**Alcohol (Minimum Pricing) (Scotland) Bill**

**Highland Licensing Board**

1. **The advantages and disadvantages of establishing a minimum alcohol sales price based on a unit of alcohol.**

   The Board support minimum pricing as a tool to reduce alcohol consumption and reduce risks to health but only if used in conjunction with other measures. The Board would wish to see as great an emphasis placed on education and enforcement of existing legislation.

2. **The level at which a proposed minimum price should be set.**

   The Board are content with the level proposed.

3. **Other aspects of the Bill.**

   The layout and design of display areas and the question of access to such areas needs to be reviewed.

   The Board welcomes the proposal that any additional costs involved in introducing and monitoring any new regime should not fall on Local Authorities. Any initial set up cost involving business advice to Licence Holders must be set at a realistic and meaningful level. If fees are to be adjusted to cover the additional workload of Licensing Standards Officers then such adjustments should not be “across the board” but be targeted at those premises which cause the increased workload. To do otherwise would be unfair on those premises which have not or should not require increased advice from LSOs.

Highland Licensing Board