

Training

Working with children using our resources

10 February 2015, Glasgow.

Training workshop for practitioners supporting children and families affected by parental drinking.

[Read more](#)

Personal Licence Holder and Refresher training

Dates have been set for our licensing training courses in 2015. [Read more](#)

Events

Cross Party Group on Drug and Alcohol Misuse

Wednesday 19 November, Scottish Parliament.

The theme will be "What support is available for families affected by alcohol?" [Register](#)

National Licensing Conference 2014

Presentations can now be viewed on our [website](#).

Research

[White cider consumption and heavy drinkers: a low cost option but an unknown price](#)

News & Policy

Scotland to reduce drink-drive limit in time for festive period

Subject to approval, a reduced drink-drive limit will come into effect in Scotland on 5 December 2014. The blood alcohol limit will be reduced from 80mg in 100ml of blood, to 50mg, bringing Scotland into line with most other European countries. A multi-media marketing campaign to raise awareness of the new lower limit will be launched in the coming weeks. [Read more](#)



More premises = more health harm in neighbourhoods

A new study commissioned by AFS and undertaken by researchers at [CRESH](#) has found neighbourhoods in Scotland with the most licensed premises have alcohol-related death rates more than double those in neighbourhoods with the fewest. Researcher Dr Liz Richardson said: "The strong relationship we found between alcohol outlets and related health outcomes leads us to suggest that reducing outlet numbers, particularly in the highest availability neighbourhoods, could have health benefits for the Scottish population."

[Read the report](#)

Edinburgh Licensing Board convener under fire again

A senior police officer has criticised Councillor Eric Milligan, accusing him of "failing" in his responsibility. The former Lord Provost has repeatedly denied there is a direct link between the number of licensed premises concentrated in an area and levels of alcohol-related health and crime issues. [Read more](#)

Liver cancer deaths increase in Scotland

Male death rates from liver cancer increased by 40% between 2003 and 2013, attributable largely to alcohol and infection with hepatitis B and C. Liver cancer is the 7th most common cause of death from cancer in Scotland.

[Read more](#)

[Alcohol and Cancer Risks: A Guide for Health Professionals](#)

EU alcohol strategy

Dr Evelyn Gillan was questioned at the House of Lords this week as part of their inquiry into the EU alcohol strategy. The previous strategy expired in 2012 and the interim EU Alcohol Action Plan has a narrow focus on young people and binge drinking. We are calling for a new comprehensive strategy that would include policies to reduce overall consumption and harm across Europe. [Read more](#)

Finland backs Scottish minimum unit pricing

The Finnish government has given its support to the Scottish Government's plans to introduce minimum unit pricing. Ismo Tuominen, Head of Alcohol Policy at the Finnish Ministry of Health said: "This is a question of principle. If a nation wants to have its own decisions concerning public health and concerning alcohol policy, we are at the same side of that nation." [Read more](#)



Children treated for alcohol-related illness and injury

Up to 225 children under the age of 10 have been treated for alcohol-related illness or injury in the last three years, according to figures sourced from health boards by the Scottish Liberal Democrats.

[Read more](#)

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Designated place in Aberdeen given year's reprieve

Albyn House, a safe space for people who are found drunk on the streets of Aberdeen, had been under threat of funding cuts earlier this year. The service provides a bed and support for around 800 people a year. Aberdeen CityADP, of which NHS Grampian and Police Scotland are members, has offered funding to keep the centre open for another year. [Read more](#)

Civil service chief resigns from alcohol industry job

Alcohol Focus Scotland was one of more than 70 signatories to an open letter expressing our concern around the decision to allow John Mazoni, the new CEO of the Civil Service to remain as a non-executive director at SAB Miller. He will step down from the role next summer. [Read more](#)

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