

Consultation Questions

Consultation on Alcohol Misuse

Question 1: We invite views on our proposals to make regulations, under the Licensing (Scotland) Act 2005

I agree with the above proposals as I believe some of these "deals" are totally irresponsible and encourage people to drink far too much.

Question 2: We invite views on whether a

I agree that any minimum pricing scheme should apply equally to all premises although care must be taken that it does not disadvantage small businesses. It is my view is that prices should be determined by volume as well as strength. Finally the scheme should be as

<p><i>minimum pricing scheme should be based on the following principles</i></p>	<p>straightforward as possible to implement, if it is overly complex premises could be unnecessarily punished for non compliance. In general I think minimum pricing is a worthwhile proposal providing the prices were reasonable.</p>
<p><i>Question 3: What particular information do you think parents and carers would find helpful to enable them to support their children to make positive choices about alcohol?</i></p>	<p>It is my opinion that children should be informed about alcohol from a fairly young age so that it is not so much of a "thrill" when they find out themselves during their teens. I also believe that keeping it secret or trying to force children into believing that it is evil only makes alcohol more appealing. Finally I feel that as much as possible children should be allowed to form their own opinions although this is not always realistic.</p>
<p><i>Question 4: Do you think that the minimum age for off-sales purchases should be raised to 21 in Scotland?</i></p>	<p>no, The above issue is the reason that I filled in this questionnaire as I believe very strongly that the minimum age for off-sales purchases should not be raised to 21. I feel that most 18 year olds are more than capable (myself included) to make our own decisions regarding alcohol. Why should we be treated as adults one minute and not the next? I also feel that putting this measure in place is punishing the majority for the stupid actions of a few and in general demonizing young people. I do not believe that this is a good message for The Scottish Government to put across. Existing law could be used effectively to punish the few offenders without affecting the people who can drink responsibly. Not everyone can afford to drink in expensive bars and pubs.</p>
<p><i>Question 5: What criteria should be used to determine the types of premises (or specific premises) that should be subject to a 'social responsibility fee'? (e.g. late opening premises, or premises in a particular area)?</i></p>	
<p><i>Question 6: Should a fee be applied to Occasional Licences as well as Premises Licences?</i></p>	
<p><i>Question 7: Should a similar fee be applied to other premises licensed under separate legislation?</i></p>	
<p><i>Question 8: Do you agree that regulations should be made, under the Licensing (Scotland) Act 2005, to extend the existing regulations to:</i></p>	<p>yes,</p>

<p><i>Question 9: Do you think that there should be separate checkouts for alcohol sales?</i></p>	<p>no, This is a silly idea and gives out an undesirable message to children. What it does is highlights alcohol and just makes it seem more desirable.</p>
<p><i>Question 10: Should there should be a requirement for alcohol checkout staff to be at least 18 years old?</i></p>	<p>yes, I believe that the age for this should be raised.</p>
<p><i>Question 11: Do you have any other comments or suggestions to make on, or any addition to, the proposals set out in this consultation paper?</i></p>	<p>I acknowledge fully that there is an alcohol problem in Scotland and this desperately needs to be solved for the social wellbeing of the country as a whole in addition to preventing ill-health and death. What I feel so strongly about is the implication that every 18, 19 and 20 year old are not capable of making their own decisions and therefore should only be treated as an adult in certain respects. We are trusted to choose the leaders of our country but not what we put in our own mouths? I would feel the same concerning any issue not just alcohol, I urge The Scottish Government to treat the young people of Scotland with a little respect.</p>

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