

**NOTICE OF MEETING**

**MIDLOTHIAN LOCAL LICENSING FORUM**

**Venue: Committee Room, Midlothian House**

**Date: Friday 13<sup>th</sup> February 2015**

**Time: 10:00 – 11:00**

**AGENDA**

<b>1</b>	Welcome and Apologies	
<b>2</b>	Election of a convener	
<b>3</b>	Minutes of the previous meeting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Forum meeting – 14<sup>th</sup> November 2014</li> <li>• Action plan</li> </ul>	R R
<b>4</b>	Minutes of the licensing Board – latest approved minutes: 28 <sup>th</sup> October 2014 (minutes were not available at Nov LF mtg) 2 <sup>nd</sup> December 2014 – review meeting (Woodburn miners) 9 <sup>th</sup> December 2014 – review hearing (Crescent snooker club) 16 <sup>th</sup> December 2014 – review hearing (Rowntree)	R  R R  R
<b>5</b>	Licensing update report– Licensing Standards Officer	R
<b>6</b>	CRESH Midlothian report – outlet density	R
<b>7</b>	Supply of alcohol to youngsters by "dealers" who buy from off sales shops and pass on to under age teenagers & younger.	R
<b>7</b>	Any Other Business	
<b>8</b>	Date of next meeting: 15th May 2015	
<b>(R) = report attached (V) = verbal update (TF) = to follow</b>		

**Licensing Event and best bar none awards ceremony**  
**11:00 – 12:30**  
**Council Chambers, Midlothian House**

**AGENDA**

<b>1</b>	Welcome	
<b>2</b>	Fire Presentation	
<b>3</b>	BBN Presentation	
<b>4</b>	BBN Awards: Introduction – Chief Inspector Kenny Simpson Presentation – Councillor Bob Constable (Chair of the Licensing Forum) Award Winners: The Black bull The Blacksmiths Forge Esk Valley Table Table The Leadburn Inn	
<b>5</b>	Light refreshments and opportunity for discussion amongst licensed premises	

**MINUTES of MEETING** of the **LOCAL LICENSING FORUM** held in the Committee Room, Midlothian House on 14<sup>th</sup> November 2014 at 10.00 am.

**Present:-**

**Representatives of Residents within the Forum's Area:** Jim Church (Chair); Derek Couper, Alistair Mackintosh, Alasdair Gow, Ross Craig.

**Representatives of holders of premises licences/ personal licences:** Adam Bolton (The Laird & Dog), Gemma Shand (personal license holder), Logan Bryce (Sainsburys, Salters Rd), Patrick Kenny (The Mayflower)

**Representative of Police, Health, Education, Social Work, Midlothian Council:** Jim Leslie, John Thayers

**In Attendance:** - Rosie Kendall, Community Safety Manager, Magda Clark, Community Safety Development Officer

**Apologies:** David Logan, Jim Sherval (NHS Lothian), Chief Inspector Kenny Simpson, Moira Malcolm, Kevin Anderson, Alan McCorquodale.

### **1. Welcome and Apologies**

The forum welcomed 5 new members: Alasdair Gow, Ross Craig, Gemma Shand, Logan Bryce and Patrick Kenny.

The Forum also passed on their best wishes to Moira Malcolm who will be leaving the Council in December.

### **2. Minutes of the previous meeting**

The minute of the meeting held on 15<sup>th</sup> August 2014 were submitted and approved as a correct record by John Thayers and Alistair Mackintosh.

#### **Action Plan:**

*Action 1: JL to look into the potential of introducing an alcohol questionnaire for young people in custody.*

The Forum discussed methods of ascertaining if the Board is taking a consistent approach and following the licensing objectives.

*Action 2: Licensing Standards Officer update report to go on all future agendas. This will include information about all work of the Board since the last forum meeting. E.g. number of new personal and premise applications, requests for amendments, requests in overprovided area. How many applications Police & LSO representations made, how many objected to by the public and how many granted. How many premises reviews undertaken.*

### **3. Licensing Board minutes 2<sup>nd</sup> September**

The Forum noted the positive step taken by the Board in agreeing overprovision

*Action 3: RK to contact the chair of the Board to ask if a training session or briefing on overprovision legislation would be of interest to the Board.*

#### **4. Licensing Forum recruitment campaign**

RK circulated a Forum membership pack which will also be made available electronically. The recruitment campaign is ongoing, with the potential for more members to join the Forum in 2015. The number of Forum members cannot exceed 21 and a Council is required to approve all new members.

*Action 4: RK to submit a report to Council requesting approval of new members*

#### **5. Overprovision -- granting of extended hours in the overprovided area**

*Action 5: RK to write to the Licensing Board to ask them to clarify their approach to approving license extensions in the overprovided area.*

#### **6. Supply of alcohol to youngsters by "dealers" who buy from off sales shops and pass on to under age teenagers & younger.**

JC raised the issue of youth alcohol consumption. There is a range of information about youth alcohol consumption available. For example:

- Awareness about how poisonous alcohol is to young people (especially pre puberty) in comparison to adults
- Air weapons and licensing Bill – tightening up regulatory approach to youth alcohol consumption, protecting children and young people who may be at risk of harm.
- Minimum alcohol pricing
- SALSUS survey data due early December, including:
  - Where young people get alcohol from
  - Parental attitudes to drinking
  - Number of children treated for alcohol dependency issues
- The Forum could look into awareness raising methods such as press releases, Midlothian news and advertiser articles, posters for licensed premises (on and off sales), web campaign, schools, facebook and twitter. Consideration to be given to available funding to support this.
- The Forum recognises that changing drinking attitudes is a long term challenge. With a partnership approach and legislative change there is potential for improvement.

