

Research

[Long working hours and alcohol use](#)

[Understanding young offenders experiences of drinking alcohol](#)

[Constructing alcohol identities: The role of social networking sites in young peoples' drinking cultures](#)

[Young people, alcohol packaging and digital media](#)

GAPC 2015

Global Alcohol Policy Conference
7-9 October 2015,
Edinburgh

Abstract deadline is 6 March. Submit an abstract via the conference website: [GAPC 2015](#)

AFS training

Using our resources to work with children affected by parental drinking workshop
10 February,
Glasgow

[Find out more](#)

Personal Licence Holder course
17 February,
Glasgow

Refresher course
11 February,
Glasgow

Licensing Standards Officers course
17-19 February,
Glasgow

[Find out more](#)

News & Policy

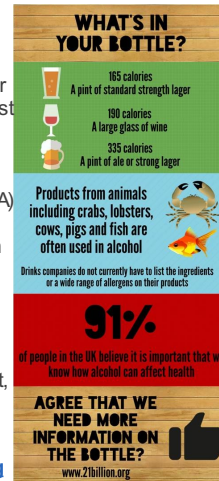
Public support for health warnings on alcohol labels

Alcohol Focus Scotland has joined campaigners across the UK in calling for government action to introduce better labelling of alcoholic drinks. Under EU legislation, food and soft drinks packaging must show ingredients and nutritional information but alcohol is currently exempt from the regulations.




Research from the Alcohol Health Alliance UK (AHA) has shown that the majority of the British public support more nutritional and health information on alcohol product labels, as well as a warning not to drink when pregnant. The UK-wide survey found:

- 83% of people support information on how alcohol can impact on health
- 87% support a warning that when pregnant, the safest option is to avoid alcohol completely.

Find out more and sign the petition at [21billion.org](#) #onthebottle



WHAT'S IN YOUR BOTTLE?


	165 calories A pint of standard strength lager
	180 calories A large glass of wine
	335 calories A pint of ale or strong lager

Products from animals including crabs, lobsters, cows, pigs and fish are often used in alcohol

Drinks companies do not currently have to list the ingredients or a wide range of allergens on their products

91%
of people in the UK believe it is important that we know how alcohol can affect health

AGREE THAT WE NEED MORE INFORMATION ON THE BOTTLE?



[www.21billion.org](#)

Alcohol sales linked with alcohol deaths across GB regions

For the first time alcohol sales data (a more accurate and objective measure of consumption than self-reporting) and alcohol-related deaths for regions in Great Britain have been analysed. The results, published in the open access journal [BMC Public Health](#), show that of eleven regions analysed, Central Scotland had the highest alcohol sales per adult and also the highest alcohol-related death rate. Central Scotland had substantially higher spirits sales than any other region, especially through off-licences.

Glasgow tops list of alcoholics on benefits in the UK

Glasgow has twice as many people out of work because of alcohol problems than anywhere else. Figures from the Department of Work and Pensions show a total of 2,280 claimants in Glasgow are classed disabled due to their drinking. Three of the worst 10 council areas are in Scotland, with Edinburgh fifth and North Lanarkshire seventh. AFS said more needs to be done to help people into successful treatment as well as prevent problems from developing in the first place through policies like minimum pricing. [Read more](#)

First Minister determined to introduce minimum pricing

Writing in the [Evening Times](#), First Minister Nicola Sturgeon said:
"Although recent figures show a slight drop in the number of adults drinking at harmful levels, the fact is the numbers are still far too high. That is why we are taking strong action to help everyone to drink less - as well as targeting those most at risk. It is no coincidence that as affordability has increased, alcohol-related hospital admissions have risen. That is exactly why I and the Scottish Government are so determined to introduce a minimum unit price for alcohol."



Lower drink drive limit sees 19% reduction in offenders

Scotland's new lower drink drive limit led to a 19% reduction in the number of

offenders caught over the festive period. Figures show 351 drivers - compared to 434 last year - were detected while under the influence. The lower limit is also having an impact on pubs, with Belhaven owner Greene King reporting slower than expected trading over the festive period. Paul Watson, chief executive of the Scottish Licensed Trade Association predicted it will have a "bigger effect on the trade than the introduction of the smoking ban."

[FAQs on lower drink drive limit](#)

Beckham whisky ad cleared by watchdog

David Beckham's TV ad for whisky brand Haig Club has been cleared by the Advertising Standards Authority (ASA), despite complaints that his endorsement sent a confusing message about drinking to children. As a global youth icon who spent most of his football career teetotal,



Beckham's appearance in the ad promoted a critical response from Alcohol Concern who called for the ad to be banned because it appealed to under 18s and implied drinking was linked to social success. Although David Beckham supports Sainsbury's Active Kids campaign, the ASA ruled that Beckham is too old to be popular enough with children to warrant banning the ad. [Read more](#)

Licences revoked for failure to complete Refresher training

Licensing Boards are beginning to revoke the licences of hundreds of personal licence holders (PLHs) across Scotland for failure to complete mandatory Refresher training within the required timescale of 5 years. It remains to be seen whether this will lead to the closure of any premises. There has been significant publicity about the first group of personal licence holders reaching the 'five year mark', but it should be remembered that there will consistently be PLHs requiring to complete Refresher training. View [AFS training dates](#)

Timeline of key alcohol policy developments

AFS has produced a timeline of the major alcohol policy developments in Scotland since the "Plan for action on alcohol problems" in 2002. View on [our website](#)



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