop is available on:

- **Thursday 13 June**
- **Tuesday 25 June**

 **Find out more and book your place**



## **EVENT**

### **Distinguished Lecture Series: Commercial determinants of health – the evidence and importance for public health practice**

Professor Linda Bauld will present the fourth Distinguished Lectures hosted by the Faculty of Public Health, on the future of public health.

In this online webinar, Professor Bauld will discuss the evidence and importance of the commercial determinants of health, and will be joined by an expert panel.

11:00-12:30, Friday 7 June

 **Find out more and register**

## **EVENT**

## Imagining Scotland with less booze

As part of the **Glasgow Science Festival**, Glasgow Caledonian University is hosting a workshop to explore alcohol-free clubbing, alcohol social media campaigns, and the value of public discussions around drinking.

During the workshop, participants will look at some of the research behind why cutting down our drinking can be so hard in Scotland. You will hear from researchers about the #dontpinkmydrink campaign, which highlights the cynical alcohol marketing aimed at women. Speakers will also discuss the proposition of later closing times for Glasgow nightlife.

To finish off the evening, you will find out more about alcohol-free nightlife for LGBTQIA+ communities and enjoy a taster DJ set from Amy Rodgers from **Good Clean Fun**, who runs alcohol-free clubbing events in Glasgow!

18:00-20:00, Wednesday 12 June

 **Book your place**

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**ALCOHOL  
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SCOTLAND**

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**Dragona, Anastasia**

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**From:** Alcohol Focus Scotland <enquiries@alcohol-focus-scotland.org.uk>  
**Sent:** 27 June 2024 13:39  
**To:** Dragona, Anastasia  
**Subject:** Alcohol Focus Scotland latest - June 2024



June 2024

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- **Major report exposes Big Alcohol & friends: four industries causing 2.7 million deaths per year in Europe**
- **WHO Report: 2.6 million deaths per year globally due to alcohol consumption alone**
- **Edinburgh bans ads for some polluting products: why not alcohol?**
- **AFS Pride Month videos highlight LGBTQI Alcohol Health Inequalities**
- **Survey: Growing concern about alcohol sponsorship among football fans**
- **Alcohol Awareness Week 2024**
- **Alcohol Is Toxic: 8 out of 10 adults in NE England believe health campaigns on alcohol are important**
- **Updated AFS Alcohol Labelling Briefing**
- **AFS Response to Charter of Rights Consultation**
- **Research explores measures to reduce alcohol harms without impacting pubs and restaurants**
- **Minimum Pricing for Alcohol helped curb demand during lockdown**

- **Digital alcohol marketing and gender: A narrative synthesis**
- **Intimate partner violence related to future alcohol use among a nationwide sample of LGBTQIA+ people**
- **AFS Webinar: Exploring Alcohol Harm in the LGBTQI+ Community**



## **Major report exposes Big Alcohol & friends: four industries causing 2.7 million deaths per year in Europe**

A pioneering report from the WHO Regional Office for Europe spells out clearly how specific powerful industries are driving ill-health and premature mortality across Europe and central Asia, including through interfering in and influencing prevention and control efforts for non-communicable diseases (NCDs) such as cardiovascular diseases, cancers and diabetes, and their risk factors including tobacco, alcohol, unhealthy diets and obesity.

The new report, **“Commercial determinants of noncommunicable diseases in the WHO European Region”**, sheds light on the wide range of tactics industries employ to maximize profits and undermine public health. The report identifies actions for governments, academia and civil society to reduce the disproportionate influence of the commercial sector in the health policy sphere.

Four corporate products – tobacco, ultra-processed foods, fossil fuels and alcohol – cause 19 million deaths per year globally, or 34% of all deaths. In the European Region alone, these industries are wholly or partly responsible for 2.7 million deaths per year. The report explains how consolidation of these industry sectors and others, into a small number of powerful transnational corporations, has enabled them to wield significant power over the political and legal contexts in which they operate, and to obstruct public interest regulations which could impact their profit margins.

Speaking on the launch of the report, Dr Hans Henri P. Kluge, WHO Regional Director for Europe said:

*“Industry tactics include exploitation of vulnerable people through targeted marketing strategies, misleading consumers and making false claims about the benefits of their products or their environmental credentials. These tactics threaten public health gains of the past century and prevent countries from reaching their health targets. WHO/Europe will work with policy-makers to strengthen tactics to protect against and reduce harmful industry influence. Today, we provide indisputable evidence of harmful commercial practices and products, and we say: people must take precedence before profit, always.”*

 [Read more](#)

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## UPDATE

# WHO Report: 2.6 million deaths per year globally due to alcohol consumption alone

A new report from the World Health Organization (WHO) highlights that 2.6 million deaths per year were attributable to alcohol consumption, accounting for 4.7% of all deaths, and 0.6 million deaths to psychoactive drug use. Notably, 2 million of alcohol and 0.4 million of drug-attributable deaths were among men.

