

Argyll and Bute Council
Comhairle Earra Ghaidheal agus Bhoid

Customer Services
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2 April 2012

NOTICE OF MEETING

A meeting of the **LOCAL LICENSING FORUM** will be held in the **COUNCIL CHAMBER, KILMORY, LOCHGILPHEAD** on **WEDNESDAY, 11 APRIL 2012** at **10:30 AM**, which you are requested to attend.

Douglas Hendry
Executive Director - Customer Services

BUSINESS

1. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**
2. **MINUTES**
Local Licensing Forum held on 24 January 2012. (Pages 1 - 6)
3. **ALCOHOL FOCUS SCOTLAND**
Presentation by Linda Bowie, Senior Officer (Public Health & Licensing), Alcohol Focus Scotland
4. **RE-THINKING OF ALCOHOL LICENSING - INTRODUCTION OF CURFEWS AND STAGGERING OF VENUE CLOSING TIMES**(Pages 7 - 8)
5. **ALCOHOL:THE FACTS IN FIFE 2011** (Pages 9 - 32)
Please refer to email dated 10 February 2012 to which the Report was attached.

Also circulated by email on 14 February 2012 was the Report "Provision of licensed premises in the Highland Council area - Health harm attributable to alcohol - Submitted by the Public Health Department, NHS Highland, October 2011"
6. **POLICE STATISTICS**(Pages 33 - 44)
7. **UPDATE FROM LSO**(Pages 45 - 46)
8. **ISSUE TRACKER**(Pages 47 - 50)

9. FUTURE MEETING DATES

- Wednesday 18 July 2012 at 10.30 am in the Council Chamber, Kilmory, Lochgilphead
- Wednesday 17 October 2012 at 10.30am in Committee Room 1, Kilmory, Lochgilphead

Contact: Shona Marshall Tel. No. 01546 604407

**MINUTES of MEETING of LOCAL LICENSING FORUM held in the COUNCIL CHAMBER,
KILMORY, LOCHGILPHEAD
on TUESDAY, 24 JANUARY 2012**

Present: Kenneth Harrison (Chair)

Caroline Church, Alcohol Focus Scotland
John Woods, Alcohol Focus Scotland
Calum MacLachlainn, Licensed Trade
Raymond Park, License Standards Officer
Eric Dearie, License Standards Officer
Tim Saul, Licensed Trade
Raymond Boyle, Community Representative
Cath Cakebread, ABC/NHS Scotland
Fred Bruce, Community Councils
J Russell Buchanan, Ex Licensee
Martin Donovan, Licensed Trade
Eric Box, Community Councils
Catherine Dobbie, ABC/Education
David M. Greenwell, ABCHP
Roanna Clark, ABC Young Scot
Craig McNally, NHS Highland Public Health
Marlene Baillie, Strathclyde Police
Peter Robertson, Argyll & Bute Council
Hazel MacInnes, Argyll & Bute Council
Shona Marshall, Argyll & Bute Council

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Brian Kupris, Iain MacNaughton, Sheila Johnston, Laura Meek, Dr Helen Bath and Elaine Garman.

2. APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRPERSON

Eric Box intimated his intention to stand down from the role of Chairperson. He indicated that after four years doing the job he felt it was time to let someone else take over. Nominations were invited for the appointment of a Chairperson.

Eric Box proposed that Kenneth Harrison be appointed as Chairperson and this was Seconded by Eric Dearie. Kenneth Harrison was duly appointed as Chairperson.

Kenneth Harrison took the Chair and thanked Eric Box for his work as Chairperson over the past year.

3. MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting of the Local Licensing Forum held on Wednesday 26 October 2011 were approved as a correct record.

4. NATIONAL COMMUNITIES PROJECT

Caroline Church, Alcohol Focus Scotland, gave a presentation on the National Communities Project Lochgilphead/Ardishaig.

She explained the purpose of Alcohol Focus Scotland, its core functions, strategic priorities and use of logic modelling.

She then outlined;

- background to the National Communities Project;
- resultant Community perceptions of impact of the project;
- price paid for alcohol in terms of health and social aspects;
- aim of a whole population approach of the Project;
- impact of alcohol in Argyll and Bute;
- how the role could be approached; and
- outcomes wanting to be achieved.

She concluded her presentation by setting out the next steps of the Project, and sought collective endorsement and support for the Project and its outcomes from the Forum.

Responding to queries she explained that the Lochgilphead/Ardishaig area had been chosen due to the similar population size to that of the initial Project delivered in Blackburn, West Lothian. However, aspects of the Project could be adapted by neighbouring communities such as Kilmartin, Kilmichael, Carnbaan or the Islands eg school initiatives. Any issues specific to Argyll and Bute could be identified at the end of the year long project, but it was for the community owned steering group to decide its own workplan and outcomes.

The Forum thanked Caroline for her presentation and indicated its support for the Project.

Decision

Agreed that S Marshall send copies of the presentation to Forum members.

5. RE-THINKING ALCOHOL LICENSING - INTRODUCTION OF CURFEWS AND STAGGERING OF VENUE CLOSING TIMES

There had been circulated report for discussion by Calum MacLachlainn on 3am licensing extensions.

Speaking to the report, Calum highlighted the benefits he felt this would bring to town centres as follows;

- result in less chance of pre-loading;
- apply to venues strictly designed for late night entertainment
- enable the venue to apply a charge and in turn provide enhanced entertainment performers;
- reduce incidents on streets as crowd would not congregate outside biggest venue at same time as other bars;

- potentially result in customers going home later in the evening and not just at closing time;
- encourage more responsible drinking, as no pressure to finish drinking 15 minutes before closing time;
- result in less aggressive behaviour;
- improve the tourism sector; and
- enable diverse entertainment to the benefit of locals and tourists alike.

Marlene Baillie, Chief Inspector, queried whether there had been any consultation with local residents in Oban town centre on 3am opening hours. It appeared that they already opposed the granting of 2am licenses.

Raymond Park suggested that a risk matrix, previously used by the Forum, could be applied in this case. The staggering of closing hours could simply move overcrowding in streets forward by one hour, to the detriment of local residents and the town itself. Discussion then took place on whether later opening hours would reduce pre-loading.

J Russell Buchanan suggested that it would be beneficial to look at the structure and distribution of licenses in each of the Wards in Argyll and Bute. Many venues may not be suitable for 3am licenses due to increased costs incurred by the employment of Stewards and CCTV.

Peter Robertson pointed out that the Licensing Board was entitled to look at the effect late licenses would have on police resources. He cited a recent Glasgow case where the court had upheld the Board's decision to refuse extended licence on that basis.

Eric Box felt that when looking at late night licenses, consideration should be given to ensure not only the licensee but the local area benefitted as a result. There may also be health issues involved in granting late licenses as this may encourage the availability of alcohol, which was in opposition to government policy which was geared towards price increases and reduction in availability.

Marlene Baillie pointed out that police shift patterns were set up towards change of shifts prior to 3am. This could result in the reduction of police resources available for dealing with disturbances which resulted from the extension of entertainment and catering premises licenses.

She queried whether there was any supporting evidence that granting 3am extensions would, for example, reduce domestic incidents or result in a reduction of hospital admissions or disorder in town centres.

Decision

- 1) Agreed to place the "Re-thinking of Alcohol Licensing – Introduction of Curfews and Staggering of Venue Closing Times" as an Item for discussion on the Agenda for the next meeting of the Forum; and
- 2) Agreed that Caroline Church bring information to the next meeting of the Forum on any set precedents or evidence available from other parts of the country on the effect of later licensing hours on public disorder, hospital admissions etc

6. LOCAL LICENSING FORUMS - BEST PRACTICE DISCUSSION

Referring to the “Notes from the Local Licensing Forums Best Practice Discussion” held by Alcohol Focus Scotland on Friday 2 December 2011”, Eric Box highlighted the sections “Young People” and “Alcohol: the Facts in Fife 2011”.

During discussion it was explained that West Dunbartonshire Council had taken into account the correlation in statistics on health and the number of licensed premises in an area, to help them build a picture of trends and inform their overprovision policy.

Craig McNally also informed the Forum that NHS Highland had carried out a report on health issues attributed to access to alcohol in the Highlands in relation to health.

Roanna Clark referred to the membership of young people. There were two youth representative places on the Forum. However, owing to other commitments one representative was unable to attend the meeting and the other place was vacant but would be filled in the near future. She confirmed that both youth representatives would be attending the next meeting of the Forum, and did not consider that any additional youth places were required.

Youth representatives were important to the Forum as they passed on relevant information to young people through sources such as the Young Scot website and the Argyll and Bute Youth Forum. The Forum also gained from having a youth voice as part of its membership.

Decision

- 1) Agreed that “Alcohol: the Facts in Fife 2011” be put as an Item at the next meeting of the Forum;
- 2) Agreed that Craig McNally obtain a copy of the NHS Highland report for circulation to the Forum; and
- 3) Agreed that Caroline Church obtain a copy of the “Alcohol: the Facts in Fife 2011” report for circulation to members of the Forum.

