

Annex 2

ARZ Consultation Replies Summer 2013

Methods of Consultation

- ◆ Safer York Website
- ◆ Legal Notice in Press
- ◆ Requests to Avante Group Members

Replies received from:

- ◆ Mike Southcombe, Environmental Protection Manager
- ◆ Mark Henderson, North Yorkshire Police
- ◆ Matt Boxall, Trading Standards
- ◆ Martin Rowley, Street Angels
- ◆ LockFixSecurity, Walmgate
- ◆ Nick Sinclair Public Health
- ◆ Gill Kelly, YDH Consultant in Emergency Medicine
- ◆ Mary Anne Snowden, British Transport Police
- ◆ Residents replies to City Centre ASB Questionnaire

1.

I would support an ARZ in principle in the city centre area.

Regards

Mike Southcombe
Environmental Protection Manager
City of York Council

2.

On behalf of North Yorkshire Police at York I am fully supportive of an Alcohol Restriction Zone within the city walls but also includes the current ones that touch the city walls. I am aware of the issues that BTP have with ASB at the railway station which is predominantly linked to the consumption of alcohol and I agree that it is right that the station be

included. Although ASB is reducing across the City of York it is a particular problem in the city centre and the vast majority of it is associated with alcohol. An Alcohol Restriction Zone gives police officers and PCSO's increased powers to seize and dispose of alcohol when its possession/consumption is linked to ASB.

We currently have a Dispersal Zone within the city centre and I believe that the proposed Alcohol restriction Zone provides us with an effective exit strategy when the Dispersal Zone is removed.

Regards,

Mark Henderson
Acting Deputy Safer Neighbourhood Commander for York
Response & Reassurance Directorate
North Yorkshire Police

3.

The City of York Council's trading standards department support the application for the introduction of an Alcohol Restriction Zone within the City of York encompassing the area within the city walls and the train station.

As part of the Council plan, the City of York Council is committed to creating safer inclusive communities and protecting vulnerable residents within the City. In order to help achieve these objectives, Trading Standards enforce the legislation in relation to the sale of alcohol to under 18's by carrying out the testing of premises to ensure compliance with law.

As expected, intelligence and complaints received by trading standards include information regarding premises suspected of selling alcohol to minors. In addition, trading standards also receive intelligence regarding the proxy sale of alcohol - where an adult makes a purchase of alcohol on behalf of a person under the age of 18. It is hoped that by giving the police extra powers to seize alcohol it will reduce the number of under 18's coming into contact with alcohol.

Matt Boxall
Trading Standards
City of York Council

4.

I have been asked by Claire Taylor to respond to your request for a statement of support for the proposed DPPO (Alcohol Restriction Zone).

I would like to ensure you of our support in this initiative. We often find that while individuals have some form of control on their alcohol intake whilst inside licensed premises, they are free of this control once they have either been evicted from the premises or left of their own accord.

We feel that an Alcohol Free Zone within the city walls would help to reduce not only the numbers of alcohol related incidents happening within the city, but would also encourage individuals to attempt to make their way home more quickly knowing that alcohol could not be consumed in an open public space.

If you need any further help or comment from Street Angels York, then please don't hesitate to contact me either at the address below or by phone on 07837 935968.

Kind regards

Martin Rowley
Co-ordinator
Street Angels York

5.

From: leiane [mailto:accounts@lockfixsecurity.co.uk]
Sent: 17 September 2013 14:59

We support in full the proposed restrictions to consumption of alcohol in public places. As we are a business at 69 Walmgate (Lock-Fix Security) we see it regularly done by the residents of Yacro and would appreciate it stopping and the associated abuse and loud swearing.

6.

Public Health are supportive of the programme which promises to address some individuals' personal irresponsible use of alcohol, address the normalisation of anti-social alcohol use and reduce fear of crime and disorder within our communities. All these objectives are fully supported by the Public Health department and sit well with the broader goals of reducing alcohol misuse, encouraging responsible use of alcohol for those who choose to drink and improving quality of life for York residents.

National Audit Office report that over 10 million adults in England drink more alcohol than the recommended daily limit, with the House of Commons Health Committee reporting that 2.6 million of this group are drinking more than twice this (Alcohol Concern, 2011).