WHO's ***Global status report on alcohol and health and treatment of substance use disorders*** provides a comprehensive update based on 2019 data on the public health impact of alcohol and drug use and situation with alcohol consumption and treatment of substance use disorders worldwide. The report shows an estimated 400 million people lived with alcohol and drug use disorders globally. Of this, 209 million people lived with alcohol dependence.

"Substance use severely harms individual health, increasing the risk of chronic

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diseases, mental health conditions, and tragically resulting in millions of preventable deaths every year. It places a heavy burden on families and communities, increasing exposure to accidents, injuries, and violence," said Dr Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, WHO Director-General. "To build a healthier, more equitable society, we must urgently commit to bold actions that reduce the negative health and social consequences of alcohol consumption and make treatment for substance use disorders accessible and affordable."

The report highlights the urgent need to accelerate actions globally towards achieving [Sustainable Development Goal \(SDG\) target 3.5](#) by 2030 by reducing alcohol and drug consumption and improving access to quality treatment for substance use disorders.

Effective treatment options for substance use disorders exist, but treatment coverage remains incredibly low. The proportion of people in contact with substance use treatment services ranged from less than 1% to no more than 35% in 2019, in countries providing this data.

The report calls on governments to intensify actions in 8 strategic areas, notably including re-committing to the implementation of the [Global Alcohol Action Plan 2022-2030](#) with a focus on the [SAFER](#) package – placing restrictions on alcohol availability, banning or comprehensively restricting alcohol advertising, sponsorship and promotion; and raising the price of alcohol via excise taxes and pricing policies.

## UPDATE

### Edinburgh bans ads for some polluting products: why not alcohol?

Edinburgh City Council [has voted to ban advertisements](#) by certain polluting industries – particularly fossil fuel companies, airlines and petrol cars – from its advertising estate.

Councillors voted 15-2 in favour of the ban which will come into effect at the beginning of the next contractual advertising period beginning in 2030. It targets polluting industries contributing to the climate crisis, but also covers arms manufacturers.

This follows similar moves by other local authorities across the UK to ban advertisement of harmful or polluting products, with **Sheffield** and **Bristol** having gone further and variously implemented bans on alcohol, junk food, gambling, payday loans and vaping from their advertising estates. Campaigning groups including **Adfree Cities** have been leading the charge to ensure that harmful products are not advertised by local authorities.

It is encouraging to see a Scottish local authority begin to take similar moves to tackle advertising by polluting industries that harm their citizens. However, the obvious question is – why not include alcohol within such bans? After all, as WHO Europe has just demonstrated with a new report (see above article), the alcohol industry, along with fossil fuels, junk food and tobacco companies, are responsible for 7,000 deaths per day in the European region.

**Research** by Alcohol Focus Scotland has shown that children and young people and people in recovery or at risk of an alcohol problem are particularly vulnerable to alcohol advertising. One focus group of people in recovery reported seeing an alcohol advertisement five times per day. **Previous research** conducted with partner organisations found that 9 in 10 Scottish children recognised the beer brand Fosters, a higher recognition rate than for leading brands of crisps, biscuits and ice cream.

Edinburgh City Council have rightly taken this step to help address the climate emergency. However, with the Scottish Government having declared an alcohol emergency in it's 2022-23 budget, and alcohol deaths projected to continue to rise following changes to drinking patterns during the Covid-19 pandemic, it would be entirely appropriate for Scottish local authorities to now give serious consideration to implementing alcohol advertising bans. Alcohol Focus Scotland would encourage them to do so.



## **AFS Pride Month videos highlight LGBTQI Alcohol Health Inequalities**

**Alcohol Focus Scotland has been proudly celebrating Pride Month throughout June. As part of our efforts to mark Pride Month, we've published two new videos on alcohol and the LGBTQI+ community.**

Our first video '**Why alcohol services must be LGBTQI inclusive**' focuses on the health inequalities faced by the community detailed in a **new joint report** by the Glasgow Centre for Population Health and LGBT Health and Wellbeing. The report outlines the myriad health inequalities faced by the LGBTQI+ community, including around problematic alcohol use, saying that alcohol services "must become LGBTQI inclusive, affirming and culturally competent". This echoes Scottish research carried out by Dr Elena Dimova at Glasgow Caledonian University on **LGBTQI Experiences of Alcohol Services**.

The second video, 'How Big Alcohol targets the LGBT+ Community', considers the findings of a **scoping review** by Dr David Whitely, also of Glasgow Caledonian University – looking at how Big Alcohol targets the community with a 'complex web of alcohol marketing' and positioning itself as a community ally – at the same time as its products disproportionately kill LGBTQI+ people.

Alcohol Focus Scotland supports the recommendation that alcohol services in Scotland must become LGBTQI+ inclusive, affirming and culturally competent. We believe that this should be reflected in commissioning decisions in any future Scottish Government alcohol strategy.

