

## Alcohol strategy consultation

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### Page 1: About you

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Q1. Please select if you would like your response or personal details to be treated as confidential.

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Treat as confidential

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Q2. Which of the following best describes you or the professional interest you represent? Please select one option from the menu below.

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Other

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***Please specify which organisation, licensing authority or police force you represent in the box below:***

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Q3. If you are responding on behalf of an organisation or interest group, please write in the box below the number of members in your group or organisation.

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300

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Q4. How did you obtain the views of your members? Please explain in the box below keeping your response to a maximum of 100 words.

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Q5. Please indicate in which region you or your organisation is based. Please select one option from the menu below.

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Rest of the world

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Q6. If you are responding as a member of the public, what is your gender? Please select one option.

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No Response

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Q7. If you are responding as a member of the public, what is your age? Please select one option.

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No Response

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## Page 2: A minimum unit price for alcohol

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Q8. In the alcohol strategy, the government committed to introducing a minimum unit price for alcohol in England and Wales. This consultation will contribute to the debate on the most appropriate price per unit and the mechanism by which, once set, minimum unit pricing would remain effective. It is also an opportunity for interested parties to raise other issues around minimum unit pricing. The purpose of minimum unit pricing is to reduce alcohol consumption, particularly by the most hazardous and harmful drinkers who tend to show a preference for the cheapest alcohol products. By doing so the government estimates there will be a reduction in the associated crime and health harms, especially the numbers of hospital admissions, alcohol-related deaths and alcohol-related crimes. Minimum unit pricing is not intended disproportionately to affect responsible drinkers or particular social groups but to reduce the availability of alcohol sold at very low or heavily discounted prices. More information (including the definitions of hazardous and harmful drinkers) is available in the full consultation document and the impact assessment. Do you want to answer questions on minimum unit pricing? Please select one option.

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Yes

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## Page 3: A minimum unit price for alcohol

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Q9. The impact of minimum unit pricing will depend on the price per unit of alcohol. The government wants to ensure that the chosen price level is targeted and proportionate, whilst achieving a significant reduction of harm. The government is therefore consulting on the introduction of a recommended minimum unit price of 45p. The government estimates a reduction in consumption across all product types of 3.3 per cent, a reduction in crime of 5,240 per year, a reduction in 24,600 alcohol-related hospital admissions and 714 fewer deaths per year after ten years. Do you agree that this minimum unit price level would achieve these aims? Please select one option.

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Don't know

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***If you think another level would be preferable, please set out your views on why this might be in the box below (keeping your views to a maximum of 200 words):***

Following the lead of the Scottish Government, which has recently passed the alcohol minimum pricing Scotland Act 2012, the Home Office has set a target of implementing a minimum unit pricing (MUP) for alcohol sold in England by October 2014 in its Business Plan 2012-2015. The UK government has now begun a consultation on a 45p minimum price per unit of alcohol for England and Wales, although this

may increase as Scottish ministers have recently set the planned minimum price at 50p a unit. As in Scotland, the UK Government's proposals include a ban on quantity discounts and promotions, such as two for the price of one, The imposition of a minimum price per unit and a restriction on promotions would have a disproportionate impact on travel retail where there are already rigid controls over the amount of liquor which can be purchased duty free and where the physical location of airport shops makes large volume purchases unfeasible.

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Q10. Should other factors or evidence be considered when setting a minimum unit price for alcohol?  
Please select one option.

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Yes

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***If yes, please specify these in the box below (keeping your views to a maximum of 200 words):***

The Scottish Parliamentary office has confirmed that Duty Free outlets in Scottish airports are exempt both from the quantity discount ban and from minimum unit pricing. This exclusion arises from the provisions of the Licensing (Scotland) Act 2005 which exempts outlets located in 'an examination station at an airport', ie the area beyond security, from the requirement to be licensed. It is essential that there is parity of treatment between Scottish and English duty free outlets and so, in the first instance, we would urge the UK Government to use the UK licensing laws to exempt products sold in export shops from the proposed legislation as, under existing English licensing legislation, premises within examination stations are exempt from the requirement to be licensed.

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Q11. The government wishes to maintain the effectiveness of minimum unit pricing and is therefore proposing to adjust the minimum unit price level over time. How do you think the level of minimum unit price set by the government should be adjusted over time? Please select one option.

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Do nothing - the minimum unit price should not be adjusted

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Q12. The aim of minimum unit pricing is to reduce the consumption of harmful and hazardous drinkers, while minimising the impact on responsible drinkers. Do you think that there are any other people, organisations or groups that could be particularly affected by a minimum unit price for alcohol? Please select one option.

