

Alcohol and Communities Survey



The Ripple Effect Pollokshaws

How Does Alcohol Affect Communities in the City of Glasgow?

Pollokshaws

Prefix

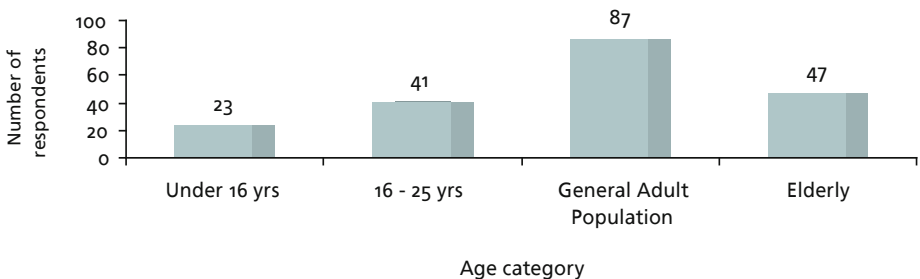
Through direct community consultation, the research examined whether people in Glasgow City felt alcohol affected their community, and if so, to identify and examine these effects. Like the ripple effect created by a pebble in a pond the 'ripple effect' of alcohol was found to go far beyond the individual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

Who did we speak to in Pollokshaws?

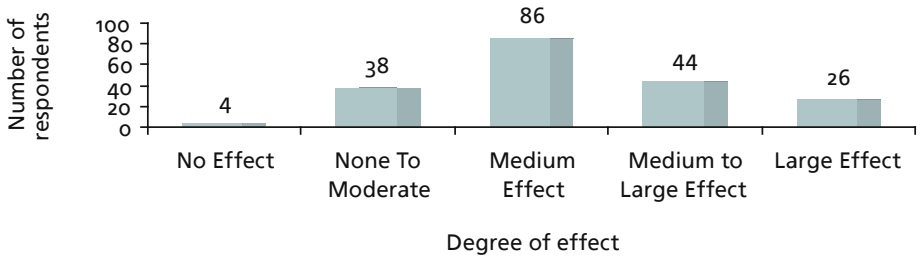
We spoke to 198 residents in the Pollokshaws area. The dispersion of age categories is shown in the graph below.

Graph 1 - Age dispersion: Pollokshaws



Did Pollokshaws residents feel alcohol affected their area?

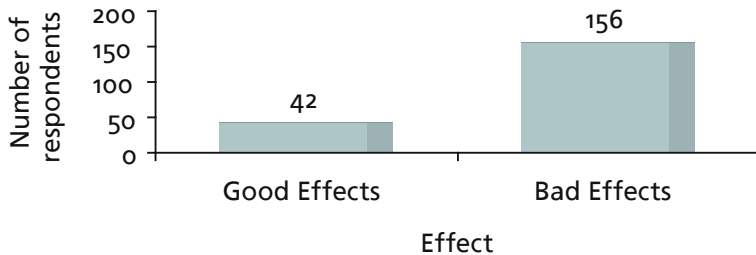
Graph 2 - Degree of effect noted by Pollokshaws residents



What was the nature of the effect?

- Far more people noted bad effects than good effects

Graph 3 - People noting good/bad effect(s): Pollokshaws



Key good effects noted

- Social in moderation and can help to relax in good company
- Brings people together

Key bad effects noted

- Causes increase in:
 - ▶ Litter (particularly bottles - dangerous for younger children and pets)
 - ▶ Violence, antisocial behaviour (general disorder)
 - ▶ 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
- Intimidation/abuse by young people to purchase alcohol for them

How can we improve things?

- 21 people said they did not know of any way to do this
- 10 people felt you simply could not improve things with 6 of these explaining, "it is a culture...you can't do anything"
- The remaining 167 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
- Increase police on the 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 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
- More CCTV cameras that work and more street lighting in secluded lanes/back streets

Were there any areas people felt were more affected?

- 53 people felt the effects were all over
- 59 people felt park areas were more affected
- 72 people felt it was mainly around areas that sell alcohol
- 9 people said they did not know

People were particularly reluctant to offer specific locations in Pollokshaws. No specific streets/areas were noted during the street survey. The places detailed below were noted at the areas validation event.

Specific areas noted

- Riverford Road (especially at Riverbank Street end and further along near Well Green)
- Pollokshaws Road (at St Ronan's Drive)
- End of Birness Drive
- Shawbridge Street (several areas along street mostly between Nether Auldhouse Road and Shawholm Crescent but also at top end of street adjacent to Christian Street)
- Beside railway track at Pollokshaws Avenue

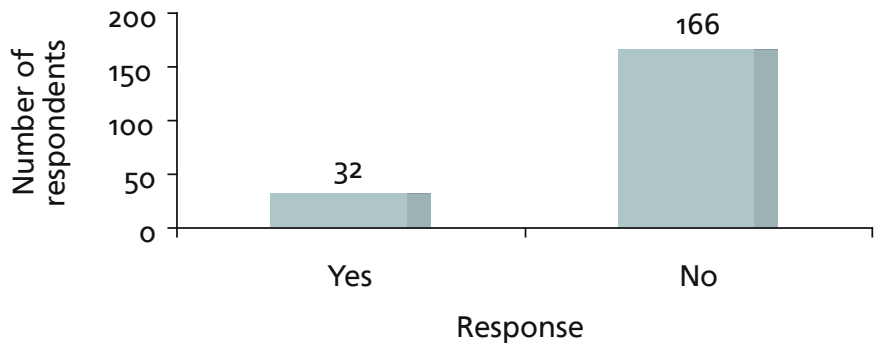
Groups of people more affected

- Most people felt two key groups were more affected:
 - ▶ Young People – particularly drinking alcohol through boredom
 - ▶ Elderly – intimidation fear going out at certain times
- 63 People felt it affected all age groups in different ways

Do you know of alcohol services in your area?

- AA, Al Teen were noted most

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



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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**