We're also calling on the Scottish Government to bring forward tough new restrictions on alcohol marketing, that not only protect children and young people, but also other vulnerable groups including the LGBTQI+ community and people in

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recovery.



## UPDATE

### Survey: Growing concern about alcohol sponsorship among football fans

Football fans are increasingly uncomfortable with their clubs accepting sponsorship from the alcohol industry, according to the results of a new survey conducted by Scottish Health Action on Alcohol Problems (SHAAP).

The survey, conducted by Supporters Direct Scotland for SHAAP, involved four focus groups representing different supporters groups from across the professional game in Scotland.

The fans expressed discomfort with a variety of industries sponsorship of Scottish Football, including alcohol, gambling, tobacco products (including vaping) and money lenders.

One fan said:

*“It is contentious. We have problems in society like drink or gambling, yet they are allowed to sponsor football with no questions.”*

Another remarked on the impact such marketing could have on children:

*“I don’t particularly welcome the role of alcohol and gambling sponsorship in football mainly from a children point of view. Children are very impressionable and these are their heroes and the role models that they are watching.”*

Fans expressed particular discomfort and disapproval with Glen’s Vodka being a primary sponsor of the SPFL, feeling that it reflected poorly on the league, with Glen’s being seen as a non-premium alcohol associated with young people, first-time drinkers, and hard drinking:

*“Glen’s Vodka is not a premium product. It is not something where you relax and drink it. The guys I know who drink Glen’s Vodka are drinking the cheapest drink they can get and are trying to maximise the amount of alcohol they are putting down. I am a little bit concerned about that.”*

One third of the fans surveyed supported a ban on alcohol sponsorship in Scottish Football. Among those who said they would not currently support a ban, there remained a desire to phase out alcohol sponsorship – or at least become less reliant on it.

The survey adds depth to **previous research** carried out by SHAAP & Alcohol Focus Scotland on the nature and extent of alcohol marketing in sport, and in particular, how this exposes children and young people to alcohol marketing - which is known to cause early onset drinking.

 **Read the Survey.**

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## Alcohol Awareness Week 2024

Alcohol Awareness Week is managed and hosted by Alcohol Change UK.

The campaign takes place between the 1<sup>st</sup> – 7<sup>th</sup> July on the theme of Understanding Alcohol Harm.

This year's campaign theme aims to explore what is meant by the sometimes vague term 'Alcohol Harm', as well as challenging the stereotype of alcohol being an 'individual's problem'.

Along with Alcohol Change UK, AFS will be looking to get Scotland talking about the role alcohol plays in our society, the wider social and economic harms of alcohol, and how Big Alcohol plays a role in shaping our consumption habits.

We'll be publishing a wide range of resources on social media and online throughout Alcohol Awareness Week.

 [Find out more](#)



**Alcohol Awareness Week**  
 1 - 7 July 2024  
 Understanding alcohol harm  
 #AlcoholAwarenessWeek

ALCOHOL CHANGE UK



## Alcohol Is Toxic: 8 out of 10 adults in NE England believe health campaigns on alcohol are important

8/10 adults (82%) in the North East of England believe it is important to have

health campaigns on alcohol, and 62% of people who drink alcohol are now taking steps to manage consumption. The new research among people in the North East comes as Balance launches the next phase of its award-winning “Alcohol is Toxic” campaign to highlight the fact alcohol is a group one carcinogen causing at least seven types of cancer – including bowel, breast, mouth and throat cancer.

The campaign from Balance is unlike any seen for alcohol in the UK, developed with doctors and Cancer Research UK to follow the journey of alcohol through the body, demonstrating how alcohol mutates cells and leads to the formation of a tumour.

This next phase also coincides with the Euro 24 football tournament and the inevitable saturation of alcohol promotion throughout the summer. It follows news of a record high for alcohol deaths in England, with a shocking increase of 33% since 2019 and with the worst rates in the North East.

Independent research by Balance among adults in the North East highlights a strong appetite for more information about the risks of alcohol, as well as some positive signs people are trying to cut down:

- 8/10 adults (82%) say it is important to have health campaigns on alcohol like Alcohol is Toxic – and 44% of those who remembered it said it made them feel they should take time off drinking.
- 3/4 of adults (74%) who saw the campaign said it made them more aware of the harms related to alcohol.
- 6/10 (60%) took action after seeing the campaign, including 30% cutting down how often they drink and 22% cutting down on how much they drink.
- 6/10 (62%) of adults who drink alcohol are now taking steps to try to manage consumption – more than in 2022 when 47% were trying. Alcohol free days are by far the most popular way to cut down for nearly half of those.
- 15% of adults in the North East do not drink alcohol – more than in 2022 when 12% did not drink.

