The Role of Local Authorities in Addressing Alcohol Misuse

A Public Policy Exchange Symposium

Wednesday 28th October 2015
10:15am – 4:30pm

Grange Wellington Hotel, London

Public Policy Exchange holds regular interactive seminars which provide an invaluable interface for policy discussion, debate and networking. These special events offer local practitioners, civil servants and other stakeholders not only an insight into current policy thinking, but also the opportunity to feed into future development across all areas of public policy.
The Role of Local Authorities in Addressing Alcohol Misuse

Overview

Recent figures indicate a mixed trend on alcohol use, one of declining consumption but still rising alcohol-related harmful consequences (Annual 'Statistics on Alcohol for England', Office for National Statistics - June 2015). This is also shown in the ‘All Party Parliamentary Group on Alcohol Misuse Manifesto 2015’ (August 2014), according to which there are 1.2 million alcohol-related hospital admissions and an increased figure for those under 30 with liver disease over the past 20 years. Additionally, in 47% of violent incidents led to hospital admissions over 2011 to 2012, the victim believed their attacker to have been drinking.

Costing £3.5bn to the NHS, £120 to every taxpayer and £21bn to the UK economy, immediate action is needed to tackle the serious and multi-faceted problems caused by alcohol to our health, our society and economy.

To address this issue, the Home Office published its ‘Alcohol Strategy’ (March 2012), setting out how the Government intends to work over the long-term with local agencies, industry and communities to counter irresponsible drinking. In particular, it aims to reduce the number of:

- people who drink above the NHS guidelines
- people who ‘binge drink’ and
- alcohol-related deaths

A year later, in July 2013 the Government set out the next steps to deliver the Alcohol Strategy, focusing on three areas:

- Targeted national action
- Joining up at the local level
- Promoting growth and supporting responsible businesses

Another significant change has seen the transfer of responsibility of public health from the NHS to local authorities in April 2013. This now means local authorities are working with a wide range of partners (including drug and alcohol action teams) and taking command of commissioning and coordinating services on the ground.

This special symposium provides an invaluable opportunity for local councils, licensing authorities, the drinks industry, local agencies, police service, health sector, and other key stakeholders to discuss the impact of the Government’s measures on alcohol. The symposium will explore the next steps to clamp down on the binge drinking culture which pervades our society and analyse the new public health role of local authorities in tackling alcohol misuse.

Why Attend?

✓ Discuss the Government’s Alcohol Strategy and assess its impact at a national and local level
✓ Understand the new public health role of local authorities in tackling drug and alcohol misuse
✓ Explore the roles of Drug and Alcohol Action Teams (DAATs) and Services in tackling alcohol misuse
✓ Identify innovative ways to increase awareness and understanding of alcohol misuse amongst the public and practitioners
✓ Review the licensing regime and the impact of Local Alcohol Action Areas (LAAAs)

Who Should Attend?

- Local Authorities and Councillors
- The Health Sector
- Public Health Sector Professionals
- Licensing Portfolio Holders
- Chairs of Licensing Committees and Licensing Committee Members
- Heads of Licensing Departments
- Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnerships
- Community Safety Managers
- Anti-Social Behaviour Officers
- Police Service
- Heads of Community Safety Partnerships
- Town Centre Managers
- Environmental Health Officers
- Accident and Emergency Departments
- Domestic Violence Co-ordinators
- Drug and Alcohol Action Teams
- Youth Offending Teams
- Noise and Nuisance Officers
- Health and Safety Officers
- Fire Service
- Trading Standards Officers
- Licensed Premises
- Unlicensed Premises
- Beer, Pub and Club Industry
- Charities, PTAs, Schools
- Arts Centres
- Theatre and Dance Groups
- Local Event Organisers
- Community Representatives
- Music Industry
- Cultural Development Stakeholders
- Local Regeneration Stakeholders
- Cultural and Sporting Development Organisations
- Third Sector Practitioners

Accommodation

Through our partnership with HotelMap, we are able to offer our delegates heavily discounted hotel rates at a wide range of London hotels. To view hotel availability and rates and to book online, visit www.HotelMap.com/MSNUZ/

The facts and figures of the scale of alcohol misuse in the UK speak for themselves: 1.2 million people a year are admitted to hospital due to alcohol; liver disease in those under 30 has more than doubled over the past 20 years; and the cost of alcohol to the economy totals £21bn. There must be a more thorough and full package of measures which tackles the problem more effectively and reduces the costs to people’s health of alcohol-related crime and treatment…”

- Chair, All Party Parliamentary Group on Alcohol Misuse Manifesto 2015
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Programme

09:30  Registration and Morning Refreshments
10:15  Chair’s Welcome and Introduction
10:30  Panel Session One: Implementing the Government’s Alcohol Strategy - The Next Steps
  - Discuss the Government’s Alcohol Strategy and Assess its Impact at a National and Local Level
  - Understand the New Public Health Role of Local Authorities in Tackling Alcohol Misuse
  - Address the Causes of Parental Alcohol Misuse, Tackling Alcohol Misuse During Pregnancy
  - Strengthening Regulation of Alcohol Marketing to Protect Children and Young People
  - Targeted National Action – Will Direct Action from Government and Voluntary Commitments by the Alcohol Industry Tackle Alcohol-related Health Harms and Crime?
11:15  Morning Refreshments
11:30  Open Floor Discussion and Debate with Panel One
12:30  Networking Lunch
13:30  Panel Session Two: From National Framework to Local Action - Working in Partnership to Tackle Alcohol Misuse
  - Joining up at the Local level – Discuss How the Government will Support Local Areas with High Levels of Alcohol-related Harms to Deliver Change, in Particular Maximising the Contribution from Industry to Support Local Action
  - Improving Multi-Agency Working between Health Services, Schools and the Community to Provide Coordinated and Consistent Help
  - Delve into the Roles of Drug and Alcohol Action Teams (DAATs) and Services in Tackling Alcohol and Drug Misuse
  - Training Practitioners - Up-skilling Social and Health Workers’ Training and Access to Resources and Best Practice, Ensuring Services are Well-Led and Well-Managed
  - Promoting Growth and Supporting Responsible Businesses - Enabling Local Authorities to Make Licensing Decisions Based on Local Population Health Needs and the Density of Existing Outlets, Review the Impact of Local Alcohol Action Areas (LAAAs)
  - Identify Innovative Ways to Increase Awareness and Understanding of Alcohol Misuse Amongst the Public, Employing Smart Social Marketing Methods and the Latest Digital and Web-based Techniques to Promote Campaigns
14:15  Afternoon Refreshments
14:30  Open Floor Discussion and Debate with Panel Two
15:30  Chair’s Summary and Closing Comments
15:40  Networking Reception
16:30  Close

* Please note that the programme is subject to change without notice

Event Details

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Venue:  Grange Wellington Hotel, London

Forthcoming Events

Positive for Youth, Positive for Society: The Future of Young People’s Services
20th October 2015

The Future Role of the Local Authority in School Place Planning
21st October 2015

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