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Yes

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***If yes, please specify in the box below (keeping your views to a maximum of 100 words):***

The Scottish Parliamentary office has confirmed that Duty Free outlets in Scottish airports are exempt both from the quantity discount ban and from minimum unit pricing. This exclusion arises from the provisions of the Licensing (Scotland) Act 2005 which exempts outlets located in 'an examination station at an airport', ie the area beyond security, from the requirement to be licensed. It is essential that there is parity of treatment between Scottish and English duty free outlets and so, in the first instance, we would urge the UK Government to use the UK licensing laws to exempt products sold in export shops from the proposed legislation as, under existing English licensing legislation, premises within examination stations are exempt from the requirement to be licensed.

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## Page 4: A ban on multi-buy promotions in the off-trade

Q13. The government is consulting on introducing a ban on multi-buy promotions in the off-trade (e.g. shops and off-licences) as part of its wider strategy to reduce excessive alcohol consumption, and alongside the introduction of a minimum unit price. A ban on multi-buy promotions would therefore not apply to pubs, clubs, bars or restaurants. The term 'multi-buy promotions' refers to alcohol promotions that offer a discount for buying multiple items. The aim of a ban would be to stop promotions that encourage people to buy more than they otherwise would, making it cheaper (per item) to purchase more than one of a product than to purchase a single item. As well as being part of a wider strategy to reduce consumption and tackle irresponsible alcohol sales, a ban on multi-buy promotions would also contribute to the government's aim of encouraging people to be aware of how much they drink and the risks of excessive drinking, so that they can make informed choices. The aim of this consultation is to assess support for such a ban and contribute to our understanding of the impact a ban on multi-buy promotions may have. The types of promotion it is proposed that a ban would include, are: two for the price of one, three for the price of two, buy one get one free, buy six and get 20 per cent off, 24 cans of lager costing less than 24 times the cost of a single can of lager in the shop, a case of wine sold cheaper than the individual price at which the same bottles are sold in the shop, 3 for £10 where each bottle costs more than £3.33. More information is available in the full consultation document and the impact assessment. Do you want to answer questions on a ban on multi-buy promotions in the off-trade? Please select one option.

Yes

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## Page 5: A ban on multi-buy promotions in the off-trade

Q14. Do you think there should be a ban on multi-buy promotions involving alcohol in the off-trade? Please select one option.

No

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Q15. Are there any further offers which should be included in a ban on multi-buy promotions? Please select one option.

No

***If yes, please specify in the box below (keeping your views to a maximum of 100 words):***

Arrival shops, like export shops, are unique in their nature and must also be afforded similar exemption as they do not pose the same risk in terms of promoting large scale alcohol consumption as high street outlets, unlike high street shops, arrival shops' customers do not buy in bulk and purchases are generally items selected on impulse or for gifts. Furthermore, as the Arrivals Shop in an airport is generally operated by the same retailer as the export shop, the retailer incur substantial IT costs to enable its point of sale system to deal with dual pricing, which, in itself, would create significant customer confusion. Dual pricing would potentially result in lost sales which, being generally impulse purchases, will not be replaced by high street sales elsewhere in the UK. The loss of such sales would impact on the Treasury's direct and indirect tax receipts.

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Q16. Should other factors or evidence be taken into account when considering a ban on multi-buy promotions? Please select one option.

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Yes

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***If yes, please specify in the box below (keeping your views to a maximum of 200 words):***

The sale of liquor by businesses operating in the Travel Retail sector is unique in nature, it is circumscribed by the very location of retail outlets and by security and tax controls which do not apply to its sale elsewhere in the UK. Consequently, it should be treated as a separate case to alcohol sold on the domestic market, where there is free access to liquor stocks, and no limits apply to volumes purchase or to the ability of the customer to transport his/her purchases home.

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Q17. The aim of a ban on multi-buy promotions is to stop promotions that encourage people to buy more than they otherwise would, helping people to be aware of how much they drink, and to tackle irresponsible alcohol sales. Do you think that there are any other groups that could be particularly affected by a ban on multi-buy promotions? Please select one option.

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Yes

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***If yes, please specify in the box below (keeping your views to a maximum of 100 words):***

As outlined we believe that it would disadvantage the air traveller particularly because in Scotland airport duty and tax free shops have been made exempt.