 **Find out more about the campaign**

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## POLICY

### Updated AFS Alcohol Labelling Briefing

We've updated our Briefing on alcohol labelling.

Providing information via labels is a key way for people to access health information and advice at the point of purchase and consumption, helping to address current low levels of knowledge of alcohol harm. Improved labelling would help meet people's need for information.

Studies suggest that including health warnings on alcohol labels would raise awareness of health risks and may encourage reduced consumption. Specific warnings, such as for cancer, were found to be particularly effective.

 **Read our briefing**

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## CONSULTATIONS

# AFS Response to Charter of Rights Consultation

Alcohol Focus Scotland has responded to the National Collaborative's **consultation** on the Charter of Rights.

In the response, we have said that the key rights set out in the Charter are all relevant to the rights and needs of people affected by alcohol, but there are specific challenges within an alcohol-focused context that could be better addressed.

For example, the conflict between the commercial goals of businesses that sell unhealthy products such as alcohol, and the protection of the health of individuals and society.

 [Read our response](#)

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## RESEARCH

### Research explores measures to reduce alcohol harms without impacting pubs and restaurants

Higher prices in shops and tighter restrictions on online alcohol sales could help to reduce rising alcohol harms whilst minimising impact on hospitality businesses, according to a new study.

Alcohol harms including deaths and hospital admissions have risen in many countries since the Covid-19 pandemic, including in the UK. At the same time, some hospitality businesses, such as bars and pubs, have struggled.

Research, led by experts at the University of Stirling's **Institute for Social Marketing and Health (ISMH)** and funded by the National Institute for Health and Care Research (NIHR), looked at potential 'sweetspot' policy options which would

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likely offer benefits for public services and health, without negative impacts on the hospitality sector.

Reviewing evidence from international studies and legislation in the UK and abroad, the research team identified four possible 'sweetspot' policy areas to explore:

- Alcohol pricing measures including minimum unit pricing (MUP) and alcohol taxation;
- Regulation of online sales, including rapid delivery services;
- Encouraging the growth of food or arts focused venues using the local alcohol licensing system, rather than those primarily focused on selling alcohol;
- Violence reduction interventions focused on late-night venues, including changes in serving or closing times.

 **Read the study**

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## **RESEARCH**

### **Minimum Pricing for Alcohol helped curb demand during lockdown**

**Minimum pricing can be very effective in reducing demand for cheap high-strength alcohol amid concerns about affordability fuelling problematic drinking - according to a study on the impact of the measure during the COVID lockdown.**

**The research**, led by the University of East Anglia (UEA), examined the efficacy of minimum unit pricing (MUP) to help curb excessive consumption following the outbreak of the pandemic in 2020.

Scotland and Wales were among the first countries in the world to implement a Minimum Unit Pricing (MUP) policy for alcohol, in 2018 and 2020 respectively, by

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setting a minimum price for alcohol products based on their alcohol content. The study draws on the policy differences of the four constituent countries of the UK but focuses primarily on Wales - because of the introduction of its MUP in March 2020 as the lockdown restrictions started - and compares it with England where MUP has been considered but not implemented.

The findings, published in the journal *Economic Inquiry*, show that the introduction of MUP in Wales resulted in a 15% increase in transaction prices and a sharp reduction in the relative amount of alcohol bought, around 20%, with an overall drop in expenditure per customer, compared to England over the same period.

 [Read more](#)

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## RESEARCH

### **Digital alcohol marketing and gender: A narrative synthesis**

**A recent study led by researchers from Scotland has explored the gendered nature of alcohol marketing on social media.**

The **narrative synthesis review** aimed to identify how males, females and other genders are targeted and represented in digital alcohol marketing, and how they are encouraged to engage with digital alcohol marketing content.

The review concluded that alcohol marketing on social media is highly gendered and is designed to embed itself into everyday life in agile ways that reinforce traditional and evolving gendered stereotypes, activities, lifestyles and roles. The researchers said that gendered engagement strategies are widely used to link alcohol to everyday gendered activities and identities to encourage alcohol purchase and consumption. This marketing normalises alcohol consumption and reproduces harmful gender norms and stereotypes.

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## RESEARCH

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## Intimate partner violence related to future alcohol use among a nationwide sample of LGBTQIA+ people

A newly published US study has found that LGBTQIA+ people who experience intimate partner violence have higher rates of alcohol use in the subsequent year, with sexual violence related to the greatest increase in alcohol use.

The authors conclude that efforts to prevent or mitigate IPV may help reduce alcohol use inequalities in the LGBTQIA+ population

 [Read the study](#)



## AFS Webinar: Exploring Alcohol Harm in the LGBTQI+ Community

12pm-1pm, Thursday 4th July

**The LGBTQI+ community experiences higher levels of alcohol harm than their heterosexual and cisgender peers.**

In this webinar, Alcohol Focus Scotland will discuss with our expert panellists the various reasons behind this stark health inequality faced by the LGBTQI+ community.