*Action 6: RK to work with JT to produce a report with more information regarding youth alcohol consumption and what preventative work the forum could do.*

#### **7. Scottish Government Drink Drive Campaign**

The Forum discussed this campaign and whether there is anything the Forum can do to support it and raise awareness.

*Action 7: RK to look into whether there are any national resources available that could be sent to licensed premises such as leaflets and posters advising people of alternative ways to get home.*

*Action 8: RK to contact HR healthy working lives team to discuss the potential for putting out a staff message regarding drink driving*

## 8. Police Licensing update – Jim Leslie

Jim Leslie provided some key points about the Police Licensing Officer role:

- Checking police reports to see if any incidents are associated with licensed premises
- Police licensing work is overseen by a policy team in Glasgow who also check incidents
- Vetting personal license applications (as part of the 'fit and proper' test)– for previous and pending cases. Also for any links to crime reports or anything indicative of conduct.
- Reviews of licensed premises – compiling police case for review hearings. At hearings, premises also state their case. If review founded license can be revoked and other conditions imposed
- JL noted that licensed premise calls to Police are viewed as a positive. It looks bad if the Police arrive at an incident in a licensed premise and staff have not requested help
- JL also noted that the Air Weapons Bill is a positive step which will improve the approach to young people. For example proxy sales of alcohol.

## 9. Pub watch update – Jim Leslie/ Jim Royan/ Kenny Simpson

JL provided an update from Moira Malcolm:

We have pubwatches in Dalkeith, Loanhead, Penicuik and sort-of in Bonnyrigg.

Dalkeith and Penicuik meet monthly and have a core of 4-5 members. Loanhead have just decided to meet quarterly as they don't think it's worth meeting more frequently - again, 4-5 active members.

## 10. Best Bar None

RK presented the update report from PC Frances Little. The Forum raised concerns about the low number of premises involved and that the Best Bar None process may involve too much paperwork

*Action 9: FL to contact Best Bar None to ask if they would consider making the process simpler.*

## 11. Future meeting dates

The paper was agreed. 2015 meetings will be held at 10am on:

- Friday 13 February;
- Friday 15 May;
- Friday 14 August; and
- Friday 13 November.

A joint meeting of the Board will also be scheduled for 2015.

## 12. Any other business

**Alcohol Focus Scotland Report relating alcohol related illness and death with outlet density.**

Discussion of key points to note/ of interest included:

- The Royal Mile has the highest alcohol outlet density in Scotland (354)
- Across Scotland, alcohol related deaths are more than double in those areas with the most dense outlet density in comparison with those less dense areas

*Action 10: RK to arrange for the Alcohol Focus Scotland Report “Alcohol-related illness and death in Scottish neighbourhoods: is there a relationship with the number of alcohol outlets?” To be circulated to the Board and a link placed on the Licensing Forum web page*

**Raising Awareness of the Licensing Forum:**

*Action 11: RK to write to all Licensed Premises making them aware of the work of the Licensing Forum and providing the web address*

*Action 12: RK to contact Claire Taylor – Brown to ask for youth representatives for the Forum*

*Action 13: RK to contact Robert Hogg (Federation of Community Councils) to raise Community Council awareness of the work of the Forum. Suggest Community Councils or Federation rep sits in on next Forum meeting if they don't want to join.*

*Action 14: JT to approach MYPAS to ask if they would consider sending a representative from MYPAS who could raise the work of and issues arising from the Forum with groups of young people.*

**Terms of Reference and code of practice for forum members**

The Forum discussed the updated document. RK agreed to remove the clause from section 5 about forum members being aged over 18. The updated Terms of Reference and code of practice for forum members was agreed

*Action 15: RK to submit to updated TOR to Council with the request for approval of new members. This will also be uploaded online.*

**Guidance for the general public: how to object to a licensing application**

*Action 16: RK to produce guidance and place on the Licensing Forum web page.*

**Date of Next Meeting**

The Forum noted that the next scheduled Forum meeting was due to take place on **Friday 13<sup>th</sup> February at 10.00am** in Midlothian House, Committee Room, Buccleuch Street, Dalkeith.