The North West Public Health Observatory, now part of Public Health England, have produced synthetic estimates on the number of abstainers from alcohol, lower risk, increasing risk and higher risk drinkers across all Local Authority areas. This information shows that York has an estimated 25.6% of the population who are consuming alcohol at increasing or higher risk levels (NWPHE, 2011).

Increasing risk alcohol consumption is defined as men whose average weekly alcohol consumption was reported in the General Lifestyle Survey as being greater than 21 units but less than 50 units per week and for women, greater than 14 units but less than 35.

Higher risk alcohol consumption is defined as men whose average weekly alcohol consumption was reported as greater than 50 units in the General Lifestyle Survey and in women reported as over 35 units per week.

To put this into context, daily alcohol consumption guidelines are to consume no more than 3 to 4 units of alcohol if you are male and 2 to 3 units if you are female.

Much of the relevant alcohol related information is contained in the Local Alcohol Profiles for England (LAPE) reports that are produced for each Local Authority area. The summary profile for York shows that York has significantly worse levels of binge drinking compared to the England average.

Whilst levels of 'higher risk' drinking in York are not statistically significantly different to the England average, York is ranked 315th out of 326 local authority areas on this indicator (where 1 is best performance

and 326 is worst). By comparison, York is ranked 320th out of 326 local authority areas for levels of binge drinking.

Nick Sinclair
Public Health

7.

6th August 2013
To Whom it May Concern,

Alcohol Restriction Zone within York City Walls to include York Railway Station

As an Emergency Medicine Consultant in York Hospital, I have spent the last 2 years collecting data on accurate alcohol-related attendance levels in York Emergency Department(ED). Anecdotally, overnight, there are large numbers of attendances attributable to alcohol, and these patients with their often large, intoxicated entourages, cause significant burdens on the healthcare system, both in terms of time and resources. However, accurate measurement of the burden is notoriously difficult, so, in conjunction with public health, we set out to obtain a realistic picture of this burden.

From our statistics, 10% of overall attendances to the ED are related to alcohol, but when the night-time economy is isolated, i.e. we look at the proportion of attendances between 21:00 and 09:00, this percentage rises to 20%. York has a high proportion of elderly patients attending with chronic conditions – this skews the total figures, but it is telling that overnight, the proportions doubles. And overall, 20% of all ambulance journeys are related to alcohol. We also discovered that of the patients removed by police from the ED, due to unruly behaviour, all were intoxicated.

On a personal note, I myself had a violent and abusive patient removed by police recently, who, despite testing positive on a breathalyser, denied being intoxicated. In fact, he was so drunk he was unable to remember the names of his own children. A great deal of time and effort was spent in ensuring this gentleman's well-being, but in the end, he was simply too intoxicated to receive our help.

In fact, when we look at the proportion of patients arriving late at night, between midnight and 01:00, 28% of patients were under the influence, between 01:00 and 02:00, 44%, and between 02:00 and 03:00, 38% of attendees were intoxicated. However, we need to target people before closing time, to prevent injuries, rather than fixing problems after the incident has occurred.

The majority of our patients live in York itself – 62% of alcohol-related attendees live in the city limits. This drops to 54% at week-ends, showing the effects of those from out of area. Therefore, as a major route into the city, the railway station would be an appropriate place to include in any exclusion zone.

By reducing overall levels of drinking and preventing anti-social behaviour before it escalates, not only would York City Centre be a more pleasant place for all its inhabitants, but the scant healthcare resources could be better spent on those who had not, in part, contributed to their own injury/illness.

Dr Gill Kelly FCEM

8.

That we would support the introduction of the ARZ; particularly to include the Railway Station.

It will be a useful tool to assist us in resolving issues around Anti Social Behaviour and Alcohol Related Disorder particularly at weekends but also at relevant times through the week.

Alcohol related disorder and Anti social behaviour is a very real problem in York city centre, and indeed at the Railway Station and I feel that this legislation would give the police a valuable tool to combat some of the linked issues through the confiscation and control of drinking in public areas.

That said I also feel that the legislation is flexible enough to not infringe on those who enjoy alcohol sensibly and responsibly and those who respect others around them.