We'll be discussing:




- the wider health inequalities that drive alcohol harm in the LGBTQI+ community
- the explicit targeting of the LGBTQI+ community by Big Alcohol
- how we can reduce alcohol harm in the community, including via LGBT inclusive alcohol services & alcohol free nightlife

You can find out more about **alcohol harm in the LGBTQI+ community** on the Alcohol Focus Scotland website.

 **Find out more and book your place**



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**Dragona, Anastasia**

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**From:** Alcohol Focus Scotland <enquiries@alcohol-focus-scotland.org.uk>  
**Sent:** 25 July 2024 12:30  
**To:** Dragona, Anastasia  
**Subject:** Alcohol Focus Scotland latest - July 2024



July 2024

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- **SHAAP recruiting for a Policy and Public Affairs Officer**
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 **UPDATE**

## **AFS Signs Joint AHA letter urging UK Government action on alcohol**

Alcohol Focus Scotland has joined 40 members of the Alcohol Health Alliance UK, including health experts, medical royal colleges, treatment providers, and academics, in a letter to the new Prime Minister praising the progressive commitments on tobacco, unhealthy food, and mental health outlined in the King’s Speech. However, the letter states that the same bold action must be applied to alcohol harm if Labour is to achieve its core manifesto missions.

Highlighting how current levels of alcohol use in UK impacts health services, the economy, productivity, and inequalities, it says “The number of people dying from alcohol in the UK is at record-high levels...In 2022 over 10,000 people died due to alcohol – a staggering 33% increase from 2019. Alcohol is the leading risk factor for death, ill health, and disability among those aged 15-49 years in the UK, contributing to profound health and social inequalities.

“The growing burden of alcohol harm threatens not just our health, but also our public services and economic prosperity. Alcohol-related illnesses account for one million hospital admissions annually, overwhelming our NHS and frontline services. Added to this, alcohol causes more working years of life lost than the ten most common cancers combined, stifling productivity and economic potential.”

 [Read more](#)

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## Alcohol Focus Scotland joins Wellbeing Economy Alliance

Alcohol Focus Scotland is delighted to announce that we have become members of the **Wellbeing Economy Alliance Scotland**, part of the global Wellbeing Economy Alliance.

The Wellbeing Economy Alliance vision is of an economy designed to deliver good lives for all on a healthy planet, and that prioritises policies that meet our fundamental human needs – rather than endless GDP growth for its own sake.

We recently submitted **a response** to the Scottish Government consultation on the Wellbeing and Sustainable Development Bill where we discuss in more depth our support for the Wellbeing Economy. AFS believes that it is crucial that the health and economic impacts of health harming products, such as alcohol, are actively considered as part of Scotland's Wellbeing Economy.

As a recent WHO Europe report set out, four big industries – including Big Alcohol – produce products responsible for 2.7 million deaths per year in Europe and Central Asia. The alcohol industry also has a major impact on contributing to **climate change and environmental degradation.**

It's time to put people before profit and tackle the harmful impact of Big Alcohol on our people and our planet. We look forward to working with members of the Wellbeing Economy Alliance towards our common goals.

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## LGBTQI+ Experiences of Alcohol Harm Webinar published

On 4 July, following our celebration of Pride Month in June, and as part of our work to mark Alcohol Awareness Week, we held a webinar exploring LGBTQI+ experiences of the harm caused by alcohol.

The webinar took the form of an informal panel discussion with expert panellists Dr David Whiteley, Dr Elena Dimova and Beth Meadows.

During the webinar, we discussed research by our expert panellists on how Big Alcohol targets the LGBTQI+ community through marketing, community experiences of alcohol treatment services and solutions to the disproportionate harm experienced by the LGBTQI+ community – including alcohol free nightlife.

[View the webinar](#) below.

You may also be interested to view a short highlights video of an Involvement Session with the Glasgow Council on Alcohol's LGBTQIA+ service, Kinder Stronger Better – where clients shared their experiences of alcohol treatment services and their thoughts on the introduction of an alcohol harm prevention levy.

[View the session](#)

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## UPDATE

### Alcohol Focus Scotland joins forces with Children in Scotland

Alcohol Focus Scotland is delighted to have joined the membership of **Children in Scotland**. At the same time, Children in Scotland has become an official partner of our **Alcohol Free Childhood Campaign**.

Children in Scotland is a network of people working with and for children, alongside children and young people themselves, offering a broad, balanced and independent voice - creating solutions, providing support and developing positive change across all areas affecting children in Scotland.

AFS looks forward to working together with Children in Scotland on improving the lives of children. This will include working together to ensure children are protected from exploitation by the alcohol industry, and from wider alcohol harm.

The beginning of our collaboration comes at a timely juncture, with the UN

Convention on the Rights of the Child having now been incorporated into Scots Law.