The meeting terminated at 11.45am

MEETING DATE	ACTION	LEAD	STATUS	NOTE
16/05/2014	RK to undertake a recruitment campaign	RK	Completed	5 new members invited to join the forum. 14/11/14: <i>Action 4: RK to submit a report to Council requesting approval of new members</i>
16/05/2014	AB to attend licensing Board meetings with JC attending as required.	AB/JC	In progress	RK will e-mail out in advance of each Licensing Board Issue with notice given re Licensing Board dates
15/08/2014	Recruitment campaign: JC to speak to Colin Taylor regarding approaching senior pupil councils	JC	In progress	14/11/14: JC has spoken to Colin Taylor. To be looked at again following exam period (pre February meeting)
15/08/2014	Recruitment campaign: JT to look into whether any MYPAS service users would be interested in participating	JT	In progress	JT has contacted Paul at MYPAS who have been unable to identify an interested young person. <b>MYPAS to be approached to ask if they would consider sending a representative from MYPAS who could raise the work of and issues arising from the Forum with groups of young people.</b>
15/08/2014	Recruitment campaign: AB to ask his younger staff if any of them would be interested in joining the Forum	AB	In progress	14/11/14: AB has spoken to staff. To be looked at again following exam period (pre February meeting)
14/11/2014	Action 1: JL to look into the potential of introducing an alcohol questionnaire for young people in custody.	JL	new	
14/11/2014	Action 2: Licensing Standards Officer update report to go on all future agendas. This will include information about all work of the Board since the last forum meeting. E.g. number of new personal and premise applications, requests for amendments, requests in overprovided area. How many applications Police & LSO representations made, how many objected to by the public and how many granted. How many premises reviews undertaken.	LSO & JL	In progress	On agenda for February meeting
14/11/2014	Action 3: RK to contact the chair of the Board to ask if a training session or briefing on overprovision legislation would be of interest to the Board.	RK	In progress	20/1/15: RK has spoken to Bob Constable. Suggest this is covered at joint meeting of Board and Forum to be arranged.
14/11/2014	Action 5: RK to write to the Licensing Board to ask them to clarify their approach to approving license extensions in the overprovided area.	RK	In progress	Letter sent 20.1.15
14/11/2014	Action 6: RK to work with JT to produce a report with more information regarding youth alcohol consumption and what preventative work the forum could do.	RK/ JT	In progress	9/2/15: Suggest this is discussed at the May meeting
14/11/2014	Action 7: RK to look into whether there are any national resources available that could be sent to licensed premises such as leaflets and posters advising people of alternative ways to get home.	RK	Completed	20/1/15: No national resources exist. The Forum could consider pulling a leaflet together if there would be sufficient demand for this?
14/11/2014	Action 8: RK to contact HR healthy working lives team to discuss the potential for putting out a staff message regarding drink driving	RK	Completed	This was progressed by MC.
14/11/2014	Action 9: FL to contact Best Bar None to ask if they would consider making the process simpler.	FL	In progress	FL to raise this with BBN at event on 13/2/15
14/11/2014	Action 10: RK to arrange for the Alcohol Focus Scotland Report "Alcohol-related illness and death in Scottish neighbourhoods: is there a relationship with the number of alcohol outlets?" To be circulated to the Board and a link placed on the Licensing Forum web page	RK	Completed	RK has placed this on the webpage. Also included in Licensing Board papers 3/2/15

## LICENSING FORUM - MASTER ACTION LOG 2015

MEETING DATE	ACTION	LEAD	STATUS	NOTE
14/11/2014	Action 11: RK to write to all Licensed Premises making them aware of the work of the Licensing Forum and providing the web address	RK	Completed	Letters sent 13/1/15
14/11/2014	Action 12: RK to contact Claire Taylor – Brown to ask for youth representatives for the Forum	RK	Completed	CTB out of office - RK has e-mailed Annette lang who has agreed to forward the advert to all relevant departments.
14/11/2014	Action 13: RK to contact Robert Hogg (Federation of Community Councils) to raise Community Council awareness of the work of the Forum. Suggest Community Councils or Federation rep sits in on next Forum meeting if they don't want to join.	RK	Completed	e-mailed 20.1.15
14/11/2014	Action 14: JT to approach MYPAS to ask if they would consider sending a representative from MYPAS who could raise the work of and issues arising from the Forum with groups of young people.	JT	new	
14/11/2014	Action 15: RK to submit to updated TOR to Council with the request for approval of new members. This will also be uploaded online.	RK	Completed	Signed off at December Council meeting and uploaded onto Licensing Forum web page
14/11/2014	Action 16: RK to produce guidance and place on the Licensing Forum web page.	RK	Completed	Uploaded onto Licensing Forum web page



**Tuesday  
3 February 2015  
Licensing Board  
Paper No 1**

**MINUTES of MEETING of MIDLOTHIAN LICENSING BOARD** held in the Council Chambers, Midlothian House, Buccleuch Street, Dalkeith, on Tuesday, 28 October 2014, at 10am.

**Present:** - Messrs Constable (Chairman), Coventry, Rosie, Thompson, Wallace, Montgomery, Milligan, Bennett and Mrs Russell.

**Apologies:** - Mr Imrie

**1. Minutes**

The Minutes of the Meeting dated 2 September 2014 were submitted and approved. The Clerk advised that there was a correction at Item 12 which would be amended. The Board approved the Minutes as amended.

**2. Licensing (Scotland) Act 2005 – Application for Provisional Premises Licence – Secret Herb Garden, 32a Old Pentland, Lothianburn**

With regard to the Application by Hamish K Martin, the applicant's agent, Mr Macdonald advised that use of the outside drinking area shall cease at 11pm. The Board noted all reports were satisfactory and granted the Application on that basis.

