



The City of Liverpool

- 2 FEB 2010

Liverpool 
Primary Care Trust

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Our Ref:
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Date 27th January 2010

Dear Claire

Re: TOO CHEAP, TOO STRONG, TOO AVAILABLE

I'd like to echo the sentiments expressed by Professor Ian Gilmore regarding the above report and thank Liverpool Link for providing a valuable contribution to what represents a significant challenge for the city of Liverpool and partners.

I have to say the timing could not be better in terms of the work that will shortly be taking place to review and develop a new alcohol strategy. Of course as a member of the Alcohol Strategy Group Liverpool Link will play a key part in that process. I would go so far to say that the Alcohol Strategy Group would echo the sentiments expressed in the reports closing summary.

If I focus specifically on the Treatment and Interventions recommendations some confirm our own review findings and that in itself is re-assuring. Indeed work relating to treatment pathways and improved screening in Primary Care has commenced and we will be embarking on system redesign in other areas of activity. However there are a number of recommendations that I know as commissioners we will find extremely useful to consider and explore further. Partnership work and thinking beyond the traditional silos of activity will be vital to ensure we achieve positive outcomes and our aspirations for reducing alcohol related harm.

As for the other recommendations I will be sending a copy of the report to each work stream lead requesting comments. I would also expect that we will be inviting Liverpool LINK to present the findings to the Alcohol Strategy Group in the very near future.

Can I take this opportunity to thank once again the Alcohol Task and Finish Group for its contribution to this important and challenging issue?

Regards

Tom Knight
Head of Integrated Commissioning, Addictions and Offender Health