

Local Government and Regeneration Committee

**Submission Name: NHS Greater Glasgow
And Clyde**

Submission Number: 43

Thank you for the opportunity to respond to this consultation.

The reduction in crime and increase in safety intended by the Act are likely to have the helpful effect of reducing Emergency Dept attendance.

At question 30:

Creation of new offences of supplying alcohol to a child or young person for consumption in a public place will enhance the Protecting Children From Harm licensing objective as currently there appears to be provision only for sales and purchase of alcohol within in the Licensing (Scotland) Act 2005.

Additionally, the amendment of the licensing objective in relation to children to now include young person's is welcomed as we recognise the health and other alcohol associated harms amongst 16 and 17 year olds of which there is no proviso for within current licensing objectives.

At question 34:

Amendment of the duration of licensing policy statement to align with the term of local government elections appears to be a sensible approach. It is reasonable to expect a revised policy statement within 18 months of local government elections as suggested. We anticipate that this will lengthen current policy statements to 4 years (with next policy statement thus being due by November 2017 instead of current planned November 2016). We would, however, be concerned if such an alignment caused any further postponement of the consultation and policy process. We would, therefore, welcome a requirement for a maximum period of 5 years for completion of a revised licensing policy.

It is encouraging that clarification has been given regarding entire Board areas being eligible to be described as an area of overprovision. Provision for Boards to take account of licensed hours in overprovision assessments is also welcomed. However, in section 54 of the Bill it is suggested that at Section 7- 01 (3)(ii) the word 'must' is repealed and replaced with 'may' implying that the number, capacity and licensed hours is not an essential part of an overprovision assessment.

Regards,

John

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NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde

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