**3. Licensing (Scotland) Act 2005 – Application for Provisional Premises Licence – Whitehill House Golf Club Limited, Whitehill House, Carnethie Street, Rosewell**

With regard to the Application by Whitehill House Golf Club Limited, the Board noted that all reports were satisfactory and granted the Application.

**4. Licensing (Scotland) Act 2005 – Application for Variation of Premises Licence – The Buccleuch, 90 High Street, Dalkeith**

With regard to the Application by Shopping Mall Ltd., the Board noted the terms of objections from John Thomson, 96 High Street, Dalkeith and Marjorie Linton, 94 High Street, Dalkeith. After hearing all parties present and the applicants' agent, Mr Macdonald, the Board granted the Application subject to the amendments that patrons shall not be admitted to the premises after 01.00 hours on Saturday and Sunday.

**5. Licensing (Scotland) Act 2005 – Application for Variation of Premises Licence – Dalkeith Miners Club, 8 Woodburn Road, Dalkeith**

With regard to the Application by Dalkeith Miners Club, the Board heard Inspector Royan in support of the representation. The Board then heard the applicants' agent, Alistair Macdonald, in support of the Application. After hearing all parties, the Board granted the Application.

**6. Licensing (Scotland) Act 2005 – Application for Variation of Premises Licence - New Blossom Garden, 1-3, Buccleuch Street, Dalkeith**

With regard to the Application by S D (Scotland) Ltd., the Board noted that all reports were satisfactory and granted the Application.

**7. Gambling Act 2005 – Application for Licensed Premises Gaming Machine Permit – Elginhaugh Farm, 9 Gilmerton Road, Lasswade**

With regard to the application by Greene King Brewing and Retailing Ltd the Board noted all reports were satisfactory and granted the Application.

**8. Licensing (Scotland) Act 2005 – Application for Personal Licence – Dale Iwaniec**

With regard to the application by Dale Iwaniec, the Board agreed to hold the Hearing in the absence of Mr Iwaniec who had failed to attend. Having heard the representation from Police Scotland, dated 13 August 2014, the Board refused the Application.

The Meeting terminated at 10.55am

**Tuesday  
3 February 2015  
Licensing Board  
Paper No 2**

**MINUTES of MEETING of MIDLOTHIAN LICENSING BOARD held in the Council Chambers, Midlothian House, Buccleuch Street, Dalkeith, on Tuesday, 2 December 2014, at 10.00am.**

**Present: - Messrs Constable (Chairman), Milligan, Montgomery, Imrie, Thompson, Wallace, Rosie and Mrs Russell.**

**1. Licensing (Scotland) Act 2005 – Application for Review Hearing of Premises Licence – Dalkeith Miners Club, 8 Woodburn Road, Dalkeith**

With regard to the Application from Police Scotland, Inspector Simpson requested the evidence of the incidents be heard in private. The Board agreed to this request. The Premises Licence Holder's agent, Alistair Macdonald confirmed he was happy for that part of the Hearing to be held in private.

After viewing CCTV footage and hearing all parties, the Board found that grounds for review had been established and the premises were in breach of the following licensing objectives –

Preventing crime and disorder  
and  
Securing public safety

The Board agreed that the terminal hour on Saturdays be restricted to 1am and that the following conditions be added to the Local Conditions of the Premises Licence –

1. A personal Licence Holder shall be present on the premises from 8pm on Mondays to Sundays
2. All staff on duty, whether bar staff, glass collectors or SIA stewards shall be trained in "Alcohol Awareness" to BIIAB standard.

The meeting terminated at 11.05am

**Tuesday  
3 February 2015  
Licensing Board  
Paper No 3**

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**MINUTES of MEETING of MIDLOTHIAN LICENSING BOARD held in the Council Chambers, Midlothian House, Buccleuch Street, Dalkeith, on Tuesday, 9 December 2014, at 9.00am.**

**Present:** - Messrs Constable (Chairman), Milligan, Montgomery, Imrie, Thompson, Wallace, Rosie and Mrs Russell.

**1. Licensing (Scotland) Act 2005 – Application for Review Hearing of Premises Licence – Crescent Snooker Club, 11 Jackson Street, Penicuik**

With regard to the Application from Police Scotland, Inspector Simpson requested the evidence regarding the incident be heard in private. The Premises Licence Holders agent, Alistair Macdonald confirmed he was happy for that part of the Hearing to be held in private.

After hearing all parties, the Board found that grounds for review had been established and the premises were in breach of the following licensing objectives –

- 1 securing public safety  
and
- 2 protecting and improving public health

The Board agreed that a written warning under Section 39(2)(a) of the Licensing (Scotland) Act 2005 be issued to the Premises Licence Holder requiring that the following be implemented -

1. as a matter of good practice, an incident book be introduced at the premises
2. up to date staff training records require to be available at all times
3. the CCTV system installed at the premises, requires to be in good working order at all times and
4. summary of premises licence requires to be displayed at the premises at all times

**2. Licensing (Scotland) Act 1976 – Application for Review Hearing of Premises Licence – Rowantree Inn, 5 Eskview Road, Mayfield, Dalkeith**

After viewing CCTV footage from Police Scotland, the premises licence holder's agent, Mr Macdonald advised that as this was the first time that he had viewed the CCTV and it did not correlate with the information he had received from his client, requested that continuation of the Application be considered at a future Board Meeting in order that he could discuss matters more fully with his client. The Board agreed to the request.