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## Page 6: Reviewing the mandatory licensing conditions

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Q18. In its response to the 'Rebalancing the Licensing Act' consultation in 2010, the government committed to review the impact of the current mandatory licensing conditions. More recently, the alcohol strategy made a commitment to review these mandatory licensing conditions to ensure they are sufficiently targeting problems such as irresponsible promotions in pubs and clubs. The government has also committed to consult on whether these mandatory licensing conditions should, where relevant, apply to both the on- and off-trade. This consultation forms part of that review, and will contribute to the government's understanding of how these mandatory conditions are perceived. The five mandatory licensing conditions currently set out in regulations in relation to the supply of alcohol are: a ban on irresponsible promotions a ban on dispensing alcohol by one person directly into the mouth of another a requirement to provide free tap water on request to customers a requirement to have an age verification policy to prevent the sale of alcohol to persons under 18 years of age, and a requirement to make available to customers small measures such as half pints or beer or cider or 125ml glasses of wine More information is available in the full consultation document. An explanation of each of these terms can be found on page 20 of the consultation document, in the glossary at the end. Do you want to answer questions on reviewing the mandatory licensing conditions? Please select one option.

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No

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## Page 7: Reviewing the mandatory licensing conditions

Q19. Do you think each of the mandatory licensing conditions is effective in promoting the licensing objectives? For more information on the licensing objectives please see the glossary at the end of the full consultation document. Please select one option (Yes, No, Don't know) from each drop down menu.

*No Response*

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Q20. Do you think that the mandatory licensing conditions do enough to target irresponsible promotions in pubs and clubs? Please select one option.

*No Response*

Score

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Q21. Are there other issues related to the licensing objectives which could be tackled through a mandatory licensing condition? Please select one option.

*No Response*

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Q22. Do you think that the current approach, with five mandatory licensing conditions applying to the on-trade and only one of those to the off-trade, is appropriate? Please select one option.

*No Response*

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## Page 8: Health as a licensing objective for cumulative impact policies

Q23. We want to ensure that licensing authorities are able to take alcohol-related health harms into consideration when making decisions about cumulative impact policies (CIPs) which can be used to manage problems linked to the density of premises in specific areas. A CIP introduces a rebuttable presumption that all new licence applications and variations in that area will normally be refused if the licensing authority receives a relevant representation stating that the application will add to the cumulative impact. However each application must still be considered on its own merits and the licensing authority may still grant the application if it is satisfied that the application will not contribute to the cumulative impact. We are proposing that licensing authorities will be able to take evidence of alcohol-related health harm into account in deciding whether to introduce a CIP and the extent of that CIP. This would be a discretionary power and not an obligation. We expect that those areas with the highest levels of alcohol-related health harm, or fast rising levels of harm from alcohol, will be most likely to use this power. It will allow local health bodies to fully contribute to local decision making and mean licensing authorities can restrict the number of licensed premises in the local area on the basis of robust local evidence. More information is available in the full consultation document and impact assessment. Do you want to answer questions on health as a licensing objective for cumulative impact policies? Please select one option.

No

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## Page 9: Health as a licensing objective for cumulative impact policies

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Q24. What sources of evidence on alcohol-related health harm could be used to support the introduction of a cumulative impact policy (CIP) if it were possible for a CIP to include consideration of health? Please specify in the box below (keeping your views to a maximum of 200 words):

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*No Response*

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Q25. Do you think any aspects of the current cumulative impact policy process would need to be amended to allow consideration of data on alcohol-related health harms? Please select one option.

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*No Response*

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Q26. What impact do you think allowing consideration of data on alcohol-related health harms when introducing a cumulative impact policy would have if it were used in your local area? Please specify your answer in the box below, providing evidence to support your response (keeping your views to a maximum of 200 words):

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*No Response*

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## Page 10: Freeing up responsible businesses

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Q27. The government has committed to consult on giving licensing authorities greater freedom to take decisions that reflect the needs of their local community. Following the government's Red Tape Challenge in 2011, three areas of reform were specified: alcohol licensing for certain types of premises providing minimal alcohol sales, temporary event notices (TENs) and the licensing of late night refreshment. This section asks for views on these proposals and suggests further ways to reduce burdens on business. The proposals set out here can be seen alongside work undertaken by the Department for Culture, Media and Sport to remove unnecessary red tape from regulated entertainment. More information on each of these areas for reform is available in the full consultation document. There are five subjects covered in this section. They are: ancillary sales of alcohol, occasional provision of licensable activities at community events, an extension of the temporary event notice limit at individual premises, late night refreshment, and further proposals to reduce burdens on business. Do you want to answer questions on freeing up responsible businesses? Please select one option.

