

Alcohol and Communities Survey



The Ripple Effect

Possilpark, Springburn and
Milton

How Does Alcohol Affect Communities in the City of Glasgow?

Possilpark, Springburn and Milton

Prefix

Through direct community consultation, the research examined whether people in Glasgow City felt alcohol affected their community, and if so, to identify and examine these effects. Like the ripple effect created by a pebble in a pond the 'ripple effect' of alcohol was found to go far beyond the individual and their immediate family and affect many aspects of community life.

Various research techniques were used by the Community Researchers to collect data from 4697 people across the city. The following information relates specifically to the responses recorded from community participants in Possilpark, Springburn and Milton.

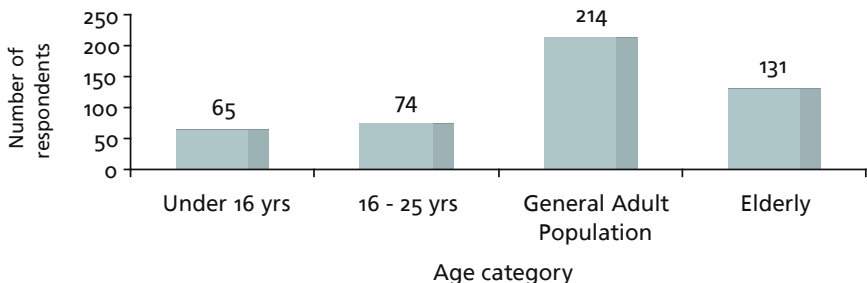
Most of the data for these three areas was gathered together and one validation event was held for all three areas. Data from each area did not reveal any differences in terms of issues/solutions therefore nothing was to be gained in reporting them separately.

How many people did we speak to?

We have spoken to 484 people from these areas

- Possilpark 205
- Springburn 197
- Milton 82

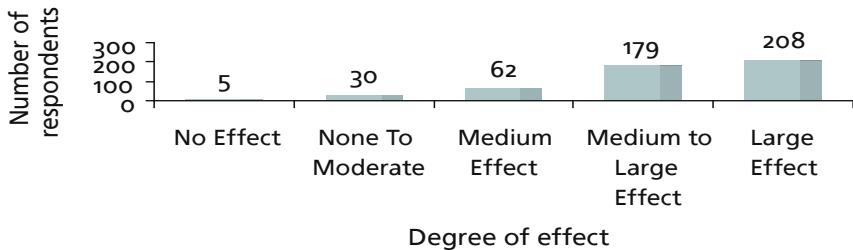
Graph 1 - Age dispersion : Possilpark, Springburn & Milton



Did residents feel alcohol affected their area?

- 11 people who put medium effect felt drugs had equally bad effect in area
- 5 people felt effects were no to moderate on weekdays and medium to high at weekends

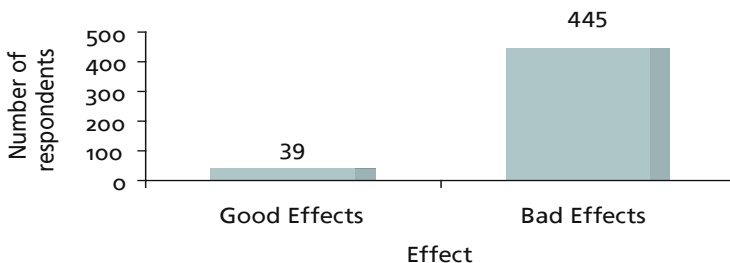
Graph 2 - Degree of effect noted by residents of Possipark, Springburn & Milton



What was the nature of the effect?

- Far more people noted bad effects than good effects

Graph 3 - Number of people noting good/bad effect(s): Possipark, Springburn & Milton



Key good effects noted

The following 3 good effects were all said to be good if alcohol was used in moderation:

- Social in moderation
- Help to de-stress
- It's fun

Another comment put in this section by one person was "It only has good effects for those profiting from it"

Key bad effects noted

- Causes increase in:
 - ▶ Violence, antisocial behaviour (general disorder)
 - ▶ Territorialism – frequency of occurrence and outcomes for those involved e.g. more severe injuries
 - ▶ Stabbings
 - ▶ Vandalism
 - ▶ Street crime in general
 - ▶ Noise (particularly young people at night)
 - ▶ Underage sex, rapes, sexual assaults
 - ▶ Increases violence, sexual abuse and neglect in homes
 - ▶ Girls increasingly involved in behaviour traditionally associated with young men
 - ▶ Depression and suicides
 - ▶ Litter (particularly bottles - dangerous for younger children and pets)
- Intimidating at particular times to go out – from Thursday evening through to Sunday and most evenings/nights
- Children's play parks largely unusable due to broken bottles and vandalism of equipment
- Sustains poverty cycle for individuals and families
- Negative health effect in community
- Accident and Emergency admissions affect others ability to access service quickly
- Damages areas reputation (housing) people not wanting to move in
- Young people abusing the general public and the elderly when they refuse to buy them drink
- Wasting of police/courts time with drunk and disorderly charges so unable to respond to more serious incidents quickly

How can we improve things?

