

Alcohol and Communities Survey



The Ripple Effect Govan

How Does Alcohol Affect Communities in the City of Glasgow?

Govan

Prefix

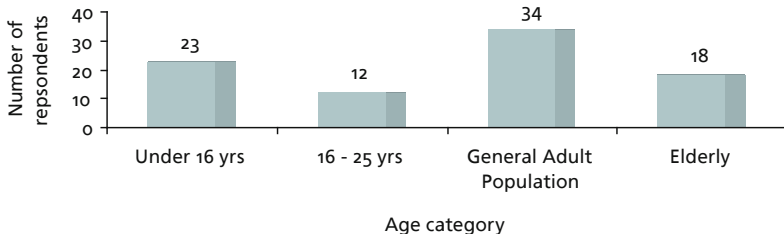
Through direct community consultation, the research examined whether people in Glasgow City felt alcohol affected their community, and if so, to identify and examine these effects. Like the ripple effect created by a pebble in a pond the 'ripple effect' of alcohol was found to go far beyond the individual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

Who did we speak to in Govan?

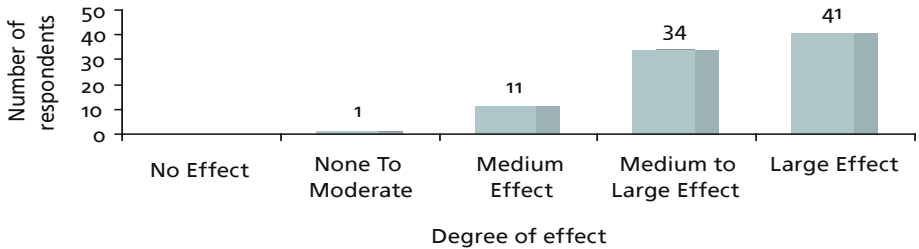
We spoke to 87 residents in the Govan area. The dispersion of age categories is shown in the graph below.

Graph 1 - Age dispersion: Govan



Did Govan residents feel alcohol affected their area?

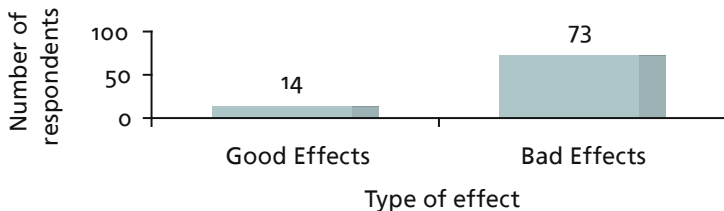
Graph 2 - Degree of effect noted by Govan residents



What was the nature of the effect?

- Far more people noted bad effects than good effects

Graph 3 - Number of respondents noting good/bad effects



Key good effects noted

- Social in moderation and can help to relax in good company

Key bad effects noted

- Causes increase in:
 - ▶ Litter (particularly bottles - dangerous for younger children and pets)
 - ▶ Violence, antisocial behaviour (general disorder)
 - ▶ Noise (particularly young people at night)
 - ▶ Underage sex, rapes, sexual assaults
 - ▶ Depression
- Intimidating at particular times to go out – from Thursday evening through to Sunday and most nights
- Children’s play parks largely unusable due to broken bottles and vandalism of equipment
- Family breakdown
- Negative health effect in community
- Brings area down (reputation, resulting in prospective new residents unwilling to accept housing offers in area)

How can we improve things?

- 2 people felt you simply could not improve things with both explaining, “it is a culture . . . you can’t do anything”
- Most people who named a service stated AA but very few could say where meetings were held’

Key ideas for improving things

- Grant less licences and enforce licensing regulations more rigorously

- Increase police on beat and community police
- 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
- More education/awareness
- Things to do for young people
- Bring back some form of national service and/or increase prospects of young people through enforced training, job and education schemes for under 21s
- Increase prices and/or limit amounts of alcohol sold to one person
- More parental education and ways of enforcing parental control

Where there any areas people felt were more affected?

- 29 people felt the effects were all over Govan
- 27 people felt it was mainly around areas that sell alcohol

Specific areas noted

- Around main shopping centre (older drinkers)
- Elderpark Street
- Crossloan Terrace
- Ground adjacent to Helen Street - near Robert Drive
- Area behind primary school adjacent to Govan Road
- Napier Place/Terrace and Street
- Robert Street

Groups of people more affected

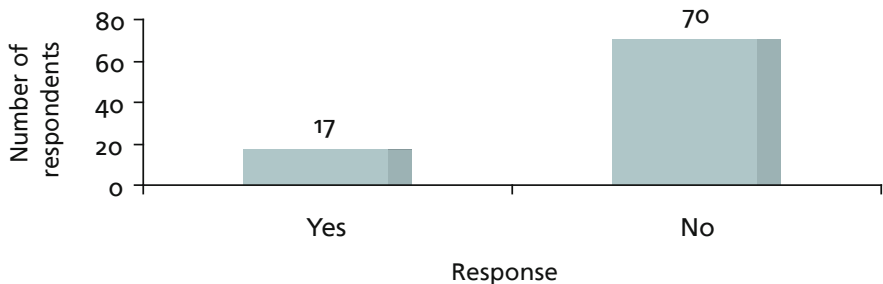
Most people felt two key groups were more affected:

- ▶ Young People – particularly drinking alcohol through boredom
- ▶ Elderly – intimidation fear going out at certain times

Do you know of alcohol services in your area?

- AA, Al Teen were noted most
- Govan Youth Information Project (GYIP)
- The Mungo Foundation
- South Community Alcohol Support Service (CASS)

Graph 4 - number of people stating they had/had not heard of service(s) in their area: Govan





For further information contact:

**Alcohol Development Worker
Glasgow Community & Safety
Services
Westergate
11 Hope Street
Glasgow G2 6AB
0141 276 7652**

**NHSGGC Health Improvement
Team
(Alcohol and Drugs)
Dalian House
350 St Vincent Street
Glasgow G3 8YZ
0141 201 4745
0141 201 4986**

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



**This research was co-funded by the Communities Sub-group and
the Greater Glasgow and Clyde Alcohol Action Team**