

**HEALTH SCRUTINY PANEL  
23 OCTOBER 2006**

**NORTH EAST ALCOHOL STATEMENT OF PRIORITIES**

**PURPOSE OF THE REPORT**

1. To raise the Panel's awareness of the recently published consultation on the North East Alcohol Misuse Statement of Priorities. It is a joint consultation between the Government Office North East and the North East Strategic Health Authority.
2. To provide the Panel with an opportunity to contribute to the consultation process.

**RECOMMENDATIONS**

3. That the Panel notes the content of the accompanying documents relating to the subject matter and consultation.
4. That the Panel considers making a contribution to be fed into the consultation process.

**CONSIDERATION OF REPORT**

5. As the Panel has heard in previous pieces of work, alcohol misuse can have a significant impact on individual's health and the health and vitality of the wider community. Whilst evidence suggests that alcohol misuse is very much a national problem, it is a particular cause of concern within the North East region.
6. Government Office North East and the North East Strategic Health Authority have launched a consultation exercise on a North East Alcohol Misuse Statement of Priorities. A letter from the regional Director of Public Health, together with the draft statement is attached to this report and it is not proposed to duplicate the content in this report.

7. It is suggested that the Panel considers the attached documentation and may wish to make a submission to the consultation exercise. Should the Panel wish to make a submission, its content can be agreed within the meeting and then submitted before the deadline of 3 November 2006.

## **BACKGROUND PAPERS**

8. Please see the attached papers for detailed information on the consultation exercise into the North East Alcohol Misuse Statement of Priorities.

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