We'll work together to ensure that children's human rights are recognised and respected and toward the goal that children in Scotland can play, learn and socialise in places that are healthy, safe and free from the harmful impact of alcohol and alcohol marketing.



**Alcohol Free Childhood Campaign**

**Alcohol marketing has no place in childhood.**

All children should play, learn and socialise in places that are healthy and safe, protected from exposure to alcohol marketing.

**#AlcoholFreeKids**

ALCOHOL FOCUS SCOTLAND

BMA Scotland

Scottish Families Affected by Alcohol & Drugs

Children in Scotland

SHAAP SCOTTISH HEALTH ACTION ON ALCOHOL PROBLEMS www.shaap.org.uk

## CAMPAIGN

### Alcohol Awareness Week Round Up

Alcohol Awareness Week took place between the 1-7 of July. This year's theme was understanding alcohol harm. Alcohol Awareness Week takes place in July each year and is co-ordinated by Alcohol Change UK.

Alcohol Focus Scotland were pleased to support this important week of awareness raising with a range of activities on topics having to do with understanding alcohol harm. This included our webinar on alcohol harm in the LGBTQI+ community, a short video on our Alcohol Awareness training courses; as well as the production of several videos for social media on different facets of alcohol harm.

In particular, we published four short videos created with the help of family members of the Recovery College at Scottish Families Affected by Alcohol and Drugs, where these family members shared their experience of the harm caused by a loved one's alcohol use.

View our Alcohol Awareness Week videos on YouTube below:

- [Understanding Alcohol Harm: Bobby](#)
- [Understanding Alcohol Harm: Fiona](#)
- [Understanding Alcohol Harm: Julie](#)
- [Understanding Alcohol Harm: David](#)
- [Alcohol Problems: Have you ever?](#)
- [Alcohol Free Kids: what do children think about alcohol & alcohol marketing \(Part 1\)](#)
- [Alcohol Free Kids: what do children think about alcohol & alcohol marketing \(Part 2\)](#)



**Alcohol Awareness Week**  
 1 - 7 July 2024  
 Understanding alcohol harm  
 #AlcoholAwarenessWeek

ALCOHOL CHANGE<sup>UK</sup>



## #LGBTCommunityNotCommodity Campaign

Over the next month, we're asking members of the LGBTQIA+ community to tell us where and when they see an alcohol advert targeting the LGBTQIA+ community!

Following on from our recent webinar on [LGBTQIA+ experiences of the harm caused by alcohol](#), we want to further explore LGBTQIA+ experiences of targeted

alcohol marketing.

A scoping review by Dr David Whiteley and colleagues exposed a complex web of alcohol marketing targeting LGBTQIA+ people on multiple fronts, that multi-faceted marketing of alcohol saturates LGBTQIA+ communities; and that the alcohol industry positions itself as a community ally, forging public facing personae of solidarity and acceptance.

Between now until the end of August, if you see an alcohol advert of any kind targeting the LGBTQIA+ community we want you to send it to us!

It'd be helpful if you can tell us briefly where and when you saw the advertisement and how it made you feel or what it made you think.

Please take pictures and either post them on X using the hashtag #LGBTQICommunityNotCommodity, or **email them to our involvement team.**

 **Find out more about the campaign**

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## POLICY

# **New WHO tool to support member states on decision making on engaging with the private sector for prevention of NCDs**

**Alcohol Focus Scotland welcomes the publication of a new World Health Organisation (WHO) practical tool to support member states on reaching informed decisions on engagement with the private sector for the prevention of non-communicable diseases (NCDs).**

This Decision-making tool offers health authorities, government actors and other relevant organizations a systematic methodology for assessing, analysing and reaching a decision on whether or not to engage with private sector entities to



complement or enhance efforts of the public sector in addressing the prevention and control of NCDs.

This new resource is particularly timely, with a new consultation on alcohol marketing due to be published by the Scottish Government later this year. It will be crucial to ensure that the interests of public health are the primary consideration ahead of the interests of business.

Alcohol Focus Scotland looks forward to engaging with and hearing more about how the Scottish Government will respond to and incorporate this tool into future decision making, especially around policies seeking to prevent alcohol harm.

 [Read more](#)

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## POLICY

# Delivering sustainable public services through prevention

**A new report by Public Health Scotland has called for a ‘radical shift to prevention’ to ensure sustainable public services. Detailing a backdrop of ‘enormous challenges’ facing Scotland’s communities and public services – including the lowest life expectancy in Western Europe and health inequalities among the highest, it calls for setting a course and direction that places the prevention of harm and improved outcomes at the heart of policy and service.**

The report points out the scale of the challenges facing Scotland. Despite a projected fall in the Scottish population by 2043, levels of ill health are projected to increase by 21%. The Scottish Burden of Disease study forecasts that 68% of the increase in disease in Scotland is likely to be attributable to non-communicable diseases like cardiovascular disease, cancers and neurological disease – many of which are preventable.

