Written response from NHS Tayside

**Angus Licensing Board**

NHS Tayside has very little direct interaction with Angus Licensing Board. Early work to describe the extent of alcohol provision and alcohol related social harm is being built on by the collaboration of an NHS Tayside Information Analyst with Angus ADP colleagues so that data from Local Authority, Police and Health can be used to scope out the extent of alcohol related harm to health and to society. NHS Tayside has responded to individual requests for health information in relation to specific applications to the Licensing Board.

**Dundee City Council**

NHS Tayside, in collaboration with community planning partners, completed a comprehensive assessment of alcohol related harm in the City and a statement on licensing over provision\(^1\). Dundee City Licensing Board have since made a statement to the effect that the city is overprovided for in terms of licensed premises and so there is an onus on applications to show that the granting of a new licence would not contribute to over provision. NHS Tayside colleagues have been present in person to support objections to the granting of new licences.

Information to the Licencing Board regarding individual applications is contained in a letter (at **ANNEXE A**) and includes specific alcohol related harm information relevant to that area within the city.

It is the experience of members of the Licencing Forum that attendance in person adds weight to the objection.

**Perth and Kinross Council**

NHS Tayside has participated in the ADP initiated and chaired Alcohol Scoping Meetings over recent months and has, with the input of community planning partners, completed a report outlining the health and social harms and describing the alcohol provisions within Perth and Kinross. Public Health has participated in the Alcohol Licensing Forum and as yet not attended a Licensing Board.

Overall, it is encouraging that community planning partners in each of the three local authority areas are keen to address the issues of health and social harm related to alcohol. NHS Tayside remains committed to working with the Licensing Forum within each area and building on the work already ongoing.

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Principle General Services Officer  
Support Services  
Dundee City Council  
21 City Square  
Dundee  
DD1 3BY  

Dear ____________

Re: Application for Premises Licence at ____________________

We are writing on behalf of _____________ to register our objection to the above application for a premises licence. The basis for this objection is that granting a licence for this premise will not promote the Licensing Objectives, namely:

- Preventing crime and disorder
- Securing public safety
- Preventing public nuisance
- Protecting and improving public health
- Protecting children from harm

In particular, this premises lie within __________ area. Evidence presented within the Dundee City ADP Assessment of Overprovision Report indicates that in this area ________ (enter any specific relevant information regarding evidence of health or social harm). In addition, this particular application includes ________ (enter any specific information in regard to concerns e.g. children on premises, late opening hours etc).

It is well recognised that access to and availability of alcohol is linked to increased consumption and consequent health and social harm to individuals and communities.

The Dundee Licensing Board has recently taken a commendable position as part of its Licensing Policy and declared the whole City (with the exception of the central waterfront) overprovided for all alcohol premises. This means the Board has adopted a position of ‘rebuttable presumption’ against awarding any premises licenses, with the onus being on applicants to prove their specific application will not contribute to overprovision situation.

Given that no credible evidence has been provided to demonstrate that this specific application would not contribute to overprovision, we would urge the Licensing Board to refuse this application.

Yours sincerely

Consultant in Public Health Medicine