The meeting terminated at 10.05am

**Tuesday  
3 February 2015  
Licensing Board  
Paper No 4**

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**MINUTES of MEETING of MIDLOTHIAN LICENSING BOARD held in the Council Chambers, Midlothian House, Buccleuch Street, Dalkeith, on Tuesday, 16 December 2014, at 10.00am.**

**Present: - Messrs Constable (Chairman), Bennett, Rosie, Coventry, Wallace and Mrs Russell**

**1. Licensing (Scotland) Act 2005 – Application for Review Hearing of Premises Licence – Rowantree Inn, 5 Eskview Road, Mayfield, Dalkeith**

With regard to the Application from Police Scotland, Inspector Simpson requested the evidence regarding the incidents be held in private. The Board agreed to this request. The Premises Licence Holder's agent, Alistair Macdonald confirmed he was happy for that part of the Hearing to be held in private.

After previously viewing CCTV footage and hearing all parties, the Board found that grounds for review had been established and the premises licence holder was in breach of the following licensing objectives –

Preventing crime and disorder,  
Securing public safety  
and  
Protecting and improving public health

Mr Bennett, seconded by Mr Rosie moved to vary the premises licence for on sale hours to be restricted on Mondays to Sundays to 10pm and that no children and young persons shall be allowed on the premises.

As an amendment, Mr Constable, seconded by Mr Coventry moved the on sale hours be restricted to 11am to 3pm and 5pm to 10pm on Mondays to Sundays and that no children or young persons shall be allowed on the premises.

As there were 3 votes for the motion 3 votes for the amendment,  
the amendment was carried on the casting vote of the Chairman

The meeting terminated at 11.05am

## Midlothian Licensing Forum February 2015

### Report of Licensing Standards Officer

This report has been produced in pursuance of Action Point 2 from the Meeting of the Midlothian Licensing Forum held on 14<sup>th</sup>. November 2014.

Since the last Meeting of the Forum the Licensing Board has met on four occasions to conduct business including

1. An application for a Review Hearing for a Club brought by Police Scotland, where the Board found that the grounds for review had been established and the premises were in breach of the following licensing objectives –

Preventing Crime and Disorder and Securing Public Safety.

The Board agreed to restrict the terminal hour to 0100hrs. on Saturdays; and add conditions to the Premises Licence requiring a Personal Licence Holder be present on the premises after 2000hrs. on each night and all staff be trained in “Alcohol Awareness” to BIIAB standard.

2. An application for a Review Hearing for a Club brought by Police Scotland, where the Board found that the grounds for review had been established and the premises were in breach of the following licensing objectives –

Securing Public Safety and Protecting and Improving Public Health

The Board agreed to issue a Written Warning to the Premises Licence Holder requiring amongst other matters the maintenance in good order of the CCTV installed on the premises and the keeping of an Incident Book.

3. An application for a Review Hearing for a Public House brought by Police Scotland, where the Board found that the grounds for review had been established and the premises were in breach of the following licensing objectives –

Preventing Crime and Disorder, Securing Public Safety and Protecting and Improving Public Health

The Board amended the conditions attached to the Premises Licence restricting on sale hours by requiring a two hour break in the afternoon and restricting the terminal hour to 2200hrs. Additionally the Board ordered that no children or young persons be allowed on the premises.

4. An Application for Variation by a Club to extend their terminal hour to 0300hrs was refused by the Board following representations by Police Scotland, NHS Lothian and the LSO.



The Licensing Standards Officer has made observations and requested conditions in respect of all of the Occasional Licence, Extended Hours and Variation applications, typically including matters relating to the control of noise and irresponsible promotions.

In each and every case I am pleased to report the requested conditions/observations have been included as conditions on the Licences issued.

Licence Application type	Number
Occasional	14
Extended Hours	2
Premises	0
Personal	28
Variations	2

