

ALMR Press Notice

LIB DEMS MUST STOP SCAPEGOATING PUBS

Friday 8 August 2008. Release time: immediate

The Association of Licensed Multiple Retailers (ALMR) has responded to the Liberal Democrats' Youth Crime Proposals, accusing the party of making pubs and bars the scapegoat.

Liberal Democrat suggestions include empowering local councils to levy taxes on businesses which allow street disorder, hypothecating the revenues for crime prevention, and introducing a 'one strike and you're out' rule for licensees who sell alcohol to under-18s.

Commenting, ALMR Chief Executive Nick Bish said:

"These headline-seeking gimmicks would add to the burden facing our community pubs without getting to the causes of anti-social behaviour. The Alcohol Disorder Zone Plus proposals are particularly misguided.

If they want to be taken more seriously, the Lib Dems should instead turn their attention to the accessibility of cheap, unsupervised alcohol to the young via below-cost supermarket sales – and to enforcing the countless laws available to authorities already."

<ENDS>

Notes for editors

- *ALMR* is the only national trade body solely dedicated to representing the interests of pub and bar operators, and to providing them with business support and advice. It has almost 100 member companies, operating over 15,000 outlets.

For more information please contact:

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