

Alcohol and Communities Survey



# The Ripple Effect Gorbals

How Does Alcohol Affect Communities in the City of Glasgow?

# Gorbals

## Prefix

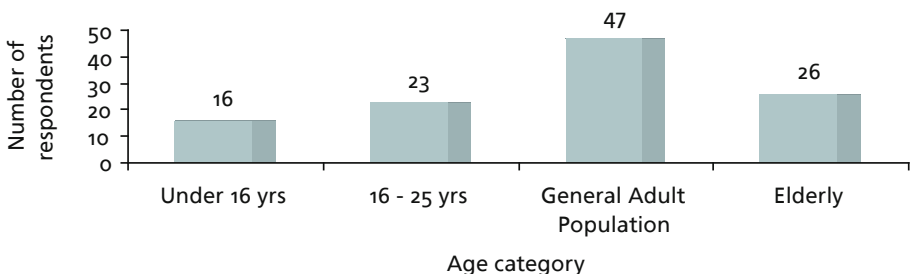
Through direct community consultation, the research examined whether people in Glasgow City felt alcohol affected their community, and if so, to identify and examine these effects. Like the ripple effect created by a pebble in a pond the 'ripple effect' of alcohol was found to go far beyond the individual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

## Who did we speak to in the Gorbals?

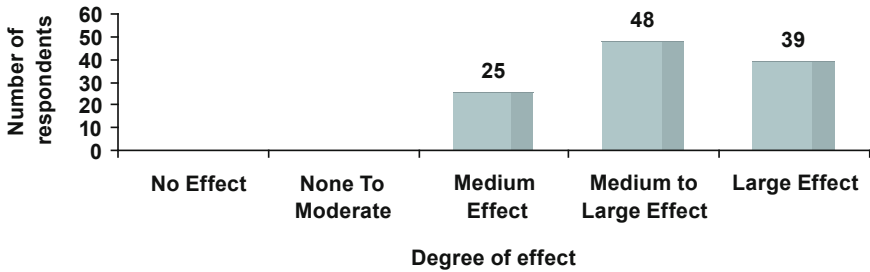
We spoke to 112 residents in the Gorbals area. The dispersion of age categories is shown in the graph below.

Graph 1 - Age dispersion: Gorbals



## Did Gorbals residents feel alcohol affected their area?

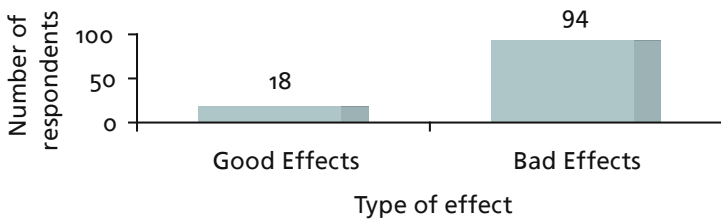
Graph 2 - Degree of effect noted by Gorbals residents



## 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
- It's Fun/Buzz etc
- Can help you to forget things

## Key bad effects noted

- Causes increase in:
  - ▶ Litter (particularly bottles - dangerous for younger children and pets)
  - ▶ Violence, antisocial behaviour (general disorder)
  - ▶ Noise (particularly youths at night)
  - ▶ Underage sex, rapes, sexual assaults
  - ▶ Depression
  - ▶ Territorialism – frequency of occurrence and outcomes for those involved e.g. more severe injuries
- 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
- Abuse/Neglect in families and family breakdown, unpaid bills
- Sustains poverty cycle for individuals and families
- Negative health effect in community
- Negative effect on access to Accident and Emergency

## How can we improve things?

- 7 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 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
- 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
- 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 and more street lighting

## Were there any areas people felt were more affected?

- 21 people felt the effects were all over Gorbals
- 19 people felt it was mainly around areas that sell alcohol

## Specific areas noted

- Norfolk Court
- Glasgow Green at Greendyke Street
- Clyde Street at Bridgegate end and adjacent to Saint Enoch Centre
- Spring Way at Old Rutherglen Road
- Top of Old Rutherglen Road
- Pine Place
- Commercial Road at Ballater Street
- Between Waterside Street and McNeil Street
- Between Browside Road and Crown Street
- End of Cumberland Street at Manse Lane
- Bridge Street at Norfolk Street

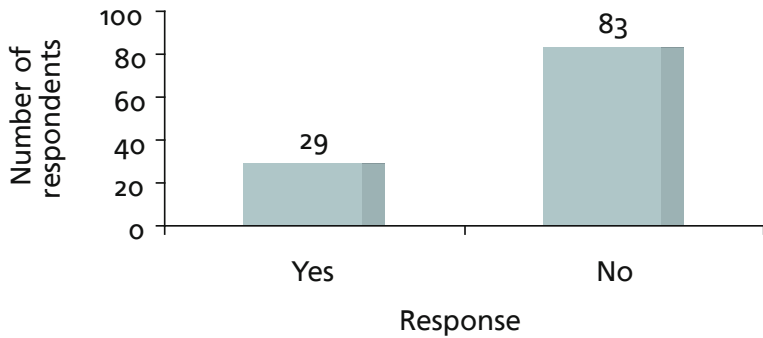
## Groups of people more affected

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

## Do you know of alcohol services in your area?

- Most people who named a service stated AA but very few could say where meetings were held

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



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**Electronic versions of The Ripple Effect  
documents are available on  
[www.glasgowgrand.org](http://www.glasgowgrand.org)**



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