



Minister for Public Health, Women's Health and Sport  
Maree Todd MSP

Gillian Martin MSP  
Convener  
Health, Social Care and Sport Committee

By email: [hscs.committee@parliament.scot](mailto:hscs.committee@parliament.scot)

28 June 2022

Dear Gillian,

Further to my appearance before the Committee last month regarding the Committee's work programme on tackling alcohol-related harms and minimum unit pricing (MUP), I wish to inform you that I am, today, announcing the timing of the conclusion of the review of the level of MUP by way of a government initiated question. The text of the question and answer (S6W-09498) is as follows and is available at <https://www.parliament.scot/chamber-and-committees/written-questions-and-answers>.

Question:

To ask the Scottish Government when it will review the level of minimum unit pricing of alcohol?

Answer:

We are currently in the process of evaluating minimum unit pricing (MUP) as a whole over its first five years of operation. Public Health Scotland will be producing a final report on MUP in 2023, which will inform our evaluation report which will be laid in Parliament and published in 2023.

Work on reviewing the level of MUP has started as part of our overall evaluation, as the impact of MUP is connected to the unit price. We are evaluating the impact of MUP at the current price of 50 pence per unit and will assess what level MUP should

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be set at going forward, if MUP is to continue. It is important that we have a robust evidence base to support any decision on a change in the level of MUP.

Against that background, I am announcing that the conclusion of the review of the level of MUP will be completed in late 2023. If our overall evaluation supports a continuation of MUP, we will lay Orders in Parliament in late 2023 to continue MUP beyond the initial six year period and if the evidence supports a change in price, to set a new unit price. If Parliament approves those Orders, it is intended that any new price would take effect from 1 May 2024 i.e. immediately after the initial six year period which would have otherwise have expired on 30 April 2024.

I hope this is helpful for the Committee and I am grateful for your interest in the Scottish Government's work to date on alcohol policy.

Regards,



**Maree Todd MSP**

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