7. ALCOHOL FOCUS SCOTLAND

The Chair referred to the invitation for any representative from the Forum to attend a Regional Event “Re-thinking Alcohol Licensing” being held in Inverness on Tuesday 7 February 2012 by Alcohol Focus Scotland. The same event was also taking place in Glasgow on 20 February 2012.

Decision

Agreed that any member wishing to attend either of the “Re-thinking Alcohol Licensing” events inform Shona Marshall, Committee Services.

8. POLICE STATISTICS

Marlene Baillie spoke to the report on the Summary of Storm Incidents, October – November 2011.

Following a query on the statistics, Eric Box explained that Storm Incidents were

incidents which had been reported to the police, and included attendance by police officers at licensed premises.

Marlene Baillie pointed out that any incidents occurring at licensed premises required a separate type of form to be completed, and some information may not be published due to disclosure issues. Figures on drug related incidents in licensed premises were available for the past year, however there were a range of factors which would have to be taken into account when considering whether or not drug use was on the increase and as such the figures could not be looked at in isolation.

Decision

Agreed that an analysis of the police statistics for the year 2011 which showed trends of the figures, as had been produced for the meeting on 17 July 2011, be brought to the next meeting of the Forum.

9. UPDATE FROM LSO

The Forum noted the update from Eric Dearie. He confirmed that in some cases the closure of licensed premises in Lochgilphead, Campbeltown and Oban had resulted in quieter streets, and in other cases the population had shifted to other premises in the towns.

Premises in Argyll and Bute were of a good standard and pubs were now required by law to maintain certain records and measures such as record keeping and training of personnel.

He went on to inform the Forum that the Council's Environmental Health Section also carried out formal inspections and would contact licensed premises managers to inform them if they were to be in their area to carry out inspections.

Decision

Members noted the report and thanked Mr Dearie.

10. ISSUE TRACKER

The Forum noted the following updates;

- (i) National Outcomes for LLF – the study was on-going
- (ii) Promotion of LLF – ongoing
- (iii) Alcohol Focus Scotland – Linda Bowie to attend April 2012 meeting of the LLF
- (iv) Re-thinking Alcohol Licensing – ongoing

With regard to the Educational DVD, "don't make the same mistakes we did" Roanna Clark reported that following a project exchange with Poland it was noted that some of the country's youth projects were funded through taxes on alcohol sales given to the Local Authority. These projects also existed in Sweden and Denmark. The Argyll and Bute local Scottish Youth Parliament member was now interested in bringing a similar project to the Youth Parliament and she queried whether the Forum would be supportive of this initiative.

The Forum agreed their support to the suggestion that youth activities be funded by

use of an alcohol levy.

Discussion then followed on the timing of the number of Joint Licensing Board and Licensing Board meetings which should be held. It was suggested that these be held on a more regular basis.

The Forum agreed that the Minutes of the last joint meeting of the Licensing Board and Licensing Forum held in September 2011 be circulated.

11. FUTURE MEETING DATES

The Forum noted the following future meeting dates;

- Wednesday 11 April 2012
- Wednesday 18 July 2012
- Wednesday 17 October 2012

29th March 2012

Mr Kenny Harrison
Argyll and Bute Council
Kilmory
Lochgilphead
Argyll
PA31 8RT

Dear Mr Harrison

Re Discussion of the Rethinking Alcohol Licensing Report

I have been passed a copy of the document pack discussed at the last Forum meeting on the 24th of January 2012. I note that the *Re-thinking Alcohol Licensing* report was discussed at the meeting and it is also recorded in the minutes that this was discussed at the previous meeting on 26th October 2011.

While I am delighted that the *Re-thinking Alcohol Licensing* report has been the subject of discussion at the Argyll and Bute Licensing Forum, I am concerned that it appears there may have been some misunderstanding or misrepresentation concerning the report. The October minutes record the following:

Alcohol Focus Scotland had circulated copies of the report "Re-thinking Alcohol Licensing" to all key stakeholders including Local Licensing Forums. The document contained key recommendations for Licensing Boards, Licensing Forums and Local Authorities that related to the five licensing objectives contained within the Licensing Scotland Act.

The Forum had a lengthy discussion on whether it would be appropriate to draft a response to this document at this stage or to wait to see if any of the recommendations contained within the report would mean a change in licensing legislation further in the process. The Forum discussed the culture of drinking in Scotland and whether the introduction of curfews and the staggering of venue closing times would be effective in reducing problems of crowds at closing times. They also discussed initiatives such as serving soft drinks and coffee 1 hour before closing time.

I would like to clarify that the *Re-thinking Alcohol Licensing* report is concerned with the links between licensing and the significant rise in the consumption of alcohol from the 1960s onwards and the associated rise of alcohol-related harms. The report notes that:

"In Scotland, greater availability of alcohol through more and bigger-capacity licensed outlets, longer licensing hours and increased affordability and marketing, have been associated with a substantial rise in alcohol consumption and harm. Over the past two decades Scotland has had one of the fastest growing liver cirrhosis mortality rates in the world"

The report is clear about the evidence concerning the effects of increasing availability.

“Empirical evidence shows that increasing access to alcohol, through more outlets and longer trading hours, is linked to a range of alcohol-related harms and in certain circumstances, levels and patterns of consumption. ...Overall, the weight of evidence supports the conclusion that restrictions on the availability of alcohol can contribute to a reduction in alcohol-related problems.”

It is, therefore, surprising that discussion of the report should lead to a discussion on the possibility of extending licensing hours. The report is clear that greater availability of alcohol, through greater numbers of premises and longer opening hours, is a significant contributor to the current levels of consumption and harm.

The report goes on to recommend that Licensing Boards consider the overall effects of the licensed premises in their area on the levels harm and that they assess for overprovision over larger areas by considering the range of evidence available.

The report, therefore, does not contain any support for the idea of extending licensed hours - indeed it suggests the opposite.

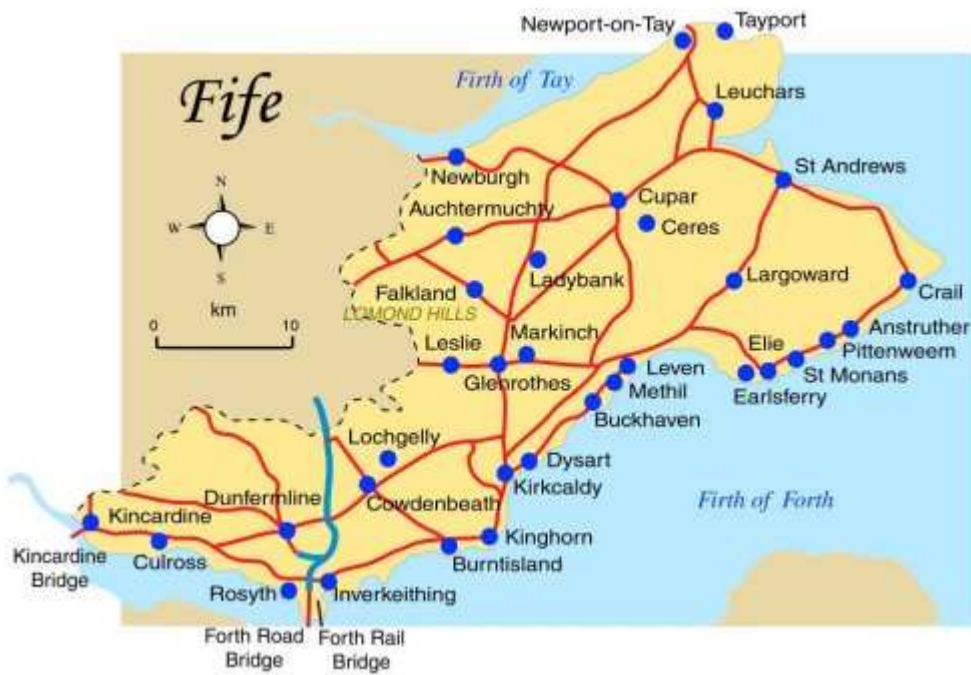
I trust that you will take the clarifications I have made into consideration in any further discussion of this matter.

Yours sincerely

Mary Ellmers
Head of Training & Development

cc Charles Reppke, Head of Governance and Law, Argyll and Bute Council

Fife Licensing Forum



Alcohol : the Facts in Fife 2011

FIFE LICENSING FORUM

Under the Licensing (Scotland) Act 2005, every Council is required to establish a Local Licensing forum for their area. The role of the Forum is to keep under review the operation of the Licensing system in their area and to give advice and recommendations to the Licensing Board. This does not include reviewing or offering advice or recommendations in relation to any particular application or case before the Board. The Board has a duty to have regard to the Forums' views and must offer reasons on occasions where it takes decisions against the advice of the Forum. There is a mandatory requirement of a minimum of one formal meeting between the Forum and Board annually.

INTRODUCTION

The Licensing (Scotland) Act 2005 is founded upon five Licensing Objectives.