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The report details how substantial amounts or majorities of health or other public service budgets are swallowed up by ‘failure demand’. Lamenting the tendency to cut prevention funding in favour of reactive, short term responses, the report calls for increased investment in prevention – citing previous successes in Scotland around reducing smoking, alcohol harm and viral hepatitis – as part of a twin track approach that continues to deal with existing problems without stockpiling problems for the future.

AFS welcomes the report and joins in the call for a focus on prevention. Preventing and reducing alcohol harm will be of critical importance in averting the substantial projected increases in NCDs in Scotland, particularly in the context of projected rises in alcohol deaths following changes to drinking patterns during the Covid-19 pandemic.

We continue to campaign for further preventative action on alcohol harm – including:

- tough new restrictions on alcohol marketing that protects children, young people and other vulnerable groups
- automatic uprating of the minimum unit price (MUP) for alcohol
- creation of an alcohol harm prevention levy to enable investment in support and treatment services
- reducing the availability of alcohol in our communities
- mandatory health warning labels on alcohol products

 [Read the report](#)

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 **UPDATE**

**Suite of resources launched to improve collection and understanding of equalities**

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**A suite of information resources, including reports, leaflets and a new learning hub, aimed at improving the collection of equalities data, has been launched by Public Health Scotland (PHS).**

These are a result of a collaboration between PHS, University of Strathclyde and Homeless Network Scotland, that sought to understand the key barriers to equalities data being gathered in Scotland, which historically has been poorly recorded.

Equalities data relates to patient information on protected characteristics under The Equality Act 2010, including age, disability, race or ethnicity, religion, sex, and sexual orientation.

Having good quality data enables NHS services in Scotland to monitor and understand which groups of people experience disadvantages when it comes to health - who is or isn't using services - and design services to meet patient needs.

 [Read more](#)

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## CONSULTATIONS

### **Scottish Parliament Committees call for views on the budget**

The Scottish Parliament's **Finance and Public Administration Committee** and **Health, Social Care and Sport Committee** are currently asking for views to help them scrutinise the next Scottish budget.

The Finance and Public Administration Committee is interested in the Scottish Government's approach to taxation and the Health, Social Care and Sport Committee wants to know what people think about the financial position of

Integration Joint Boards (where health boards and local authorities work together to deliver health and social care).

AFS will be responding to the Committees to highlight the economic cost of alcohol harm and the need for investment in alcohol support and recovery services that matches the significant investment in drug treatment.

Please join us in voicing your support for the Scottish Government to introduce an **alcohol harm prevention levy**, through re-establishing a Public Health Supplement on non-domestic business rates in the next budget. This would make those who profit from the sale of alcohol contribute towards alcohol-related harm costs and preventative action, and follows a commitment from the Scottish Government in last year's budget to consult.

**Visit our website** for more information on the levy.

**Respond** to the Finance and Public Administration Committee by 12 August.

**Respond** to the Health, Social Care and Sport Committee by 20 August.

**Contact Nicola Merrin** for more information and support to engage with the Scottish Parliament on this issue.



## **Zero alcohol products and adolescents: A tool for harm reduction or a trojan horse?**

Research conducted in Australia has shown that zero alcohol products are seen as appealing and attractive by teenagers, and that exposure to them could increase the likelihood that they will start drinking alcoholic drinks earlier.

Over a third (37%) of Australian teenagers surveyed had tried zero alcohol products. In focus group discussions, some participants identified that zero alcohol products could act as a gateway to future alcohol use by enabling young people to become accustomed to the taste of alcoholic products.

Lead researcher and research fellow at The George Institute for Global Health, Dr Leon Booth, says this research provides early insights into the potential consequences of the proliferation of zero alcohol products and their marketing in environments where young people are.

“Our research shows that zero alcohol products and marketing are likely making young people more familiar with alcohol brands and further normalising alcohol consumption. Zero alcohol products potentially act as a trojan horse for the alcohol industry to get in front of young people, exposing them to additional alcohol marketing.”

The research concluded that regulatory responses to zero alcohol products needs to protect young people from the potential adverse consequences, whilst enabling adults to use them as an alcohol substitute.

 **Read the research**

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## **RESEARCH**

### **Effect of alcohol health warning labels on knowledge of cancer risk and their public perceptions**

**A new study published in the Lancet, conducted across 14 European countries, has found that health warning labels are an effective policy option to increase knowledge that alcohol causes cancer.**

19,110 people participated in an online survey across 14 countries, which tested three different message topics (responsible drinking, general health harm of alcohol, and alcohol causing cancer) and the role of images included within the cancer message.

Cancer messages had the highest perceived impact and relevance, with text only and pictogram messages seen as clear, comprehensible and acceptable. However, images of cancer patients had lower acceptability and scored highest in

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avoidance ratings.

