

Health and Wellbeing Board

7 September 2016

Report of the Director of Public Health

Alcohol Strategy Consultation Response

Summary

1. The purpose of this report is to present the findings of the public consultation on the draft Alcohol Strategy for York 2016-2021.

Background

2. The Health and Wellbeing Board approved the draft alcohol strategy for consultation at the meeting of the Board held on 18 May 2016.
3. The consultation was held for a six week period until 6 July 2016 which was then extended for a further period to 31 July 2016 following discussion at the Communities and Environment Policy and Scrutiny Committee to allow more time for comments.
4. There were 26 responses to the online survey. A number of these were individual responses submitted on behalf of partnership groups or organisations including the Safer York Partnership, North Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service, North Yorkshire Police, the NHS Vale of York Clinical Commissioning Group and City of York Council. In addition, feedback was received from members of the public and through discussion at various groups including the Communities and Environment Policy and Scrutiny Committee.

Main/Key Issues to be Considered

5. The feedback has generally been supportive with the majority of respondents in agreement with the stated vision and aims of the strategy.
6. However there were a number of key themes emerging from the consultation that need to be considered. These include:

- The need to more clearly acknowledge the benefits that alcohol brings to the City and balance this against the harms that alcohol may cause or contribute to
 - Provide a clearer acknowledgement and focus on tackling alcohol-related issues that are connected to crime and disorder
 - More clearly identify the governance arrangements for delivery of the strategy
7. The strategy is being re-drafted in response to the feedback received and will be published shortly.
 8. All the comments and contributions have been collated and analysed and are presented as an **Annex** to this report.

Consultation

9. The draft strategy has been subject to public consultation and the results of this consultation are set out in the **Annex** as stated above.

Options

10. It is proposed that the responsibility for providing strategic oversight of the delivery of the alcohol strategy, and making the strategic links across partnership groups, is delegated to the Safer York Partnership with an annual report on progress with implementation being submitted to the Health and Wellbeing Board.

Analysis

11. The Modern Crime Prevention Strategy (March 2016) recognises the impact that alcohol has on communities and the association between alcohol use and violence. The actions outlined in the Modern Crime Prevention Strategy are based on evidence that reducing the availability of alcohol, providing targeted treatment and brief advice and intervention approaches that build life skills and resilience can be effective in reducing alcohol harm.
12. We recognise that many partnership agencies already tackle alcohol related issues on a daily basis as part of their core business. Tackling under-age sales, licence compliance, protecting communities from anti-social behaviour and managing the health impacts of alcohol misuse are just some of the activities

undertaken. We also recognise the benefits that alcohol can bring to the City in terms of the economy and jobs in the leisure industry.

13. Based on the above, it is argued that the Safer York Partnership is best placed to take the strategic lead on the alcohol agenda and to be responsible for the strategic oversight of the delivery of the alcohol strategy for York.

Strategic / Operational Plans

14. The proposals outlined in this report will enable an alcohol strategy for York to be put in place that will reduce the burden of alcohol-related harm across the life course with a focus on delivery of the following outcomes.

Promoting safer communities:

- a. Reduce the incidence of alcohol-related crime and anti-social behaviour
- b. Improve the management and planning of the night-time economy
- c. Work with local communities to build their capacity to develop resilience and local solutions to problems, working in partnership with local agencies

Improve Health and Wellbeing:

- d. Promote sensible drinking within recommended guidelines
- e. Ensure alcohol treatment and recovery services are available to those that require them
- f. Seek to prevent further increases in levels of chronic and acute ill-health caused by alcohol

Protect Children and Young People

- g. Reduce alcohol related harm among children and young people

Create Capacity

- h. Strengthen data collection and utilisation across stakeholders to support the development of future plans
- i. Increase capacity for delivering the strategy through workforce planning, training and development

Council Plan

15. The proposal directly relates to the Council Plan 2015-19 priorities:

- **‘A prosperous city for all’**
- **‘A focus on frontline services’** - to ensure all residents, particularly the least advantaged, can access reliable services and community facilities.
- **‘A Council that listens to residents’** – to ensure it delivers the services they want and works in partnership with local communities

Specialist Implications

Financial

16. There are no financial implications from this report.

Human Resources (HR)

17. There are no Human Resources implications from this report.

Equalities

18. There are no equalities implications from this report.

Legal

19. There are no legal implications from this report.

Crime and Disorder

20. There is both crime and anti-social behaviour associated with alcohol misuse. Effective and accessible treatment opportunities, together with partnership working across police and community safety teams, will contribute to improved community safety.

Information Technology (IT)

21. There are no IT implications from this report.

Property

22. There are no property implications from this report.

Risk Management

23. There are no risks associated with this report.

Recommendations

24. The Health and Wellbeing Board is asked to:

- Note the consultation response to the draft alcohol strategy and acknowledge that the strategy is being amended to take account of these prior to being finalised for publication.
- Approve the delegation of responsibility for strategic oversight of the delivery of the alcohol strategy to the Safer York Partnership
- Agree to receive annual reports detailing progress on implementation of the alcohol strategy.

Reason: To support the delivery of an alcohol strategy for York that will reduce alcohol-related harm across the City.

Contact Details

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**Report
Approved**

Date 25/08/16

Wards Affected:

All

For further information please contact the author of the report

Background Papers

Draft Alcohol Strategy for York 2016-2021 report to the Health and Wellbeing Board 18 May 2016

<http://modgov.york.gov.uk/documents/s105953/HWBB%20Alcohol%20Strategy%20Report.pdf>

Modern Crime Prevention Strategy 2016

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/509831/6.1770_Modern_Crime_Prevention_Strategy_final_WEB_version.pdf

Annex

Draft York Alcohol Strategy 2016-2021 Consultation Response