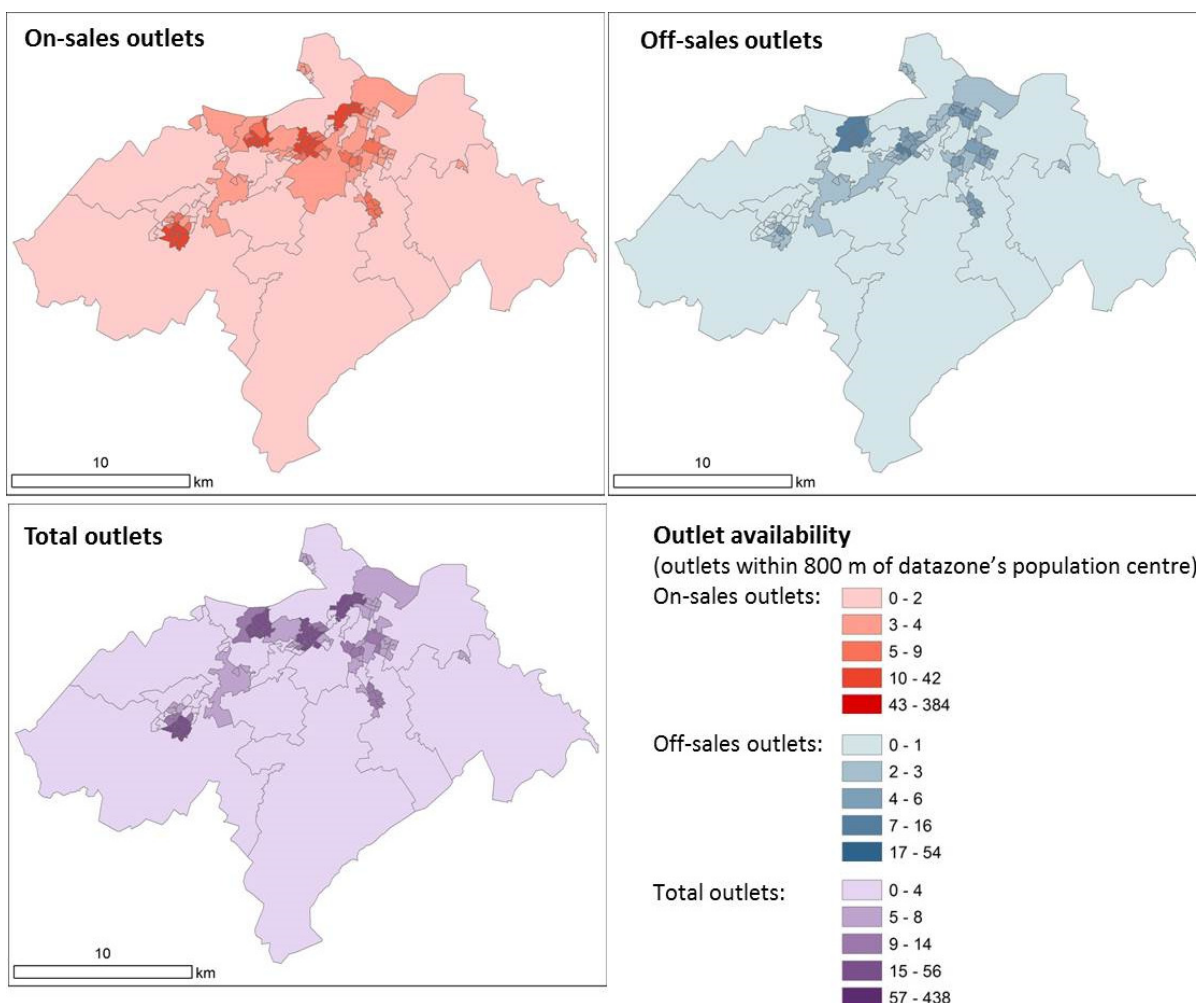
#### Complaints about Licensed Premises

Complaints received via Police Scotland or Elected Members of late night noise from one Club and two Public Houses are currently being investigated.

# Relationship between alcohol outlet density and alcohol-related harm

## Midlothian

**Midlothian** has an alcohol outlet availability\* lower than Scotland as a whole, but has pockets of high availability; one fifth of neighbourhoods in Midlothian have an outlet density greater than the Scottish average. \*measured by number of outlets within an 800m radius



**Figure 1:** Maps showing the distribution of alcohol outlets across the local authority area, with darker shades representing higher concentrations of alcohol outlets

### Investigating the relationship between licensed premises and health harm

Research from the universities of Edinburgh and Glasgow, which investigated whether alcohol-related illnesses and deaths across Scotland were related to the local availability of alcohol outlets, showed that

across Scotland alcohol-related hospitalisations and deaths were higher in areas with higher alcohol outlet availability.

This factsheet presents a summary of the research findings for the Midlothian. The Scotland-wide factsheet is available at [www.alcohol-focus-scotland.org.uk](http://www.alcohol-focus-scotland.org.uk)

## Alcohol outlet availability

Alcohol outlet availability was measured by counting the number of alcohol outlets within 800m of the population centre for every datazone in Midlothian. A datazone is a small area representing neighbourhoods of around 1000 residents. There are 112 datazones in Midlothian. A radius of 800m, or half a mile, represents a 10-minute walk at average pace.

- Overall there are **192 alcohol outlets** in Midlothian. Neighbourhoods had between 0 and 29 outlets within an 800m radius\*, with an average of **9**. The outlet density in Midlothian is lower than the density of Scotland even when Edinburgh and Glasgow are excluded (a density of 12 represents the average for Scotland when Glasgow and Edinburgh are excluded).
- **20%** of datazones in Midlothian had an outlet density above 16 outlets within an 800m radius\* (a density of 16 represents the average for Scotland).
- There are 133 **on-sales** alcohol outlets, with a neighbourhood average of 6 on-sales outlets within an 800m radius\*.
- There are 59 **off-sales** alcohol outlets, with a neighbourhood average of 3 outlets within an 800m radius\*.

\*of the population centre

## Alcohol-related harm

In Midlothian as a whole there is:

- ➔ An annual average of 14 alcohol-related **deaths** (17 deaths per 100,000 adults<sup>§</sup>). This is lower than the Scottish average of 25 deaths per 100,000.
- ➔ An average alcohol-related hospitalisation rate ratio of 82<sup>§</sup>. This is lower than the Scottish average of 100.