 **Read the study**

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## RESEARCH

### **‘Above and Beyond’ – The key role families play in recovery**

**A new report by the charity Adfam has examined the key role that families play in recovery from problematic alcohol and drug use, potentially representing a considerable saving to the public purse.**

Adfam launched a survey inviting adults who have experienced problems with their drinking and/or drug use to comment on the part their family played in their recovery. 117 people from across the UK responded, with 76% of respondents saying that family member (s) played a ‘significant role’ in their recovery, with mothers and female partners are most often cited as the ones providing support.

The survey showed families helping loved ones in numerous ways, offering emotional support, providing housing, caring for children and supporting people financially. Half of the people responding said their family had provided £5,000 or more in financial support.

Two thirds of respondents believed that their families would benefit from an online support service – with Adfam recommending that funding should be allocated to specialist drug and alcohol family support services.

 **Read the report**

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## RESEARCH

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## Rainbow Scots Sober Curiosity Study

Many studies have shown that LGBTQ+ women and nonbinary people are at higher risk than cisgender heterosexual women of experiencing harm from alcohol.

Researchers at the Glasgow Caledonian University Research Centre are conducting an on-line survey to learn about what types of messages and resources might be helpful for LGBTQ+ women and nonbinary people who want to reduce the amount they drink or become more curious about when, why, and where they drink.

The researchers also hope to learn about what is most helpful in supporting individuals to make healthy choices while still enjoying life and social events.

 [Find out more](#)

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## TRAINING

### Video: Why Take Alcohol Awareness Training

During Alcohol Awareness Week, we sat down with our Senior Learning and Engagement Co-ordinator, Diane Thomson, who takes you through what we cover in our Alcohol Awareness training courses.

Diane explains why increasing our knowledge and understanding of alcohol and issues around alcohol in Scotland, including alcohol harm is so important and beneficial.

She talks you through how we use interactive exercises and have a bit of fun whilst getting over really important information, with our trainees almost always saying they came away feeling like they'd learned a lot of really useful information.

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 [Find out more about our Alcohol Awareness Training](#)



## EVENT

### **Creating a Healthier Scotland for Everyone – Young persons’ workshop**

Children in Scotland is working with the NCD Alliance Scotland to help children and young people share their views about how to create a healthier Scotland.

We will be running a one-day workshop to build upon what children and young people have already told us about health-harming products – things like alcohol, tobacco, vapes and unhealthy food and drink. We want to know how we can support everyone in Scotland to have better health in 10 years’ time.

We are looking for children and young people aged 8-17 years old to take part in our fun and interactive workshop in central Glasgow on Wednesday 31 July 2024.



The workshop will take place from 10am-3.30pm. Children in Scotland will pay for your lunch, snacks and travel, and you will receive a £30 voucher as a thank you for taking part.

 [Find out more](#)

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## **UPDATE**

### **SHAAP recruiting for a Policy and Public Affairs Officer**

Scottish Health Action on Alcohol Problems are recruiting for a Policy and Public Affairs Officer.

The Policy and Public Affairs Officer will help guide SHAAP advocacy activities through identifying and analysing relevant policy, providing advice and developing evidence-based positions, carrying out research, monitoring media and policy activity, dealing with the media, responding to consultations, organising events and providing administrative support.

Applications close at 5pm on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> August

 [Find out more](#)

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## **TRAINING**

### **New e-Learning modules from Children in Scotland**

Children in Scotland has launched two, brand new eLearning modules to boost trauma-informed practice in the children's sector.

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Both modules are completely free to access in recognition of their aim to make training as accessible as possible.

- **Recognising and supporting vicarious trauma** explores how working in the children's sector can impact our mental health and provides advice and strategies to help you support your own wellbeing whilst fulfilling your role.
- **Let's talk trauma: a guide for young people and professionals** is a resource for professionals and young people to work through together, exploring how trauma can affect everyone's brains and bodies differently.

 [Visit the CiS eLearning Hub](#)

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**WEST LOTHIAN LOCAL LICENSING FORUM**

**WORKPLAN – September 2024**

<b><u>SUBJECT</u></b>	<b><u>PERSON RESPONSIBLE</u></b>	<b><u>TIMESCALE</u></b>	<b><u>PROGRESS TO DATE</u></b>
Chair's Update	Chair	September 2024	Standing item
Police Scotland Update	Police Scotland	September 2024	Standing item
Statement of Licensing Policy / Update from LSO	LSO	September 2024	Standing item
Workplan Formulation	All		Ongoing
Flash Report Feedback	All		Carried forward from previous meeting
Chair's Update	Chair	December 2024	Standing item
Police Scotland Update	Police Scotland	December 2024	Standing item
Statement of Licensing Policy / Update from LSO	LSO	December 2024	Standing item

Meeting dates 2024	All	December 2024	Annually in December
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