- Preventing Public Nuisance
- Securing Public Safety
- Preventing Crime and Disorder
- Protecting and Improving Public Health, and
- Protecting Children From Harm

Everyone involved in alcohol licensing and beyond, must be mindful of these objectives at all times. No one objective carries more weight than the other. The purpose behind the Fife Licensing Forum's production of this report is to provide a Fife perspective on alcohol related issues in relation to these five objectives

When considering the information provided it should be acknowledged that certain aspects, i.e. 'children and young people obtaining alcohol' could legitimately fall within more than one objective. In this example the 'prevention of crime and disorder', 'protecting and improving health' and 'protecting children from harm' objectives. The information is not exclusive to one objective.

The categories of information have been selected because there is evidence that alcohol plays a significant part within these areas, although there is not always quantitative or qualitative data available to demonstrate these linkages.

The intention of the Forum is that this is seen as a starting point to obtain an understanding of the alcohol related issues across Fife that the Forum and Licensing Board may be able to influence through policy and decision-making. The report is seen as dynamic and will change as information sources become more refined.

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Page 10-22	Protecting and Improving Public Health Objective
Page 23	Key Points

PUBLIC NUISANCE OBJECTIVE

Alcohol abuse is closely linked with crime and disorder and public nuisance. The information provided within this section relates to instances of street drinking, associated disorder, including vandalism and the availability of alcohol to those under 18 years of age. It also considers public opinion around alcohol related anti-social behaviour and alcohol drug use. Information is also included relating to the nuisance caused by amplified music.

Fife Constabulary is working to help reduce alcohol-related crime by enforcing age and other restrictions, concentrating on hotspots, visiting licensed premises and supporting intervention schemes.

- **Alcohol Related Disorder in Fife**

Table 1.1 – Street Drinking and Agent Purchasing

Charge Description	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09
Consume Alcohol in a Designated Public Place	697	770	626
Drunk and Incapable	256	369	383
Urinate/Defecate	441	587	577
Act as an Agent to Persons Under 18	25	41	44

Compared to 2009/2010, during 2010/2011

- The number of reported vandalisms and malicious mischief offences fell by 23% (1,104 fewer).
- The charges in relation to consumption of alcohol in a designated public place fell by 44% (119 fewer)
- The charges in relation to possession of an open container (of alcohol) in a designated public place fell by 44% (159 fewer).

- **Alcohol Fixed Penalty Tickets/Litres of Alcohol Seized**

In 2010 – 2011 there were 3,000 fewer incidents of anti-social behaviour recorded than during the previous year. This is attributed to Operation LASER (Local Action Supporting Enforcement and Reassurance), which saw increased numbers of police officers on the streets. These 7,021 additional hours of patrol delivered a 23% reduction in anti-social behaviour.

Officers conducted 706 searches and seized 699 litres of alcohol, from young people who were either consuming, or had possession of this in a public place.

The Fife Alcohol Diversion Scheme piloted in Kirkcaldy and recipient of a Scottish Policing Award in 2010 was rolled out across Fife during September 2010. The scheme aims to help reduce the chance of binge drinkers becoming victims or offenders. As part of the scheme an officer issues an Anti-social Behaviour Fixed Penalty Ticket (FPT). By attending a session with Fife Alcohol Support Services (FASS) offenders can have the £40 FPT fine cancelled. Of the 1,392 FPTs issued between 1st April 2010 and 31st March 2011, 794 were alcohol related, with 204 electing to attend the FASS scheme; a 26% attendance rate.

- **The Public Perception for Alcohol in Fife**

The Making Fife Safer Survey conducted in 2009 found the following points relevant to alcohol use in Fife:

ASB Disorder

- 39% of people were worried about underage drinking in their neighbourhood.
- 42% of people have had personal experience of underage drinking over the past year, however 9% of these respondents (or someone close to them) were victimised.

ASB – Drinking and Drug Use

- 41% feel that drinking or drug use is very or fairly common in their area. This is a 22% decrease from 2006 and a 19% decrease from the average noted between 2000 – 2006.

Public nuisance from licensed premises caused by amplified music

- Complaint figures for the first 7 months of 2011 indicate that 1 in 8 of the pubs clubs and hotels in Fife cause public nuisance. Previous figures were not Fife-wide so a comparison cannot be made until next year. However figures for Central Fife show that there has been an increase over the last three years in complaints about noise from patrons outside licensed premises.
- Although the majority of these are “one off “complaints, licensees and managers continue to neglect consideration of the effect of their activities on their neighbours.
- Many complaints are caused by premises with doors and windows being left open. However there is a trend for premises with poor sound insulation to be used as venues for karaoke and live bands.
- From January to July of 2011, 60% of these complaints were due to entertainment noise, while 40% were for noise caused by patrons outside the premises.

SUMMARY

GOOD NEWS:

- Consumption in public places appears to be going down. There was a 44% reduction in the last two years.
- Vandalism has reduced significantly
- An increased police presence on the streets has resulted in a 23 % reduction in Anti social behaviour in the year 2010/2011

BAD NEWS:

- Agency sales are on the increase.
- Charges against individuals defecating and urinating in public have increased since 2006
- More premises are being used as entertainment venues than ever before and with the increase in late licences there are more complaints about noise from patrons outside premises.

- **PUBLIC SAFETY OBJECTIVE**

Public Safety has extremely wide parameters. The information contained within this section relates to the involvement of Serious Organised Crime within the licensed trade and the risk this presents to public safety. Also included is data relating to alcohol and driving. An association also exists between deliberate fires, particularly within the domestic environment, where alcohol may have been a contributory factor; therefore data on this is included. Alcohol is not seen as the 'causal factor, within incidents of domestic abuse, or where there is concern for the welfare of children and young persons, however it is known to be a contributor, therefore data on these topics has been included.

Serious Organised Crime poses a significant threat to the communities of Fife. Targeting and disrupting Organised Crime Groups by gathering information and intelligence from partners and the public is key to Fife Constabulary's Serious and Organised Crime Strategy. This strategy underpins these priorities to ensure that the Force and its partners tackle Serious Organised Crime in a coherent, comprehensive and coordinated manner, through the provision of four key objectives of Divert, Disrupt, Deter and Detect.

Significant success has been achieved in the seizure of controlled drugs with £3.6m worth of drugs seized.

Organised crime is known to exist within licensed premises in Fife. Officers within the Force have conducted over 10,000 visits to licensed premises and work will continue to ensure Serious Organised Crime Groups do not flourish within Fife.

- **Drink-Driving in Fife**

Fife Constabulary conduct targeted summer and festive drink and drug driving campaigns.

Table 1.2 – Drink Driving Figures 2006 - 2010

Breath Test	Severity of Crash			
	Fatal	Serious	Slight	Total
Not Applicable	0	10	22	32
Positive	0	38	106	144
Negative	57	558	2532	3147
Not Requested	9	128	731	868
Refused to Provide	0	2	7	9
Driver Not Contacted	0	73	648	721
Not provided (Medical)	39	119	133	291
Total	105	928	4179	5212

Data for Table 1.2 has been extracted from the Fife Road Crash Database held by Transportation, Fife Council. This covers the period 2006 – 2010.

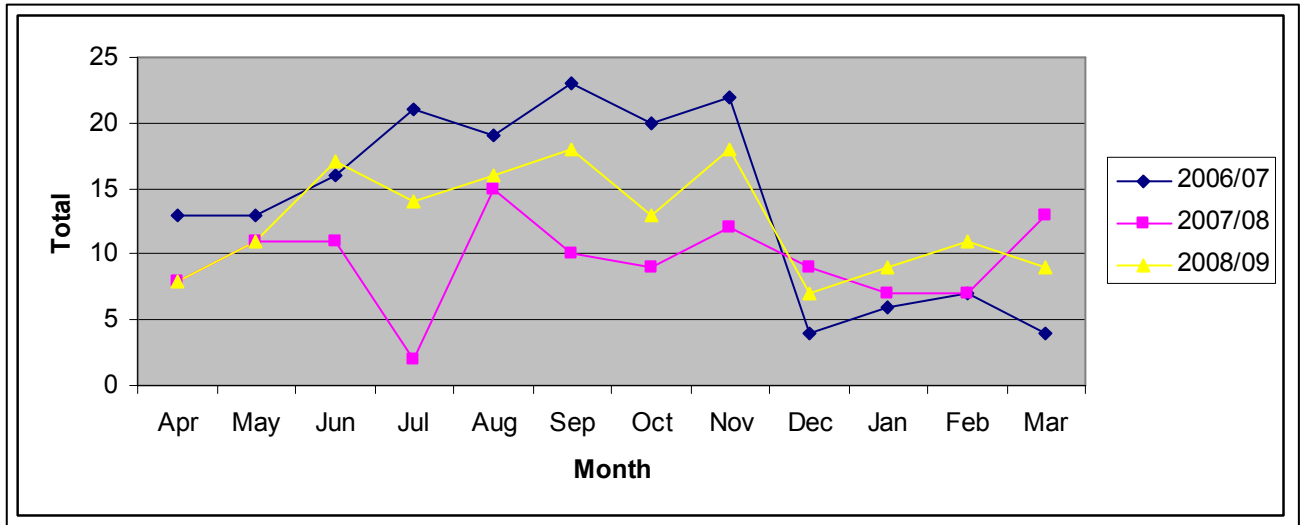
Information from Fife Constabulary provides that charges of drink driving have shown a continuous decrease between 2006/7 to 2008/9, from 726 to 631 to 581 respectively. However, from the crash data, 1 in 20 of crashes involved drunken drivers.