<sup>§</sup>Death data from 2002 to 2011 and hospitalisation data from 2007 to 2010

## Relationship between alcohol outlet availability and harm in Midlothian

A significant positive relationship was found between alcohol off-sales outlet density in Midlothian and alcohol-related harm. There was also a significant positive relationship between on-sales outlet density and hospitalisations:

- Areas with the highest density of **on-sales** premises had 59% more hospitalisations per head of population.
- Areas with the highest density of **off-sales** premises had death rates 188% higher than those areas with the lowest and 116% more hospitalisations per head of population.

**Summary:** Midlothian has a lower level of outlet density than Scotland as whole and a lower alcohol-related harm. There is a significant number of neighbourhoods in Midlothian with an outlet density greater than the Scottish average. The relationship between the density of alcohol outlets and alcohol-related harm seen in Midlothian reflects that seen in Scotland as a whole. However, no significant relationship was seen in Midlothian between on-sales outlet density and alcohol-related deaths.

**Different findings for deaths and hospitalisations:** alcohol-related deaths and hospitalisations measure slightly different aspects of alcohol use; alcohol-related deaths generally reflect long standing harmful alcohol use while alcohol-related hospitalisations reflect both long standing alcohol use and short term excessive drinking (see the [Frequently Asked Questions](#) for more information).

## Interpreting the research findings

The strong relationship found in Scotland between alcohol outlet density and alcohol-related health outcomes suggests that the local availability of alcohol influences drinking behaviours and associated alcohol-related problems.

**Different types of outlets** result in different levels of alcohol availability in an area, for example a large supermarket will provide a greater volume of alcohol to an area than a small corner grocer. Even without this more detailed information a relationship between the density of alcohol outlets and alcohol-related harm was found for Scotland as a whole. It is likely that with more information (type of alcohol outlet, licensing hours, etc.) a more accurate estimate of the effect of outlet availability could be produced. At present this information is not consistently available.

This study shows a relationship between alcohol outlet density and alcohol-related health harms, but does not definitively conclude that there is a **causal relationship**. Proving something is “causal” with population level data is difficult because of the ethical and financial constraints in conducting the studies needed to prove a causal relationship. Often it is necessary to use the best possible population level evidence we have to determine what is **likely, probable** or **reasonable** in the absence of the studies that would provide “causal” evidence.

These findings agree with findings from other studies in Scotland and beyond (see the Appendix in [Factsheet 1](#) of the Licensing Toolkit for more information). The **accumulated evidence** on the effects of alcohol outlet density on alcohol-related harm is recognised to constitute sufficient evidence to support implementation of policies to control the overall availability of alcohol. That is why the WHO Global Strategy on Alcohol, adopted by UN member states including the UK, includes regulation of the location of on- and off-sales alcohol outlets.

The Scotland-wide factsheet and full research report are available at:

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

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Alcohol Focus Scotland, 166 Buchanan Street, Glasgow G1 2LW  
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## Scottish Schools Adolescent Lifestyle Substance Use Survey (SALSUS) 2013

### 1. School Participation Rate

1.1 The school response rate for Midlothian was 83% (down from 100% in 2010) compared to the national rate of 71%.

### 2. Prevalence of Alcohol Use

Authority Level (%)		Base	Change from 2010	Difference from Scotland 2013
35%	<i>of 13 year olds reported they <b>had an alcoholic drink</b></i>	323	-14%	+3%
67%	<i>of 15 year olds reported they <b>had an alcoholic drink</b></i>	319	-15%	-3%
45%	<i>of 13 year olds thought it was 'ok' for someone of their age to try drinking</i>	296	-13%	+3%
73%	<i>of 15 year olds thought it was 'ok' for someone of their age to try drinking</i>	309	-10%	-4%
4%	<i>of 13 year olds said they <b>had drunk alcohol in the week prior to the survey</b></i>	323	-14%	0%
16%	<i>of 15 year olds said they <b>had drunk alcohol in the week prior to the survey</b></i>	319	-17%	-2%

### 3. Usual drinking frequency

Authority Level (%)		Base	Change from 2010	Difference from Scotland 2013
7%	<i>of 13 year olds reported they <b>usually drink at least once a week</b> (including those who drink every day and about twice a week)</i>	109	-5%	+1%
8%	<i>of 15 year olds reported they <b>usually drink at least once a week</b> (including those who drink every day and about twice a week)</i>	208	-13%	-8%

### 4. Availability/source of alcohol

Authority Level (%)		Base	Change from 2010	Difference from Scotland 2013
2%	<i>of 13 year olds reported that they <b>had managed to buy alcohol</b></i>	100	-2%	-1%
4%	<i>of 15 year olds reported that they <b>had managed to buy alcohol</b></i>	196	-3%	-3%
1%	<i>of 13 year olds had tried to buy but <b>were refused</b></i>	100	-2%	0%
0%	<i>of 15 year olds had tried to buy but <b>were refused</b></i>	196	-2%	-2%
97%	<i>of 13 year olds said they <b>had not/never tried to buy alcohol</b></i>	100	+4%	+1%
96%	<i>of 15 year olds said they <b>had not/never tried to buy alcohol</b></i>	196	+5%	+4%