- 32 people said they did not know of any way to do this
- 12 people felt you simply could not improve things with 8 of these explaining, "it is a culture...you can't do anything"
- The remaining 440 people asked gave a variety of solutions listed under key ideas for improving things:

Key ideas for improving things

- Grant less licences and enforce licensing regulations more rigorously
- Do not sell from off licences on Sundays and close them earlier
- Increase police on the beat and community police
- Bring street cleaners round more often
- More education/awareness
- Things to do for young people
- Increase prices and/or limit amounts of alcohol sold to one person
- More parental education and ways of enforcing parental control
- Build a youth pub/somewhere with atmosphere for young people to go to with no alcohol and transport home - teach them to have fun without alcohol
- More CCTV cameras that work and more street lighting in secluded lanes/back streets
- Increase age limit and/or enforce current legislation better
- Increase penalties for those buying/selling to young people and punish young people caught intimidating people to buy for them
- Bring back some from of national service and/or increase prospects of young through enforced training, job and education schemes for under 21s
- Ban glamorous advertising of alcohol
- Only sell from pubs
- Stop giving more benefits if registered alcoholic – use money to pay for help to stop them being alcoholics instead
- Use derelict areas of ground to build more local amenities (e.g. old post office ground adjacent to Saracen St)

Were there any areas people felt were more affected?

- 94 people felt the effects were all over the area
- 37 people felt park areas were more affected
- 58 people felt it was mainly around areas that sell alcohol
- 382 people noted at least one specific area

Specific areas noted

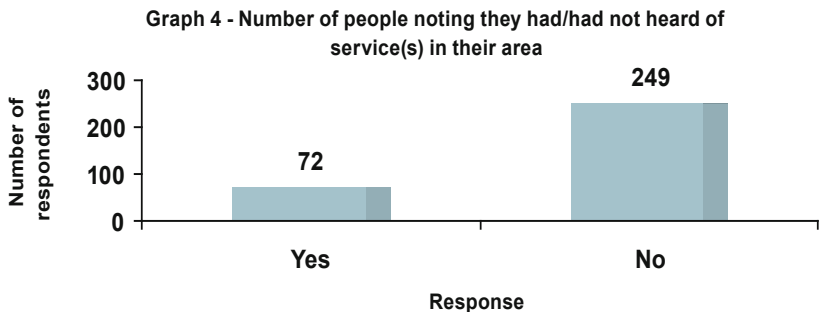
- Saracen Street (especially bad for young people intimidating others to buy for them)
- Shopping centre (Springburn) – front entrance, back tunnel and grass area at side
- Station shop Springburn
- Talisman – Galloway Street
- Sighthill
- Broomfield Road
- Scaraway Street
- Lenzie Terrace and Way
- Auchinairn
- Quarrywood Road
- Springburn Way
- Derelict buildings and anywhere they can hide
- Community centres (users of community centre abused verbally and sometimes physically by others hanging around outside intoxicated, mostly though not always young people)
- Bridge at Cowlairs road
- Royston Road
- Red Road flats
- Liddesdale Road
- Hawthorn Street (around middle)
- Ruchhill Park
- Bonhill Street

Groups of people more affected

- Most people felt three key groups were more affected:
 - ▶ Young People – particularly drinking alcohol through boredom
 - ▶ Younger children unable to play outside safely
 - ▶ Elderly – intimidation and fear of going out at certain times
- 56 People felt it affected all age groups in different ways

Do you know of any alcohol services in your area?

- AA and it's sister services were noted most
- Many young people in Springburn talked of a service that they had encountered at school. Although they could say much about the type of activities the service undertook (education/awareness) none could remember the name of the service.
- The only other service was noted by one person – North Glasgow Alcohol Support Service (Springburn area)



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**Electronic versions of The Ripple Effect
documents are available on
www.glasgowgrand.org**



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