

Report to: The Cabinet

Date: 28th January, 2013

Report of: Director of Public Health

Report No:

Contact Officer: Phil Ramsell

Tele No:
333337456

Report Title: **Response to: A consultation on delivering the Government's policies to cut alcohol fuelled crime and anti-social behaviour**

Non Confidential: (***Non-Confidential***) This report does **not** contain information which warrants its consideration in the absence of the press or members of the public

Purpose: To present a response to the Government's Alcohol Strategy Consultation and that the Cabinet respond to each of the 5 areas identified in the alcohol strategy consultation document. Any views of the Health PDG's meeting on 21st January, 2013 which will consider the issue will be reported to the meeting.

Recommendation: The Cabinet is requested to approve the response prepared to the alcohol consultation

Background Doc(s): A consultation on delivering the Government's policies to cut alcohol fuelled crime and anti-social behaviour. November 2012

Summary:

(on its own page with background docs)

The consultation seeks views on 5 areas of the national alcohol strategy: minimum unit price for alcohol

- The price level;
- The mechanism for adjusting the price over time; and
- The impact of a minimum unit price.

Our view is that there should be an MUP for alcohol of 50p per unit (based on 2009 prices and adjusted in line with inflation).

A ban on multi-buy promotions in the off-trade

- Whether to introduce a ban on multi-buy promotions; and
- The impact of such a ban.

Our view is that there should be a ban on all multi – buy promotions.

Reviewing the mandatory licensing conditions

- Views on the current set of mandatory licensing conditions;
- Whether the current set of mandatory licensing conditions sufficiently targets problems such as irresponsible promotions in pubs and clubs; and
- The application of the conditions to the on- and off-trade.

Our view is that the current mandatory licensing conditions should be tightened.

Health as a licensing objective for cumulative impact policies

- Views on introducing health as a licensing objective for cumulative impact policies; and
- The impact of such a licensing objective for cumulative impact policies.

Our view is that Health should be a licensing objective.

Freeing up responsible businesses

- Proposals to develop a more targeted, proportionate and flexible licensing regime that can support responsible growth while maintaining the integrity of the licensing system; and
- The impact of these proposals on businesses and on the licensing objectives

Our view is that there should be no loosening of current licensing regulations.

Background Information

The Government published its Alcohol Strategy in March 2012. This sets out its approach to tackling problem drinking. This consultation considers five key areas of the Strategy.

Our response is based on evidence based research and data on alcohol related harm obtained nationally, in the North West and in Bolton. The research is referenced in the document accompanying the report.