

# Alcohol problem profiles for the City of Edinburgh Neighbourhood Partnerships

## Leith February 2015



### Introduction

The Neighbourhood Partnership area of Leith is located in the north of the City. The area covers the intermediate zones<sup>1</sup> of Lorne; Broughton; Hermitage Park & Prospect Bank; South Leith; Bonnington & Pilrig; Great Junction Street; Leith Docks; and North Leith & Newhaven. There are approximately 43,800 people living in Leith. The area has below average rates of employment, housing, health, crime and education, skills and training than the rest of Scotland. Leith Walk has been highlighted as having poor outcomes for health, including alcohol-related hospital admissions, and crime, including violence, minor assault and vandalism.

The purpose of this report is to provide a summary of how alcohol might affect the area, based on evidence gathered for a larger report on overprovision. Data for the area is available in terms of licensed premises, alcohol consumption, alcohol-related

<sup>1</sup> Intermediate zones (IZ) were created for use with Scottish Neighbourhood Statistics (SNS) as a level between data zones (500 to 1000 people) and large scale local authorities. IZs contain between 2500 and 6000 people (Source: <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2005/02/20732/53083>)

hospital admissions, fires in which alcohol or drugs are recorded, road traffic accidents, and alcohol-related crimes.

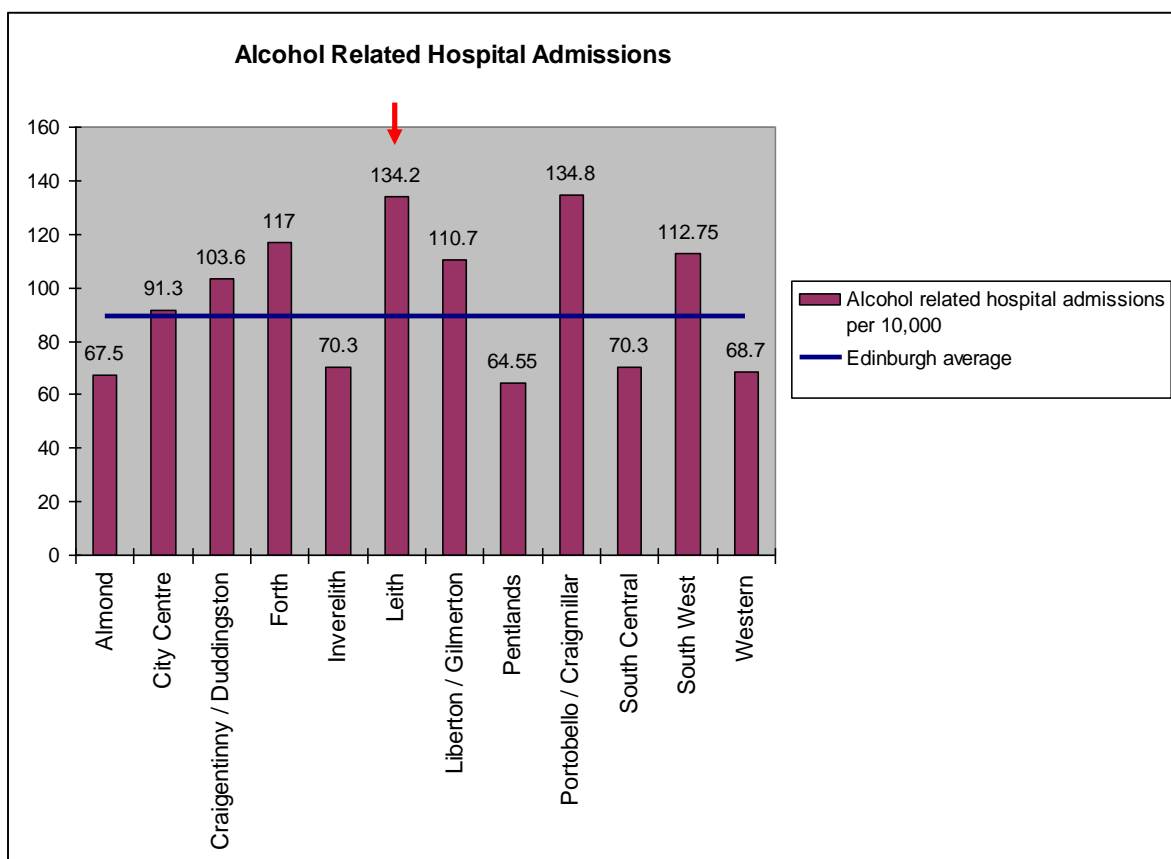
### **Profile – Edinburgh City**

- Edinburgh has a high rate of licensed premises, with 39.0 licensed premises per 10,000 residents.
- 47% of adults in Edinburgh report drinking outwith the Government guidelines.
- Young people in Edinburgh are more likely to report binge drinking than the rest of Scotland.
- Pedestrians who are drunk are more likely to be involved in a collision in areas with higher provision of licensed premises, particularly the City Centre.
- Alcohol-related discharges in Edinburgh are higher than in Midlothian and East Lothian, where they are reducing. In Edinburgh, 91% of all alcohol-related hospital admissions were emergency admissions, with a peak in admissions on Sundays.
- Edinburgh has the highest mortality rate for deaths in which alcohol is the main cause (such as alcoholic liver disease) and for those in which it is a factor (such as certain cancers).
- Edinburgh has the highest number of assaults to ambulance staff, making it the “most dangerous place” for paramedics in Scotland.
- There are seven areas which have high rates of on-sales and off-sales premises, alcohol-related hospital admissions and alcohol-related crimes.

