

You may find the following information useful when deciding if you think that drinking in public places causes problems.

## Licensing Objectives

The five licensing objectives were built into the Licensing Scotland Act 2005 as guiding principles for the purpose of enabling Licensing Boards to assist with promoting the safe sale and consumption of alcohol on any licensed premises.

Prior to introduction of the objectives under old legislation it was difficult for Board's to assess each application consistently without clear guidance. Now, all licensees are required by the Licensing Board to be able to demonstrate how they intend to operate their licensed premises with a view to meeting these five objectives.

The objectives are applied to permanent premises, such as hotels and pubs as well as occasional licences for one off events, such as weddings and voluntary fundraising events.

The five objectives with examples of the issues that they are intended to help promote or reduce are as follows:

### 1. Preventing Crime and Disorder

Examples of Crime and Disorder include -

- Underage drinking, drunkenness, drink driving
- Illegal possession and/or use of drugs
- Violent, aggressive behaviour and antisocial behaviour

### 2. Securing Public Safety

Examples that can impact on Public Safety include -

- Unsafe premises/areas either by occupancy, poor lighting, layout or location
- Accumulation of glasses and litter
- Non Compliance with other regulatory requirements, for example fire safety and health and safety

### 3. Protecting and Improving Public Health

Examples of how this objective can be met -

- Promotion of responsible drinking and offering non-alcoholic drinks at reasonable prices
- Raising awareness of the Chief Medical Officer's low risk guidelines relating to recommended safe alcohol consumption available at [www.count14.scot](http://www.count14.scot)

### 4. Preventing Public Nuisance

Some examples of public nuisance include -

- Drunkenness
- Shouting
- Swearing
- Litter
- Smoking
- Noise
- General anti-social behaviour

### 5. Protecting Children and Young Persons from Harm

*The Licensing (Scotland) Act 2005 defines children as being under 16 years of age and young persons being 16 and 17 year olds.*

The sale and consumption of alcohol to and by children and young persons is strictly controlled on licensed premises. It is an offence to sell or supply alcohol to anyone under the age of 18 and there are criminal penalties for anyone convicted of doing so.

Examples of harm to children and young persons include alcohol being made available to them by persons over 18, commonly known as agent sales and unregulated consumption which may affect behaviour and personal safety.