During 2011 the number of drink driving charges has fallen by 16% (78 fewer) compared to the previous year.

The number of persons aged under 25 years involved in such cases is down by 21% (50 fewer than 2010).

• **Deliberate Fires in Fife**

Graph 1.1 – Deliberate Fires Between 2000 and 0400 hours.



It is widely recognised that persons under the influence of alcohol, or returning home, have been inclined to prepare something to eat, or fall asleep whilst smoking a cigarette, thus increasing the incidence of fires.

Incident recording mechanisms provide no methods for recording which deliberate fires had alcohol as a catalyst. In order to provide some indicator, fires occurring between 2000 and 0400 hours are shown in Graph 1.1 above.

Totals for the Period Examined: 2006/07 - 168
 2007/08 - 114
 2008/09 - 151

Incidents of deliberate fire are reducing overall between 2000 and 0400 hours, despite an increase of 27 incidents between 2007/08 and 2008/09. Figures for 2009/10 recorded 96 fires for the period. Each year, the total recorded between the time periods considered accounted for roughly half of total fires. Seasonal trends indicate highs between June and November, taking in the summer months and peaking over the bonfire period between September and November.

Figures for accidental fires attributed to alcohol will be available next year.

Alcohol concerns in Private Spaces:

- The number of reported domestic abuse incidents is up by 5% (177 more cases than 2010)
- The number of 'cause for concern' reports in relation to children and young persons has increased by 9% (441 more cases than 2010).

CRIME AND DISORDER OBJECTIVE

It is not always possible to identify where alcohol has played a part in relation to crimes and offences. Even if it were, it is almost impossible to identify the source of the alcohol. However, experience would indicate that alcohol is a factor within crimes of violence, including indecency.

The following crime categories usually have an element of alcohol involved.

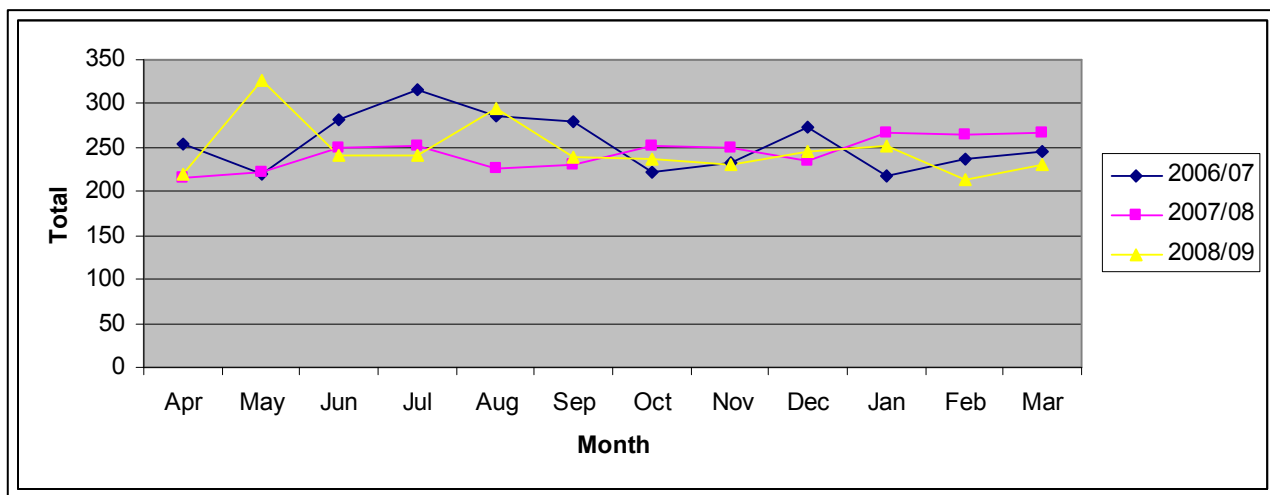
• **Crime in Fife**

Overall crime within Fife has fallen by 11% during 2010 – 2011.

- Crimes of violence have increased by 35.8% (122 more than 2010).
- Crimes of Indecency have fallen by 2.3% (14 fewer than 2010).
- Crimes associated with fire-raising, and malicious and reckless conduct have fallen by 20% (1,284 fewer than 2010).
- Number of offensive weapon offences has fallen by 15% (38 fewer than 2010).
- Number of offences of being drunk and incapable has fallen by 5% (13 fewer than 2010).
- Petty assaults have fallen by 5% (236 fewer than 2010)

• **Petty Assaults in Fife**

Graph 1.2 – Petty Assaults Between 2000 and 0400 hours



Incident recording mechanisms provide no methods for recording which petty assaults had alcohol as a catalyst. In order to provide some indicator, petty assaults occurring between 2000 and 0400 hours are shown in Graph 1.1 above.

Totals for the Period Examined: 2006/07 - 3064
 2007/08 - 2928
 2008/09 – 2971

It is evident from the data that petty assault charges over this period are generally reducing, with an increase of 43 incidents between 2007/08 and 2008/09. This is not felt to be statistically significant. Charges recorded between 2000 and 0400 hours also account for a little over half of total charges recorded annually. Although the monthly trend is relatively consistent, a slight increase is apparent over the summer months and festive period. From that, it can be inferred that charges are largely opportunistic in nature.

However, it is the level of violence that is important, not the trend in this case.

An apparent trend in petty assault data is the decrease in public space assaults and an increase in those occurring within the home. Residential assaults have increased from 1105 in 2006/07 to 1260 in 2008/09 (14%). This can be expected to continue as a result of the recession and changes in alcohol consumption habits.

§ **Test purchases**

In 2011 of the 106 premises tested, 10% failed a test purchase operation. This will be used as a benchmark for the future.

PROTECTING AND IMPROVING PUBLIC HEALTH OBJECTIVE

This statistical report contains data relating to alcohol consumption in Fife and trends in the adverse health-related effects of alcohol.

Alcohol Consumption

Table 1 shows current nationally recommended sensible drinking limits. A unit is 10ml of pure alcohol.

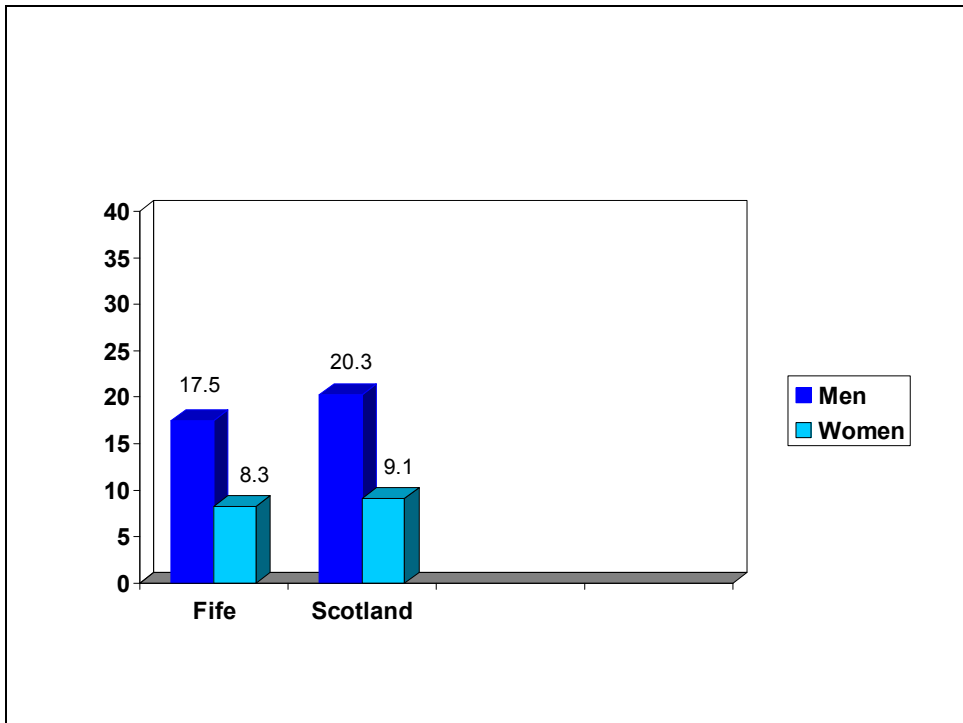
Table 1: Current Nationally Recommended Sensible Drinking Limits		
	Men	Women
Daily	3-4 units, with at least 2 alcohol-free days per week	2-3 units, with at least 2 alcohol-free days per week
Weekly	21 units	14 units

Table 2 places sensible drinking limits in context by showing the strengths of various alcoholic drinks.

