Alcohol (Minimum Pricing) (Scotland) Bill

Central Aberdeenshire Licensing Board

The Board are broadly supportive of the principal contained in the bill although they do have some queries which are detailed below.

The Board would be keen to receive more information on the question of implementation and in particular, whether the minimum pricing would be in the form of a tax (in which the additional revenue would be collected by the authorities) or whether it would simply be a minimum price imposed, with any additional revenue retained by individual retailers. Following on from this, in the event that implementation is by way of taxation, the Board would be keen to see any such revenue raised ringfenced for programs designed to tackle the health issues mentioned in the consultation papers.

The Board also feel that they would require more information in order to provide an informed opinion on the level at which a minimum price should be set but would be keen to ensure that larger retailers be unable to sell alcohol at heavily discounted rates whilst at the same time ensuring that the on-sales trade and smaller retailers are not affected to a prohibitive degree.

Depute Clerk to the Licensing Board
Central Aberdeenshire Licensing Board
6 December 2011