## Profile – Leith

- There are a total of 247 licensed premises in Leith (July 2013), 164 on-sales (of which 85 are pubs) and 74 off-sales (of which 42 are convenience stores)
- There are 34.2 on-sales premises per 10,000 residents over the age of 18, which is higher than the Edinburgh rate of 27.5; there are 15.4 off-sales premises per 10,000 residents which is again higher than the rate for Edinburgh of 10.4
- Leith has higher alcohol-related hospital admissions rates per 10,000 residents than the Edinburgh average (134.2 per 10,000 residents compared to 89.4), and has the second highest rate in the city, as shown in figure 1

**Figure 1. Alcohol-related hospital admissions per 10,000 of the population by neighbourhood partnership area and Edinburgh average (GROS/ScotPHO/HIU)**



- Alcohol-related hospital admissions per 10,000 residents are much higher in North Leith & Newhaven (163.9), South Leith (155.4), Great Junction Street

(153.7), Bonnington & Pilrig (151.9) and Lorne (148.5). Only one area of the 8 areas in the Neighbourhood Partnership is lower than the Edinburgh average.

- Of the 77 fires that occurred in Edinburgh where people were suspected to be under the influence, 3 (4%) occurred in Leith, of whom none were injured or had to be rescued (data from April 2012 – Jan 2013)
- Eleven of the 84 incidents in which a drunk pedestrian was injured in a collision with a motor vehicle occurred in Leith, of which one was fatal (data from April 2012 – March 2013)
- A total of 30 road traffic accidents occurred in Edinburgh in which alcohol was involved, 4 of which were in Leith (data from April 2012 – March 2013)
- Alcohol-related crimes are slightly higher in Leith than the Edinburgh average, with 124.0 and 106.5 per 10,000 residents, respectively (data from Jan – Dec 2012)
- Great Junction Street has one of the highest rates of alcohol-related crimes in the whole city, with 293.2 per 10,000 residents
- Table 1 shows the rates per 10,000 residents of on-sales premises, off-sales premises, alcohol-related hospital admissions and alcohol-related crimes

**Table 1. Licensed premises, alcohol-related hospital admissions and alcohol-related crimes per intermediate zone, areas highlighted in red are higher than those for Edinburgh as a whole** (*Police Scotland/ GROS/ScotPHO/HIU*)

	On-sales per 10,000 population	Off-sales per 10,000 population	Alcohol-related hospital admissions per 10,000 population	Alcohol-related crimes per 10,000 population
<b>Edinburgh City</b>	<b>27.5</b>	<b>10.4</b>	<b>89.4</b>	<b>106.5</b>
<b>Leith NP</b>	<b>34.2</b>	<b>15.4</b>	<b>134.2 (mean)</b>	<b>124.0</b>
Lorne	23.5	12.5	148.5	119.9
Broughton	16.4	10.1	95.7	63.2
Hermitage Park & Prospect Bank	8.3	8.3	82.2	39.8
South Leith	35.7	19.9	155.4	195.0
Bonnington & Pilrig	16.2	12.1	151.9	84.6

Great Junction Street	39.9	10.0	153.7	293.2
Leith Docks	76.1	16.3	122.3	138.5
North Leith & Newhaven	28.1	14.0	163.9	101.6

- Seven areas of the city have been identified as being highly problematic in terms of the density of licensed premises and alcohol-related harm; South Leith and Leith Docks are two of these areas

## Conclusions

Leith has a number of problems affecting the area in terms of alcohol use. There are high rates of off-licensed premises, which are thought to be more problematic in terms of excessive alcohol consumption than on-sales due to lower priced alcohol, and fewer restrictions around consumption; on-sales licensed premises provide alcohol in specific measures and will stop serving someone if they are intoxicated, while the amount of alcohol consumed at home is controlled by the drinker. The high rates of alcohol-related hospital admissions for the majority of the Neighbourhood Partnership area may be due to high rates of deprivation. Alcohol-related crime rates in Great Junction Street are far higher than the average for Edinburgh and for Leith. Two of the seven most problematic areas of the city, South Leith and Leith Docks, are in the Leith Neighbourhood Partnership area.

## References:

ISD Scotland (2010). Alcohol Statistics Scotland 2011. Available from [http://www.alcoholinformation.isdscotland.org/alcohol\\_misuse/files/alcohol\\_stats\\_bullitin\\_2011\\_updated\\_110413.pdf](http://www.alcoholinformation.isdscotland.org/alcohol_misuse/files/alcohol_stats_bullitin_2011_updated_110413.pdf)

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