Table 2: Alcohol Content of a Range of Alcoholic Drinks	
Pint of 5% beer	2.8 units
125ml (small) glass of 12% wine	1.5 units
175 ml (medium) glass of 12% wine	2.1 units
250 ml (large) glass of 12% wine	3 units
Small measure (25ml) of spirits	1 unit
2-litre bottle of strong (7.5%) cider	15 units

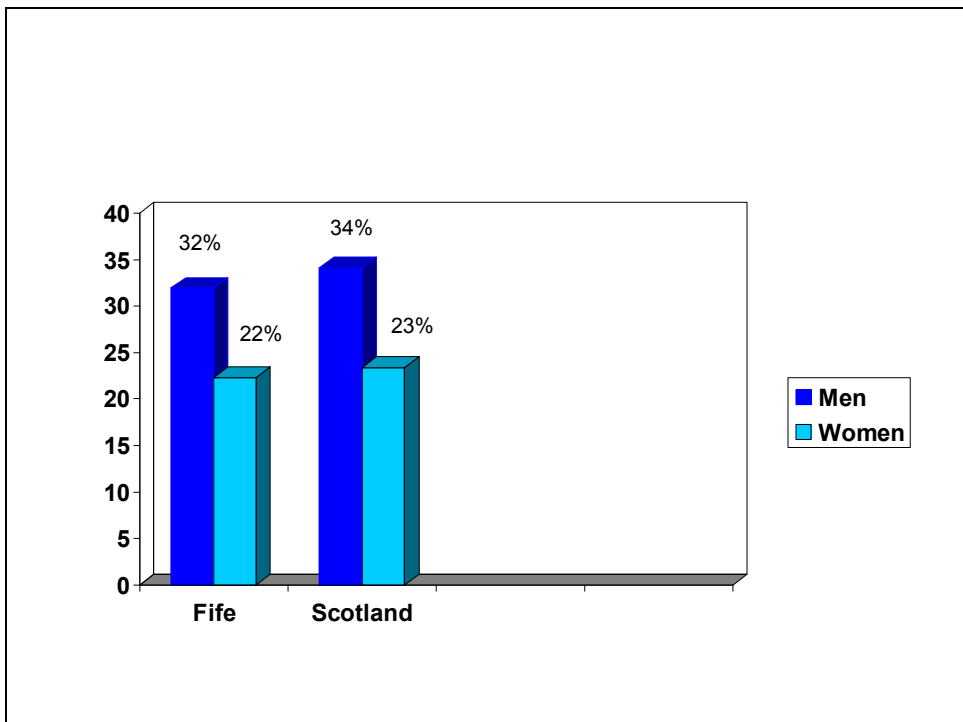
The most recent information on alcohol consumption comes from the 2003 Scottish Health Survey (SHS), corrected in 2008 for underreporting of consumption. Figure 1, derived from the SHS, shows that **average** adult drinking levels in Fife were within recommended levels. But figure 2 shows that 32% of adult men and 22% of adult women in Fife were drinking more than the recommended weekly limit.

Figure 1: Average Number of Units per Week Adults (aged 16+) in Fife and Scotland Drink, 2003



Source: Scottish Health Survey 2003, corrected in 2008 for underreporting

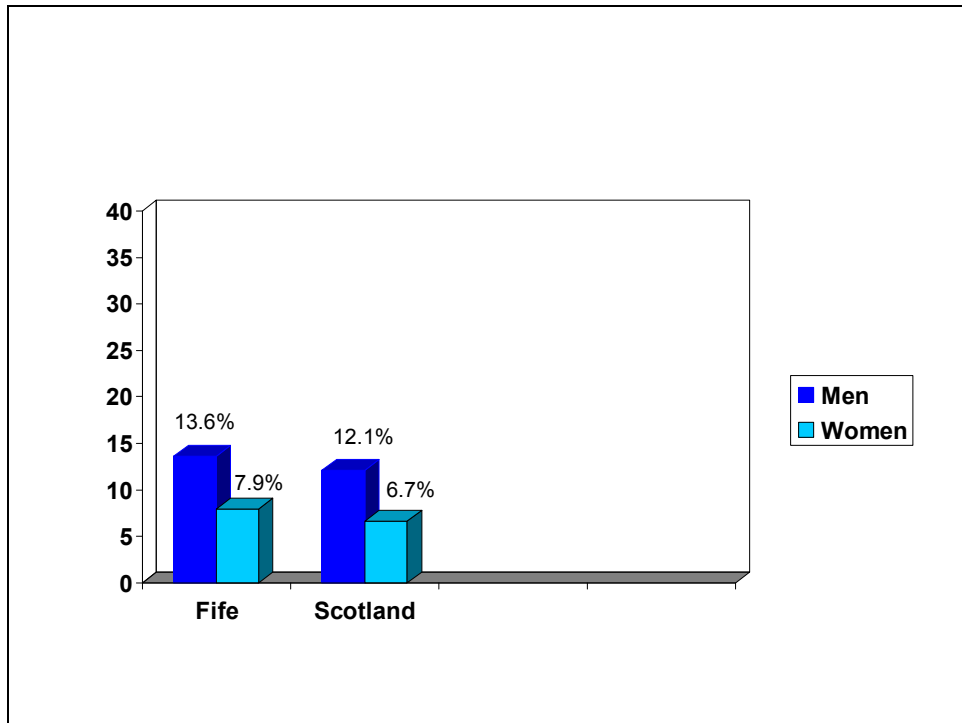
Figure 2: Percentage of Adults (aged 16+) Drinking Over the Recommended Weekly Limits, 2003, Fife and Scotland



Source: Scottish Health Survey 2003, corrected in 2008 for underreporting

Figure 3 shows that the percentage of adult drinkers in Fife classified as “problem drinkers” was higher than for Scotland. This represents over 26,000 adult “problem drinkers” in Fife in 2003.

Figure 3: Percentage of Adult Current Drinkers in Fife and Scotland Classified as Problem Drinkers¹



Source: Scottish Health Survey 2003, corrected in 2008 for underreporting

¹Problem drinkers are defined as those who when asked answer “yes” to two or more of the following questions²:

- Have you ever thought you should cut down on your drinking?
- Have you ever felt annoyed by others criticising your drinking
- Have you ever felt bad or guilty about your drinking?
- Have you ever had a drink first thing in the morning to steady your nerves or get rid of a hangover?

The Scottish Adolescent Lifestyle and Substance Use Survey (SALSUS) shows that, between 2002 and 2006 drinking levels fell significantly among 15 year olds in Fife but not among 13 year olds (table 3).

Table 3: Changes in drinking habits in 13-15 year-old People in Fife, 2002-6				
	13 year-olds		15 year-olds	
	2002	2006	2002	2006
Ever had a proper alcoholic drink	73%	66%	91% ¹	83% ¹
Had an alcoholic drink in the last week	22%	18%	48% ¹	33% ¹

¹difference between 2002 and 2006 levels statistically significant.
Source: SALSUS

Adverse Health Effects of Alcohol

Information is available on alcohol-related deaths and alcohol-related hospital discharges.

Alcohol-related Deaths

Table 4 shows trends in the number of alcohol-related deaths in Fife by age and gender based on three-year rolling totals between 2002 and 2010. Figure 4 shows trends for the total number by gender. The data include any mention of alcohol on the death certificate i.e. where it is the underlying cause or a contributory cause of death.

Table 4: Three-year Rolling Total Alcohol-related Deaths in Fife, 2002-2010 by Age and Gender

	Year of Death Registration						
	2002-2004	2003-2005	2004-2006	2005-2007	2006-2008	2007-2009	2008-2010
Males	232	232	243	267	265	278	264
Under 44	27	30	35	40	35	43	35
45 to 49	19	25	27	26	27	23	27
50 to 54	40	35	25	34	36	40	33
55 to 59	37	35	37	38	35	38	30
60 and over	109	107	119	129	132	134	139
Females	125	131	132	129	128	133	143
Under 44	16	20	15	14	21	22	25
45 to 49	13	15	14	14	14	20	21
50 to 54	19	16	15	16	15	17	16
55 to 59	19	19	21	21	16	17	18
60 and over	58	61	67	64	62	57	63

Figure 4: Three-year Rolling Total Alcohol-related Deaths in Fife 2002-2010 by Age and Gender

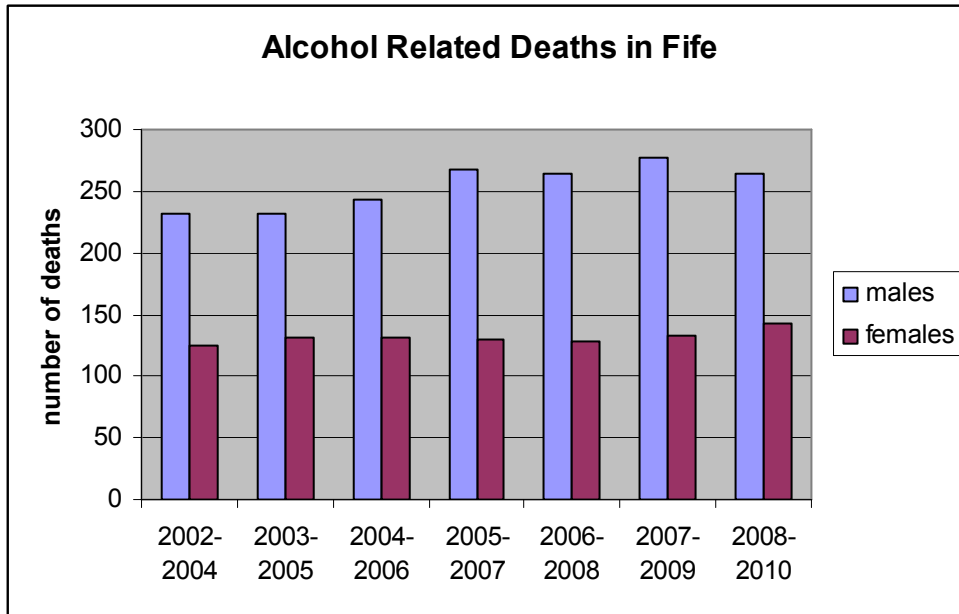


Table 5 shows further detail of alcohol-related deaths according to specific cause.

