

Alcohol and Communities Survey



The Ripple Effect Parkhead

How Does Alcohol Affect Communities in the City of Glasgow?

Parkhead

Prefix

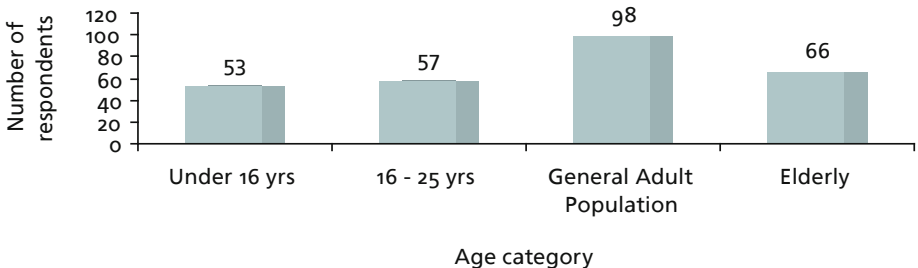
Through direct community consultation, the research examined whether people in Glasgow City felt alcohol affected their community, and if so, to identify and examine these effects. Like the ripple effect created by a pebble in a pond the 'ripple effect' of alcohol was found to go far beyond the individual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

Who did we speak to in Parkhead?

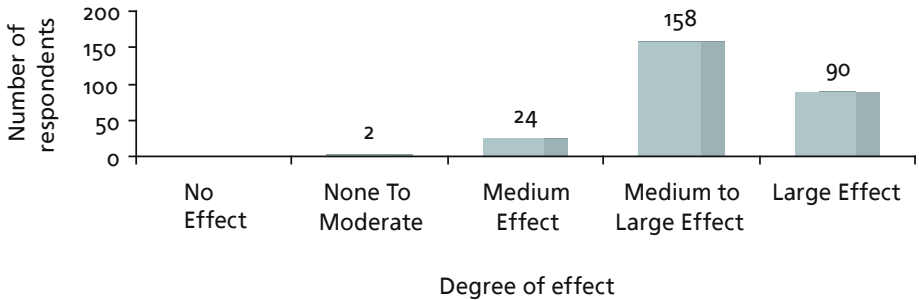
We spoke to 274 residents in the Parkhead area. The dispersion of age categories is shown in the graph below.

Graph 1 - Age dispersion: Parkhead



Did Parkhead residents feel alcohol affected their area?

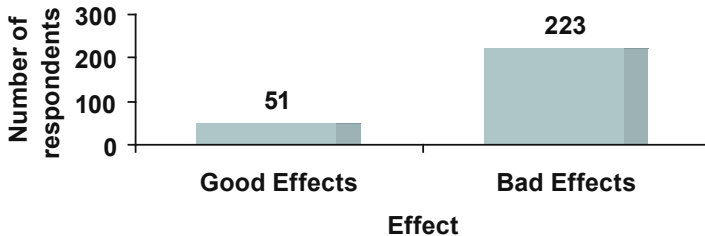
Graph 2 - Degree of effect noted by Parkhead residents



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): Parkhead



Key good effects noted

- Social in moderation and can help to relax in good company
- It's Fun/Buzz etc
- Can help you to forget things

Key bad effects noted

All 274 people noted at least one of the following bad effects. Most people noted several.

- Causes increase in:
 - ▶ Litter (particularly bottles - dangerous for younger children and pets)
 - ▶ Violence, antisocial behaviour (general disorder)
 - ▶ Territorialism – frequency of occurrence and outcomes for those involved e.g. more severe injuries
 - ▶ Car theft and street crime in general
 - ▶ Noise (particularly young people at night)
 - ▶ Underage sex, rapes, sexual assaults
 - ▶ Girls increasingly involved in behaviour traditionally associated with young men
 - ▶ Depression and suicides
- 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
- Abuse/neglect in families and family breakdown, unpaid bills
- Sustains poverty cycle for individuals and families
- Negative health effect in community
- Urinating in the street

How can we improve things?

- 31 people said they did not know of any way to do this
- 5 people felt you simply could not improve things with all of these explaining, "it is a culture...you can't do anything"
- The remaining 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
- 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 and 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
- 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

Are there any areas people felt were more affected?

- 74 people felt the effects were all over Parkhead
- 37 people felt park areas were more affected
- 47 people felt it was mainly around areas that sell alcohol

Specific areas noted

- Alexandra Parade (especially for young people asking others to buy for them)
- Meadowpark Street
- Armadale Street
- Top end of Dennistoun
- Tollcross and Parkhead Cross
- Duke Street
- Reid Vale Swallow Cafe

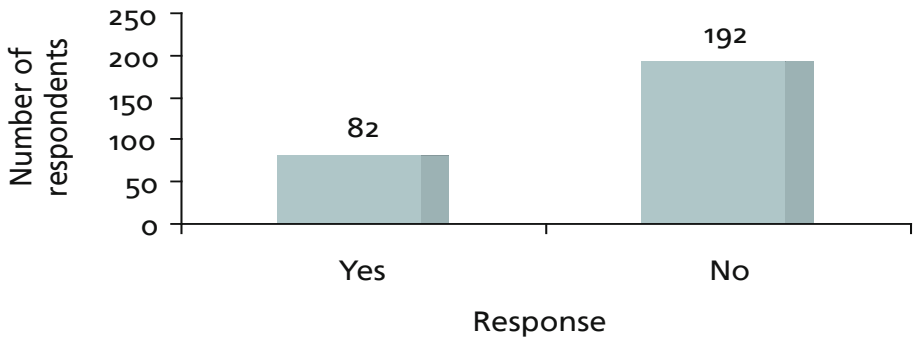
Groups of people more affected

- 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
- 43 people felt it affected all age groups in different ways

Do you know of alcohol services in your area?

- AA and sister services
- Parkhead hospital
- SADIES(Safer Alcohol Drinking In the East end)
- Community Addiction Team (CAT)
- Safe Haven

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



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



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the Greater Glasgow and Clyde Alcohol Action Team**