

Update from the Special Interest Groups

Group:	Consultants and Specialists in Public Health Alcohol Special Interest Group
Chair: Deputy/Co-chair (if applicable):	Chair : Catherine Chiang Vice Chairs: Liz Smart, Fiona Doig
Member organisations:	AFS, SHAAP, Health Scotland, NHS GGC, NHS Lothian, NHS Forth Valley, NHS Tayside, NHS Highland, NHS Western Isles, NHS Ayrshire and Arran, NHS Borders.
Aims of SIG:	<p>Be recognised as the expert group for public health alcohol issues in Scotland.</p> <p>Ensure that public health alcohol issues are considered in all relevant policies/frameworks which impact on population health.</p> <p>Proactively identify and lead on responding to opportunities which can influence key decisions and national Scottish Government policies or initiatives.</p> <p>Provide representation on external bodies and committees in Scotland.</p> <p>Promote and implement Scotland/UK wide public health alcohol strategies and policies.</p> <p>Provide a support network for members and facilitate cross-Board and cross-partner collaborative work.</p> <p>Ensure efficient and effective dialogue amongst territorial Boards, NHS Health Scotland, Alcohol Focus Scotland and Scottish Government.</p> <p>Develop links with colleagues in academia to identify and collaborate on research areas of mutual interest to build capacity for and inform the evidence base for public health nutrition policy and practice.</p>
Describe the work undertaken in the last year and any impact.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Developed work plan and terms of reference • Developed infrastructure to support the group • Identified areas of special interest and expertise to facilitate responding to requests for support • Expanded the membership to include Health Scotland, Health Improvement, SHAAP, • Submitted response to the Licensing (Scotland) Act 2005 Section 142 Draft Revised Guidance • Provided public health representation for Health Scotland expert group on Count 14 work to publicise CMO guidance • Nominated public health representative to work with Health Scotland on revision of Alcohol Brief Interventions,
How has the SIG supported the wider system and Public Health Reform?	It has planned a workshop for the faculty conference 2019 to consider individual members and boards were addressing the new alcohol framework and the alcohol and drug strategy.

	The group plans to contribute to the DPH position statement on alcohol.
Who has the SIG engaged with in the last year?	SIG members have engaged with Alcohol and Drug Partnerships, The Faculty of Public Health, Health Scotland, Alcohol Focus Scotland, SHAAP, Academics through engagement in work by individual members.
Is the SIG represented on any other national groups?	Health Scotland review of ABI work
Has the SIG held any events in the last year?	A learning event is planned for the September 2019 as part of the work of the group. The programme has still to be confirmed. A workshop is planned for the faculty of Public Health Conference in November.
What are the main issues the SIG is considering currently?	Licensing Infrastructure to deliver the public health alcohol priority Best practice in preventing alcohol deaths Minimum Unit pricing CMO guidance on low risk drinking Review of Alcohol Brief Interventions
What are the SIGs objectives for 2019-20?	Developing and managing the group. Sharing good practice and raising the profile of our work. Contributing to the development of licensing policy, practice and licensing responses. Development of resources that may be used on a national basis. Supporting the wider alcohol workforce. Engage with the research community.