Table 5: Further Detail of Alcohol-Related Deaths in Fife According to Specific Cause							
	2002-2004	2003-2005	2004-2006	2005-2007	2006-2008	2007-2010	2008-2011
Alcoholic liver disease	186	171	181	209	217	223	192
Fibrosis and cirrhosis of liver	82	72	73	76	75	74	82
Other alcohol-related causes of mortality	14	21	21	19	13	11	11

Tables 6 & 7 show the numbers and rates of alcohol-related deaths or deaths from alcoholic liver disease, broken down by deprivation quintile.

Table 6: No. of Alcohol-related¹ or Alcoholic Liver Disease Deaths Among Fife Residents aged 15-74 years 2002-2010 by Deprivation Quintile						
		2002-2006	2003-2007	2004-2008	2005-2009	2006-2010²
Alcohol	Q1 MDQ	166	182	196	211	213
	NHS Fife	526	538	552	584	587
	Q5 LDQ	35	38	40	44	47
Alcoholic Liver Disease⁴	Q1 MDQ	99	108	117	126	122
	NHS Fife	292	306	312	332	328
	Q5 LDQ	15	18	19	19	20

¹ Deaths where an alcohol-related condition is coded as either the underlying or contributory cause of death.

²2010 data provisional

Table 7: Standardised Rate per 100,000 for Alcohol-related¹ or Alcoholic Liver Disease Deaths Among Fife Residents aged 15-74 years 2002-2010 by Deprivation Quintile						
		2002-2006	2003-2007	2004-2008	2005-2009	2006-2010²
Alcohol	Q1 MDQ	61.6	68.3	73.0	78.3	79.4
	NHS Fife	36.8	37.3	37.6	39.4	39.1
	Q5 LDQ	12.3	12.9	13.6	14.5	15.3
Alcoholic Liver Disease⁴	Q1 MDQ	37.3	41.2	43.7	46.8	45.6
	NHS Fife	20.7	21.5	21.6	22.6	22.1
	Q5 LDQ	5.4	6.2	6.6	6.4	6.7

¹ Deaths where an alcohol-related condition is coded as either the underlying or contributory cause of death.

²2010 data provisional

Figures 5 & 6 show graphically the same data in tables 6 and 7.

Figure 5: Standardised Rate per 100,000 for Alcohol-related Deaths Among Fife Residents aged 15-74 years 2002-2010 by Deprivation Quintile

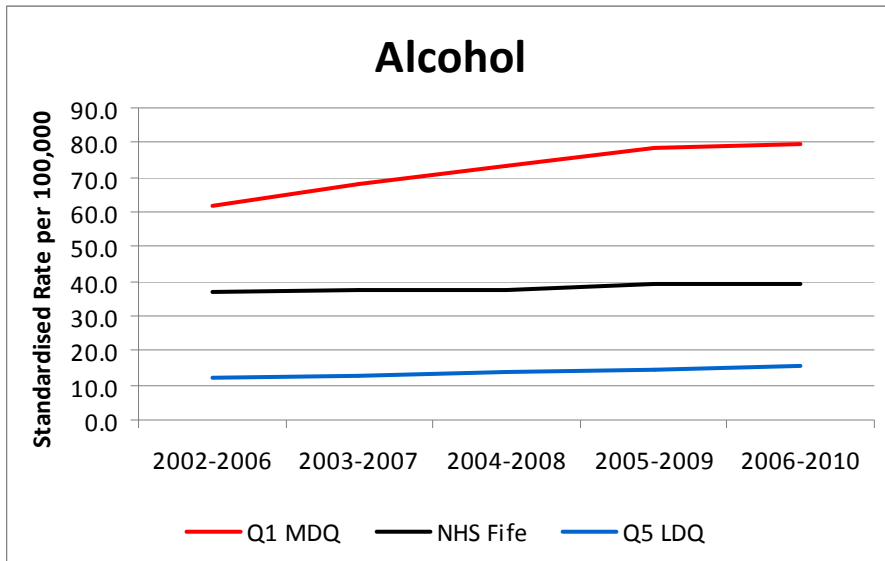
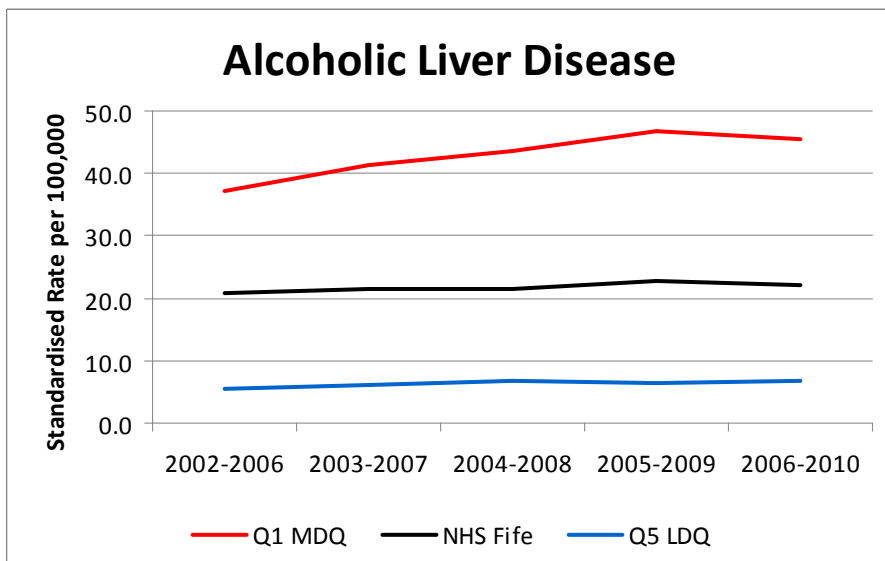


Figure 6: Standardised Rate per 100,000 for Alcoholic Liver Disease Deaths Among Fife Residents aged 15-74 years 2002-2010 by Deprivation Quintile



Alcohol-related Hospital Discharges

Table 8 shows the number and standardized rate per 100,000 of psychiatric inpatient discharges in Fife with a primary alcohol-related diagnosis or any mention of alcohol from 1998 to 2009.

Table 8: No. and Standardized Rate per 100,000 of Psychiatric Inpatient Discharges in Fife with a Primary Alcohol-Related Diagnosis or Any Mention of Alcohol, 1998-2009												
		Year of Discharge										
		1998/99	1999/00	2000/01	2001/02	2002/03	2003/04	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09
Primary	Discharges	149	170	173	173	188	183	142	158	171	254	186
	Standardised Rate per 100,000	42.0	47.6	48.6	48.2	52.3	49.9	39.1	43.6	48.4	69.3	52.1
Any	Discharges	191	191	194	198	216	212	174	183	199	276	209
	Standardised Rate per 100,000	54.1	53.3	54.8	55.3	60.0	58.0	48.2	50.6	56.4	75.5	57.3

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Figure 7 shows graphically the same data in table 7.

Figure 7: No. and Standardized Rate per 100,000 of Psychiatric Inpatient Discharges in Fife with a Primary Alcohol-Related Diagnosis or Any Mention of Alcohol, 1998-2009

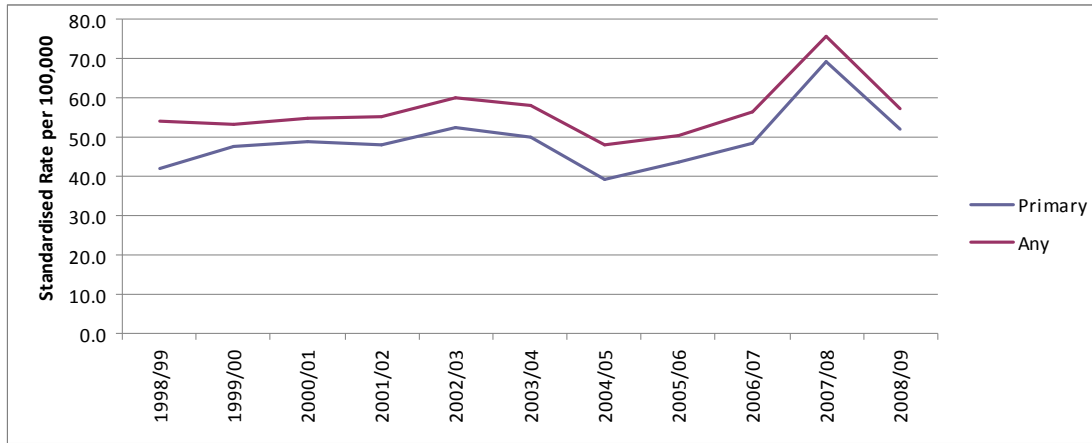


Figure 8 shows the number of general acute alcohol-related hospital discharges in Fife between 2002 and 2010 according to gender.

