

Response ID ANON-Z6PT-8JJU-N

Submitted to Alcohol: Minimum Unit Pricing (MUP): Continuation and Future Pricing: Consultation
Submitted on 2023-10-10 17:56:52

Ministerial Foreword

Questions

1 Do you think Minimum Unit Pricing (MUP) should continue?

Yes

2 If MUP continues, do you agree with the proposed Minimum Unit Price of 65 pence?

Yes

3 We invite comments on the Scottish Ministers' proposal to continue MUP, and the proposed Minimum Unit Price of 65 pence.

Comment below:

We are pleased that MUP has already begun to reduce alcohol harm and deaths in Scotland.

The SCSN strongly supports a multi-faceted approach to reducing alcohol harm in Scotland and we see MUP as a crucial pillar of our national response.

Our primary interest is in building safer communities. So whilst we welcome reduced alcohol deaths and hospital admissions - we also hope that MUP can/does play a role in reducing social harms in which alcohol is implicated - especially in reducing crime where alcohol is an aggravating factor. We appreciate that reviews of MUP have found no strong evidence of an impact on reducing these social harms - but we believe that anything that reduces harmful or hazardous drinking is more likely than not to reduce the social as well as the health harms of alcohol. We'd be very interested to see further research conducted to help understand how and whether MUP can/does help reduce social harms caused by alcohol.

We'd also be keen to gain a better understanding of the impact of MUP in reducing unintentional harm and injury (accidents) and teasing that data out on alcohol related hospital admissions.

Generally we are happy to support the proposed MUP of 65p per unit. However, we'd not object to MUP being set a higher level, so long as adequate investment continues to be made in addressing the health and social needs of those who are alcohol dependent. We are not overly concerned by negative impacts on the alcohol industry.

About you

What is your name?

Name:

David Barbour

Are you responding as an individual or an organisation?

Organisation

What is your organisation?

Organisation:

The Scottish Community Safety Network

If you are responding on behalf of an organisation, please tell us the type of organisation for which you are providing a response.

Other

If other, please share the type of organisation in the box provided:

Third Sector Community Safety Organisation

Further information about your organisation's response

Please add any additional context:

We have kept up to date with (and reported on) MUP impact evaluation over the duration of the policy.

We have also continued to keep up to date with national and international alcohol harm and policy developments and research and drawn on staff expertise in the area of alcohol harm reduction.

We recently participated in a Scottish Government roundtable on MUP.

The Scottish Government would like your permission to publish your consultation response. Please indicate your publishing preference:

Publish response with name

Do you consent to Scottish Government contacting you again in relation to this consultation exercise?

Yes

What is your email address?

Email:
david.barbour@scsn.org.uk

I confirm that I have read the privacy policy and consent to the data I provide being used as set out in the policy.

I consent

Evaluation

Please help us improve our consultations by answering the questions below. (Responses to the evaluation will not be published.)

Matrix 1 - How satisfied were you with this consultation?:

Very satisfied

Please enter comments here.:

Matrix 1 - How would you rate your satisfaction with using this platform (Citizen Space) to respond to this consultation?:

Very satisfied

Please enter comments here.: