

# NORTHUMBERLAND

## DRUG ACTION TEAM

C/o Berwick Borough Council  
Council Offices  
Wallace Green  
Berwick-upon-Tweed  
Northumberland, TD15 1ED

Tel: 01289 330044  
Fax: 01289 330540  
Mobile: 07763583854  
E-mail: [pb@berwick-upon-tweed.gov.uk](mailto:pb@berwick-upon-tweed.gov.uk)



Wednesday 8 January, 2003

SU/Doh Consultation  
Room 4.6  
Admiralty Arch  
The Mall  
London  
SW1A 2WH

Dear Sirs,

### NATIONAL ALCOHOL HARM REDUCTION STRATEGY – Lgaler1 412/02

Further to the LGA correspondence of the 27 November 2002, please find to follow our considered response to your consultation document.

1. Issues pertaining to general alcohol misuse issues are discussed within the Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership (CDRP). The Borough Council also co-ordinates a Drug Reference Group (DRG) which will support the CDRP. An appropriate Officer will deal with specific problems, depending upon what the problem is, and whether there is an urgency to do so.
2. The Borough Council's Crime Audit has identified alcohol has a priority, and therefore has included it within the Crime Reduction Strategy.
3. The town centre of Berwick-upon-Tweed and the outlying villages within the Borough have an increased Police presence during 'busy periods'. This works reasonably well in stifling alcohol related crime and disorder.
4. The Borough Council enjoys a proactive relationship with the local Area Commander and her management Team.
5. Street cleaning is contracted out to an external company, who has a duty to clean the town centre streets early each morning. This has very little impact on the previous night's activities.
6. Berwick-upon-Tweed, as a Borough is a classical example of a rural area. Large geographical areas and rural isolation of residents (in outlying areas) are particularly problematic. Deploying Police resources during problematic periods can also be troublesome, although this is a low priority due to the number of occurrences.
7. The Council is still awaiting further guidance in relation to the reform of the Licensing Laws.

I hope this is useful, however, if you require further information, please don't hesitate to contact me at the above address or telephone number.

Yours sincerely,

Paul Bolton  
DRG DEVELOPMENT WORKER (NORTH)

PB-LG412-02

Page 1 of 2

Paul Bolton – DRG DEVELOPMENT WORKER (NORTH)

Chair: Ms Jill Dixon

Coordinator: Miss Vanessa Bainbridge