Figure 8: No. of General Acute Alcohol-related Hospital Discharges in Fife, 2002-2010 by Gender

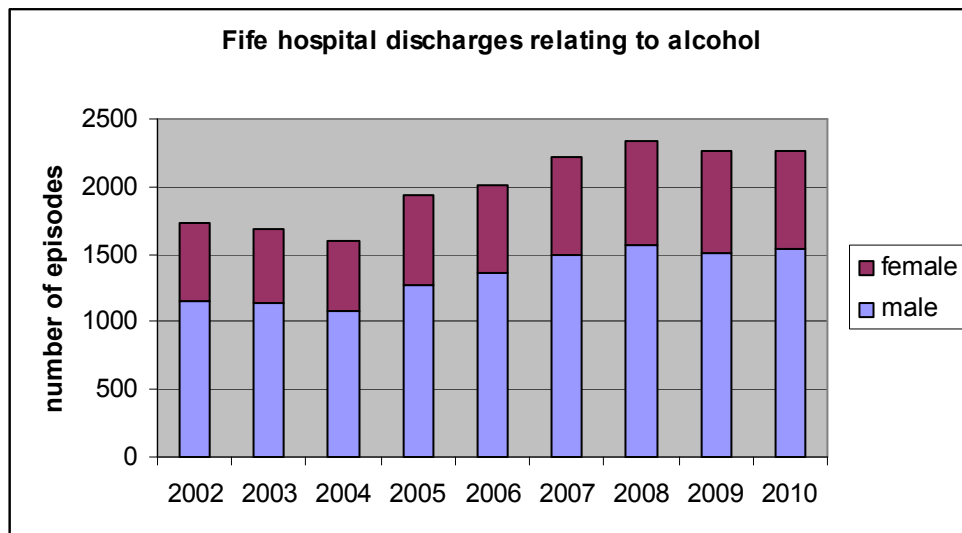


Table 9 shows further detail of general acute alcohol-related hospital discharges in Fife between 2002 and 2010 according to age and gender.

Table 9: General Acute Alcohol-related Hospital Discharges in Fife, 2002-2010 by Age and Gender									
	Year Ending 31st March								
	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Males									
Under 20	71	63	43	49	78	86	103	67	57
20 to 24	52	68	61	74	88	60	81	90	82
25 to 29	73	65	33	52	38	79	87	80	71
30 to 34	93	88	80	69	43	64	56	82	100
35 to 39	101	124	87	104	118	134	131	113	85
40 to 44	129	109	102	119	131	165	190	193	189
45 to 49	107	104	130	129	151	152	172	152	119
50 to 54	129	122	118	230	208	181	182	200	220
55 to 59	100	99	106	123	157	179	129	139	170
60 and over	299	296	316	321	352	400	432	398	442
Total	1154	1138	1076	1270	1364	1500	1563	1514	1535
Females									
Under 20	71	66	55	53	59	50	76	55	55
20 to 24	32	44	18	42	41	36	58	68	66
25 to 29	31	33	22	33	28	55	60	49	45
30 to 34	52	43	42	33	18	37	54	61	50
35 to 39	63	65	44	40	54	63	70	52	50
40 to 44	88	57	73	81	110	80	107	83	94
45 to 49	47	64	75	83	106	107	105	85	111
50 to 54	67	51	40	84	53	83	77	93	74
55 to 59	55	29	50	67	53	83	56	53	65
60 and over	77	100	96	150	126	126	109	154	118
Total	583	552	515	666	648	720	772	753	728

Table 10 shows the number of general acute alcohol-related hospital discharges in Fife between 2002 and 2010 by specific category.

Table 10: No. of General Acute Alcohol-Related Hospital Discharges in Fife Between 2002 and 2010 by Specific Category

	Year Ending 31st March								
	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Males									
Mental & behavioural disorders due to use of alcohol	695	717	690	766	806	843	858	861	946
Alcoholic liver disease	162	185	184	291	313	323	306	243	268
Alcohol-induced chronic pancreatitis	*	*	*	21	32	25	32	47	35
Toxic effect of ethanol	144	122	116	126	182	178	176	214	184
Intentional self-poisoning by and exposure to alcohol	116	124	114	67	*	*	*	*	*
Alcohol use	101	119	114	150	125	234	300	282	256
Other alcohol-related diagnoses	67	28	26	33	34	42	41	*	35
Females									
Mental & behavioural disorders due to use of alcohol	230	255	245	316	276	344	304	308	343
Alcoholic liver disease	118	84	85	127	143	168	152	147	128
Alcohol-induced chronic pancreatitis	*	*	*	29	36	14	39	20	15
Toxic effect of ethanol	181	180	155	174	205	207	245	227	205
Intentional self-poisoning by and exposure to alcohol	170	182	156	95	*	*	*	*	*
Alcohol use	32	38	56	58	43	73	120	123	115
Other alcohol-related diagnoses	47	17	13	16	23	23	14	*	14

* Indicates values that have been suppressed due to the potential risk of disclosure and to help maintain patient confidentiality.

KEY POINTS

Based on 2003 Scottish Health Survey data, about a third of all adult men and a fifth of adult women in Fife are drinking more than the recommended weekly limits.

Based on the 2003 Scottish Health Survey data there are an estimated 26,000 problem drinkers in Fife.

Based on 2002 and 2006 SALSUS data there has been a significant drop in the percentage of 15 year-olds in Fife who reported ever having had an alcoholic drink but no change in the percentage of 13 year-olds reporting this.

Updated figures from the Scottish health Survey and SALSUS on levels on adult and teenage drinking patterns at NHS board level are expected later in 2011.

Total alcohol-related deaths in Fife show an increasing trend between 2002 and 2010 for males and females. Deaths from alcoholic liver disease have increased slightly over the same period. The increasing trend in total alcohol-related deaths is confined to males and females aged under 50 years or 60 years or over.

Alcohol contributes to health inequalities: premature alcohol-related death rates are five times higher among those living in the most deprived areas of Fife compared to those in the least deprived areas. Premature death rates from alcoholic liver disease are seven times higher among those living in the most deprived areas of Fife compared to those in the least deprived areas.

Alcohol-related psychiatric hospital discharges show an increase between 1998-99 and 2008-9, with a peak in 2007-8.

The number of alcohol-related general acute hospital discharges from 2002-10 for males is about twice the number for females for the same period.

Alcohol-related general acute hospital discharges show an increase between 2002 and 2010 for males and females. This increasing trend is apparent for almost all sub-categories of alcohol-related discharges for which trend data are available.

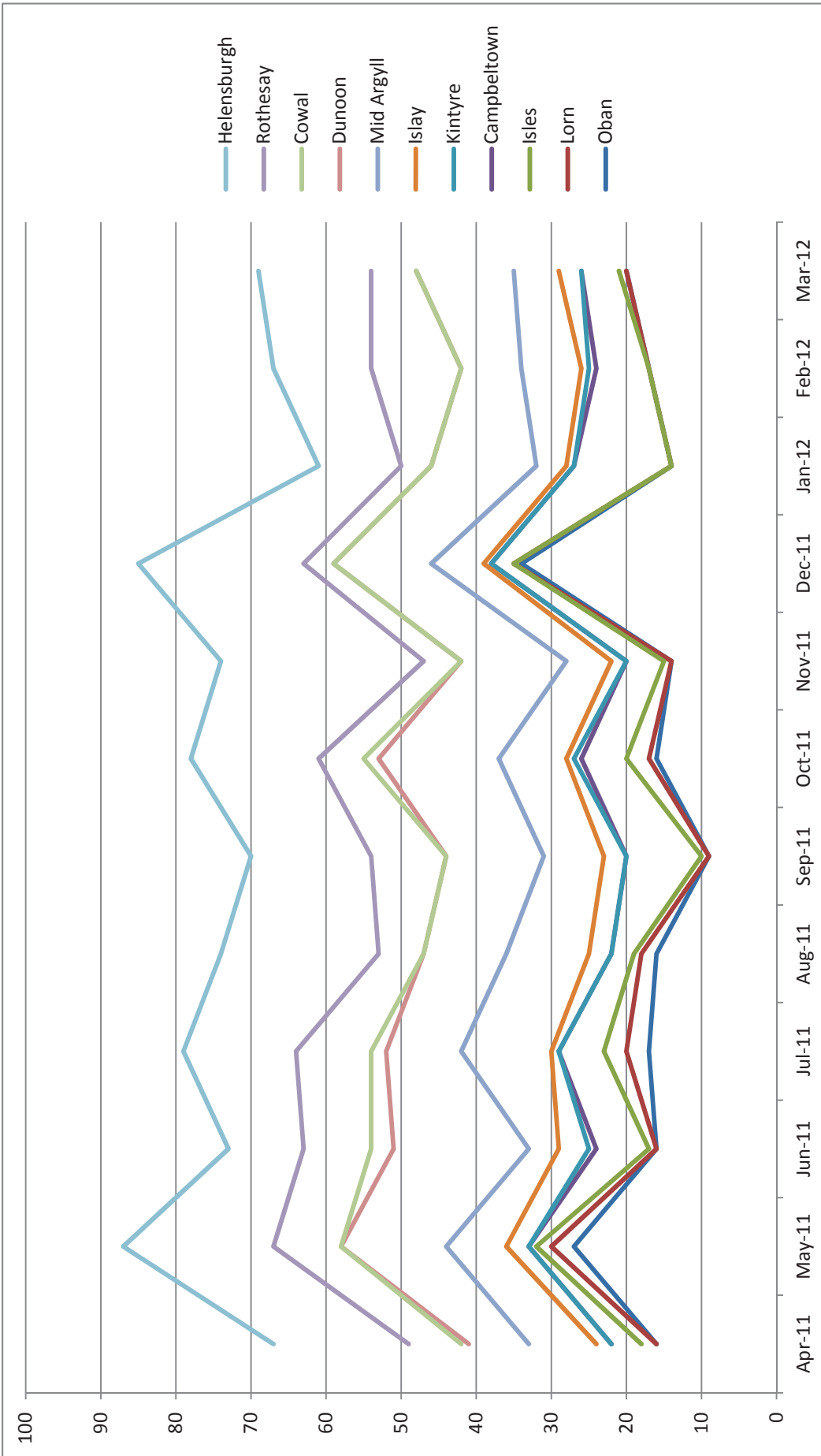
The increase in alcohol-related general acute hospital discharges among males has occurred mainly in those in their early 20s or in those aged 40 or over. For females the increasing trend is observed in women in their 20s or in those aged 40 or over.