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No

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## Page 11: Freeing up responsible businesses

Q28. Ancillary sales of alcohol For many businesses, the sale of alcohol is only a small part of, or incidental to, their wider activities, and occurs alongside the provision of another product or service (which this consultation refers to as an 'ancillary sale'). For example, a guesthouse might wish to provide wine to its guests with an evening meal or a complimentary bottle of wine in a guest's room, while a hairdresser might wish to offer clients a glass of wine. Should special provision to reduce the burdens on ancillary sellers be limited to specific types of business, and/or be available to all types of business, providing they meet certain qualification criteria for limited or incidental sales? Please select one option in each row.

*No Response*

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Q29. If special provisions to reduce licensing burdens on ancillary sellers were to include a list of certain types of business, do you think it should apply to the following? Please select one option in each row.

*No Response*

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Q30. Do you have any suggestions for other types of businesses to which such special provision could apply without impacting adversely on one or more of the licensing objectives? Please write your suggestions in the box below, keeping your views to a maximum of 200 words:

*No Response*

Q31. The aim of a new 'ancillary seller' status is to reduce burdens on businesses where the sale of alcohol is only a small part of their business and occurs alongside the provision of a wider product or service, while minimising loopholes for irresponsible businesses and maintaining the effectiveness of enforcement. Alternatively, a second option is to broaden the definition of 'ancillary sales' to include all businesses (and/or not for profit activities) through the use of a general set of qualification criteria, for example, to the effect that: alcohol must be sold or supplied as a small part or proportion of a sales transaction or contract for a wider service, and the amount of alcohol that could be supplied as part of that contract cannot exceed a prescribed amount Do you think that the qualification criteria proposed meet this aim?

*No Response*

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Q32. Do you think that these proposals would significantly reduce the burdens on ancillary sellers? Please select one option in each row.

*No Response*

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Q33. Do you think these proposals would impact adversely on one or more of the licensing objectives? Please select one option.



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*No Response*

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Q34. What other issues or options do you think should be considered when taking forward proposals for a lighter touch authorisation? Please specify in the box below keeping your response to a maximum of 200 words:

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*No Response*

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## Page 12: Freeing up responsible businesses

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Q35. Do you agree that licensing authorities should have the power to allow organisers of community events involving licensable activities to notify them through a locally determined notification process? Please select one option.

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*No Response*

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Q36. What impact do you think a locally determined notification would have on organisers of community events? Please select one option in each row.

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*No Response*

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## Page 13: Freeing up responsible businesses

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Q37. Should the number of TENs which can be given in respect of individual premises be increased? Please select one option.

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*No Response*

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Q38. If you answered yes, please select one option to indicate which you would prefer. Please select one option.

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*No Response*

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## Page 14: Freeing up responsible businesses

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Q39. Do you think that licensing authorities should have local discretion around late night refreshment in each of the following ways? Please select one option in each row.

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*No Response*

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Q40. Do you agree that motorway service areas should receive a nationally prescribed exemption from regulations for the provision of late night refreshment? Please select one option.

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*No Response*

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Q41. Please describe in the box below any other types of premises to which you think a nationally prescribed exemption should apply (keeping your views to a maximum of 100 words).

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*No Response*

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## Page 15: Freeing up responsible businesses

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Q42. Do you agree with each of the following proposals? Please select one option in each row.

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*No Response*

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Q43. Do you think that each of the following would reduce the overall burdens on business? Please select one option in each row.

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*No Response*

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Q44. Do you think that the following measures would impact adversely on one or more of the licensing objectives (see glossary)? Please select one option in each row.

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*No Response*

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Q45. In addition to the suggestions outlined above, what other sections of or processes under the 2003

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Act could in your view be removed or simplified in order to impact favourably on businesses without undermining the statutory licensing objectives or significantly increasing burdens on licensing authorities? (Please keep your views to a maximum of 200 words.)

No Response

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## Page 16: Impact assessments

Q46. Impact assessments for the proposals in this consultation have been published alongside the full consultation document. Do you think that the impact assessments related to the consultation provide an accurate representation of the costs and benefits of the proposals? Please select one option in each row.

	Yes	No	Don't know
Minimum unit pricing			X
Multi-buy promotions			X
Health as a licensing objective for cumulative impact			X
Ancillary sales of alcohol			X
Temporary event notices			X
Late night refreshment			X
Removing the duty to advertise licence applications in a local newspaper			X
Sales of alcohol at motorway service stations			X
Personal licences			X

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Q47. Do you have any comments on the methodologies or assumptions used in the impact assessments? If yes, please specify in the box below, clearly referencing the impact assessment and page to which you refer (keeping your views to a maximum of 400 words).

No

Page Score

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## Scoring Summary

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