Mary-Anne Snowden
Police Sergeant 0278

Neighbourhood Policing Team
York ECML & Leeds FTPE
British Transport Police

9.

We have concern that generally limiting the zone to within (and presumably to include – please confirm ??) the City Walls (but with the inclusion of the rail station) may result in displacement of street drinking to just outside the defined area e.g. through Micklegate Bar onto Blossom St – which includes a Wetherspoon PH and a number of budget hotels.

We support the inclusion of the station as there has been a recent history of street drinkers gathering opposite the station that Council Officers, the police and other agencies have been trying to address. However, also for these reasons we would suggest the inclusion of the whole of Queen St.

The proposal is silent on the issue of the existing (discrete) DPPOs, which in the case of Micklegate Ward includes Scarcroft Green. Is it intended that these remain on a standalone basis (which we would support) ?”

Micklegate Ward Councillors

10.

NYP Residents questionnaire and Safer York Partnership Website Responses

Total of 50 Responses

- A Drinking Ban
- Alcohol free zone, police to move them on
- Alcohol Free Zone. More police patrols moving them on. CCTV
- Alcohol free zone. People not allowed to hang around
- Any one caught drinking or intimidating - drink to be confiscated. Make a criminal offence
- Ban alcohol consumption on the streets. Move the crowd on
- Ban alcohol consumption on the streets. Move the crowd on, Close the place that gives free meal.
- Ban drinking in the area, more Police presence

- Ban drinking on the street, have people watching the street for abusive people
- Ban public drinking in the area
- Ban street drinking
- Ban street drinking, Keep the dispersal order
- Ban street drinking.
- Bring in No drinking Zone so we can move them on every time they congregate
- Dispersal Zone, Ban alcohol consumption in the area. More police patrols
- Disperse the group and drunks from meeting up
- Drink banning order in that area. Not have them there.
- Drink exclusion around this area
- Drink Exclusion Zone. Cut tree down outside Heron Foods so camera can see the offenders.
- Drinking ban. More police about daytime in town, to be on standby when radio through. Tree to be cut down so camera can see them.
- Exclusion Zone - no drinking, more police enforcement
- Immediate blanket ban on street drinking. Controls on sale of alcohol to people who are drink dependant / habitual drunks. (Polish shop next to One Stop Walmgate)
- Increased policing and powers to move on / arrest if necessary.
- Large groups should be dispersed. Police make them aware of the effect their actions have on others.
- Large groups should not be allowed to hang around together or block the pavement. Nor should they be allowed to buy alcohol when in drink.
- Like the area to be clear of drinkers.
- Make an Exclusion Zone
- Make Fossgate, Pavement, St Saviourgate, Whipmawhopmagate drink free zones (as Walmgate). More patrols to move them on, CCTV in Fossgate as new pub planned which will increase ASB
- Make it a Dispersal Zone and Non Drinking Zone
- More cctv, police patrols, good idea about Dispersal order make the area feel safer less intimidating
- Move on the street drinkers and ensure they don't return
- Move the people from the area, increase police powers.
- Move the St Saviourgate drop in centre to an area less frequented by York citizens. High police presence. Implement the Dispersal Zone
- Move them on no drinking zone move and provide a day centre
- Move them on, stop them drinking on the street.

- Move these individuals out of the city centre. Ban alcohol consumption on the street of the city centre and impose fines for those who chose to ignore.
- Need more restrictions and more frequent police patrols.
- No Drinking Zone - more police enforcement.
- No drinking Zone in this area. Get moved on quicker
- No Drinking Zone, moved away quickly
- People responsible moved on and alcohol confiscated.
- People responsible moved on and tougher punishment.
- Police to move them along, more power to limit ASB and street drinking within the city walls.
- Prevent street drinking, limit off-licence, and breaking up big groups might help
- Regular police presence, No alcohol on streets, move groups on.
- Stop them standing there all day drinking and causing problems. Arrest them if they are.
- The police should be allowed to do more. Council should make York City Centre ' No Drinking Zone'. It's disgusting what you see and hear daily.
- These people banned from the area
- Total ban on drinking and drugs in the street more police force them into work or voluntary work