Males and females aged under 20 show a decreasing trend in alcohol-related general acute hospital discharges.

Mike Roworth
Consultant in Public Health Medicine

4 August 2011

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**Summary of Storm Incidents
Jan 2012**

	Public Drunkenness	Outwith Lic Hours Sect.62	Noise Comp Inside	Noise Complaint Outside	Disturb Outside Violent	Disturb Inside Violent	Drunkenness & Disorderly Conduct	Assist Remove Patron	Underage Drinking	In Extended Hours	Drugs in Licensed Premises	Arrests
Oban						5	1	4				4
Lorn Isles												
C'town Kintyre			1		3	2		2				5
Islay Mid Argyll					1	2		1				
Dunoon Cowal					4	3		1				6
R'say						1					1	2
Total			1		7	12	1	8			1	16

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**Summary of Storm Incidents
Feb 2012**

	Public Drunkenness	Outwith Lic Hours Sect.62	Noise Comp Inside	Noise Comp Outside	Disturb Outside Violent	Disturb Inside Violent	Drunkenness & Disorderly Conduct	Assist Remove Patrons	Underage Drinking	In extended Hours	Drugs in licensed premises	arrests
Oban	1		1		2	3	2	2			1	5
Lorn Isles												
C'town Kintyre Islay						3		1				3
Mid Argyll	1				1							1
						2	1	2				2
Dunoon Cowal R'say			1			1	1				3	2
	1					2		4			2	3
TOTAL												
TOTAL	3		2		4	11	4	9			6	16

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**Summary of Storm Incidents
March 2012**

	Public Drunkenness	Outwith Lic Hours Sect.62	Noise Comp Inside	Noise Comp Outside	Disturb Outside Violent	Disturb Inside Violent	Drunkenness & Disorderly Conduct	Assist Remove Patrons	Underage Drinking	In extended Hours	Drugs in Licensed Premises	arrests
Oban			2		2	2	4	2				8
Lorn Isles							1					
C'town Kintyre			1			2		1				1
Islay Mid Argyll			1		2 1						1	1
Dunoon Cowal					2	4	1					6
R'say	1					3		1				1
TOTAL	1		4		7	12	6	6			1	17

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**Summary of Storm Incidents
Helensburgh**

	Public Drunkenness	Outwith Lic Hours Sect.62	Noise Comp Inside	Noise Complaint Outside	Disturb Outside Violent	Disturb Inside Violent	Drunkenness & Disorderly Conduct	Assist Remove Patron	Underage Drinking	In Extended Hours	Drugs in Licensed Premises	Arrests
Jan 12					1	7		1				2
Feb 12		1	2		3	3		4				
Mar 12			2		2	4	2				1	4
Total		1	4		6	14	2	5			1	6

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Drink related Domestic Incidents	Jan 12	Feb 12	Mar 12	Total
OBAN	10	2	5	17
LORN				
ISLE		1	2	3
C'TOWN	2	2	3	7
KINTYRE				
ISLAY	1			1
M. ARGYLL	7	2	8	17
DUNOON	10	8	9	27
COWAL				
R'SAY	0	4	9	13
HELENSBURGH	15	8	4	27
TOTAL	45	27	40	112

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LOCAL LICENSING FORUM MEETING TUESDAY 24TH JANUARY 2012
LICENSING STANDARDS OFFICER REPORT
ACTIVITY BETWEEN 25th January 2012 and 2nd April 2012

1. GUIDANCETraining

No training input this period.

Information/Advice

Provided information on licensing on 21 occasions (in person or by e-mail/telephone)

Liaison

Maintained contact with Licensing Board, police and trade.

01/02/12 – first meeting of the National Communities Project (CALA) in Ardrishaig.

2. COMPLIANCELicence Processing – Jan to March 2012

150 Occasional licence and 50 Extended Hours licence applications processed.

Licensing Board

Attended meeting on 14/02/12.

Premises Licence Review

Nil

Formal LSO Inspections

A total of 2 formal LSO inspections were carried out.

All inspections continue to focus on:

- Statutory Notices Display
- Staff Training/Knowledge
- Management Overview
- Security
- Children & Young Persons

Monthly Premises Review Meetings

None

3. MEDIATIONLicensing Complaints

I have dealt with and resolved 2 complaints (Music and patron noise).

*LSO was on leave during part of this period, hence lower than usual figures.

Eric Dearie
Licensing Standards Officer
12th January 2012

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Title of Item	Name of Officer or organisation	Date of Meeting	Action required	Notes
National Outcomes for LLF		Discussed October 2009	Await National Outcomes	<p>Fiona Meyers from NHS appointed to conduct 3 year study of new Act to include the role of Boards and Forums – outcomes could not be set until this had been completed</p> <p>Noted at meeting on 26 October 2011 that the study was around one third complete.</p>
Promotion of LLF	Council	Discussed Joint Meeting Nov 09 19 July 2011	Arrange with New Communications Manager	<p>New Communication Manager in post – discussion with Chair to be set up</p> <p>Noted that it may be appropriate to promote the work of the LLF to the new Licensing Board in May 2012</p>
Local Licensing Forum Conveners	LLF	<p>27 October 2010</p> <p>19 July 2011</p> <p>26 October 2011</p>	<p>Convener to set up meeting with other Forums with a view to having some consistency within the roles of forums.</p> <p>Charles to discuss with Linda Bowie the possibility of a central Local Licensing Forum</p>	<p>Noted that there was a central Forum for LSOs.</p> <p>Noted that Eric Box would be meeting other Conveners and Linda Bowie on 2 December 2011</p>

Title of Item	Name of Officer or Organisation	Date of Meeting	Action required	Notes
Alcohol Focus Scotland	Committee Services	<p>27 October 2010</p> <p>19 July 2011</p> <p>26 October 2011</p>	<p>Agenda item "Alcohol Focus Scotland" to be added to agenda for future meetings and responses reported back to AFS.</p>	<p>Charles been in discussion with Linda Bowie and anticipated visit to October meeting (17/05/11)</p> <p>Noted that Linda had given no firm commitment to attend October 2011 meeting – Charles to contact her</p> <p>Noted that Linda Bowie intended on attending the April 2012 meeting of the LLF</p>
Educational DVD – Don't make the same mistakes we did	Young Scot	<p>25 January 2011</p> <p>26 October 2011</p> <p>24 January 2012</p>	<p>DVD to be shown at a future meeting of the Forum</p>	<p>Noted that funding of £1050 needed to continue production (17/05/11)</p> <p>Noted that a total of £2000 funding had been received from Charles Reppke and from the Substance Misuse Group in Oban.</p> <p>The Forum agreed their support to the suggestion that youth activities be funded by the use of an alcohol levy, as was the case in Poland.</p>

Title of Item	Name of Officer or Organisation	Date of Meeting	Action required	Notes
Local Licensing Forums – Best Practice Discussion	Committee Services	24 January 2012	Forum to put “Alcohol: The Facts in Fife 2011” on the Agenda for the next meeting of the Forum.	<p>Agreed that Caroline Church obtain copy of the “Alcohol: The Facts in Fife 2011” report for circulation to members of the Forum</p> <p>Agreed that Craig McNally obtain a copy of the NHS Highland report on health issues attributed to access to alcohol in the Highlands in relation to health for circulation to the Forum.</p>
Police Statistics	Committee Services	24 January 2012	Arrange for the analysis on police statistics to be put on the Agenda for the next meeting of the Forum.	Agreed that an analysis of police statistics for 2011 be brought to the next meeting of the Forum.