Statistically significant ('more favourable' than comparator)

Statistically significant ('less favourable' than comparator)

## 5. Drinking to excess

Authority Level (%)		Base	Change from 2010	Difference from Scotland 2013
46%	<i>of 13 year olds reported that they had never been drunk</i>	103	+2%	-10%
35%	<i>of 15 year olds reported that they had never been drunk</i>	203	+8%	+5%
2%	<i>of 13 year olds said they had been drunk more than 10 times</i>	103	-6%	-2%
10%	<i>of 15 year olds said they had been drunk more than 10 times</i>	203	-11%	-10%

## 6. Prevalence of drug use

Authority Level (%)		Base	Change from 2010	Difference from Scotland 2013
14%	<i>of 15 year olds reported having used or taken one or more drugs named on the list provided, even if only once</i>	310	-1%	-4%
4%	<i>of 13 year olds reported having used or taken one or more drugs named on the list provided, even if only once</i>	312	-3%	0%
8%	<i>of 15 year olds reported using drugs in the last month</i>	310	+1%	-2%
1%	<i>of 13 year olds reported using drugs in the last month</i>	312	-3%	-1%
12%	<i>of 15 year olds reported using drugs in the last year prior to the survey</i>	310	0%	-3%
2%	<i>of 13 year olds reported using drugs in the last year prior to the survey</i>	312	-3%	-1%
12%	<i>of 15 year olds reported that they had used *cannabis in the last year</i>	310	0%	-3%
2%	<i>of 13 year olds reported that they had used *cannabis in the last year</i>	312	-2%	-1%

**\*Cannabis was the most commonly used drug**

## 7. Frequency of drug use

Authority Level (%)		Base	Change from 2010	Difference from 2013
86%	<i>of 15 year olds who have never tried any drugs</i>	310	+1%	+4%
97%	<i>of 13 year olds who have never tried any drugs</i>	310	+2%	+1%
2%	<i>of 15 year olds reported usually taking drugs at least once a week( including those taking drugs most days)</i>	310	+1%	-1%
0%	<i>of 13 year olds reported usually taking drugs at least once a week( including those taking drugs most days)</i>	310	0%	0%

## 8. Whether offered drugs

Authority Level (%)		Base	Change from 2010	Difference from Scotland 2013
35%	of <b>15 year olds</b> reported they <b>had been offered</b> at least one of the <b>drugs</b> on the list provided	311	-1%	-1%
15%	of <b>13 year olds</b> reported they <b>had been offered</b> at least one of the <b>drugs</b> on the list provided	310	-2%	+1%
32%	of <b>15 year olds</b> reported they <b>had been offered</b> <b>*cannabis</b>	311	+3%	-1%
10%	of <b>13 year olds</b> reported they <b>had been offered</b> <b>*cannabis</b>	310	0%	+1%


*\*Cannabis was the most commonly offered drug*

## 9. Availability of drugs

Authority Level (%)		Base	Change from 2010	Difference from Scotland 2013
37%	of <b>15 year olds</b> reported that it would be 'very' or 'fairly easy' to get illegal drugs if they wanted to	309	+3%	-2%
20%	of <b>13 year olds</b> reported that it would be 'very' or 'fairly easy' to get illegal drugs if they wanted to	298	+5%	+5%

## 10. Sources of drugs used and obtaining help with drug use

Authority Level (%)		Base	Change from 2010	Difference from Scotland 2013
41%	of <b>15 year olds</b> obtained their drugs from a friend of the same age on the last occasion they took them	41	+7%	-1%
21%	of <b>15 year olds</b> obtained their drugs from an older friend on the last occasion they took them	41	-14%	-8%
55%	of <b>15 year olds</b> gave some drugs away on the last occasion they took them	40	-15%	-5%
14%	of <b>15 year olds</b> sold some of their drugs on the last occasion they took them	40	+6%	+8%
5%	of <b>15 year olds</b> felt they needed to get help because of their drug use	41	+2%	0%
50%	of <b>15 year olds</b> who would like to stop taking drugs	36	n/a	0%

 less than 50 pupils

## 11. New Psychoactive Substances (NPS)

11.1 Questions on the use of NPS (legal highs, herbal highs) were included for the first time in the 2013 survey so no comparison or trends from previous surveys are possible. The data Midlothian shows low or very low levels of use. For example, the percentage of 15 year pupils reported to have taken 'at least one psychoactive substance', 3% would translate into 9 pupils. For 13 year olds the figures would be 3

11.2 The table below summarises both the level of use and the type of psychoactive substances used in Midlothian and compares this with national data.

Drug Type	Midlothian		Scotland	
	13 yrs (%)	15 yrs (%)	13 yrs (%)	15 yrs (%)
Synthetic Cannabis including Spice	0	0	0	2
Mephedrone	1	3	1	2
Salvia (herbal high)	-	1	0	2
GBL or GHB	-	0	0	1
Powders or pills that are sold as legal highs	-	0	0	1
At least one psychoactive substance	1	3	1	4
<b>Base: all pupils</b>	<b>312</b>	<b>310</b>	<b>16672</b>	<b>15838</b>