Commitment to the European Alcohol and Health Forum

Customer Unit Awareness Campaign

Dr Martin Rawlings MBE Director, Pubs British Beer & Pub Association



Background

- BBPA identified that the on-trade (pubs, clubs) could increase alcohol unit information available to customers, to inform them as to the units contained within the most popular pub drink servings
- Process began by BBPA in 2010, working in partnership with Drinkaware (UK alcohol awareness charity) to design most appropriate messages – to maximise acceptance by the trade and customers
- Submitted as an outline commitment to the Forum October 2010
- Formed part of the BBPA's pledge to the UK Public Health Responsibility deal



Forum Commitment

• The Forum aim most relevant to the commitment is

'informing, educating and raising awareness on the impact of harmful and hazardous alcohol consumption, and on appropriate consumption patterns'

- By offering this commitment, the industry through the BBPA (and in partnership with Drinkaware) will be able to promote unit awareness activity in the pub sector, widening out into the on-trade in general, with partner organisations providing support and monitoring the implementation and working of the scheme
- The campaign is envisaged to take place over five years in order to bring other trade sectors into the project namely bars, restaurants, hotels and nightclubs through the trade representation bodies, and national Government departments such as the Department of Health.
- Two monitoring reports have been submitted to the Forum so far









330ml bottle 5% A BV beer, 125/175/250ml glass 12% A BV wine, 25ml single/50ml double 40% A BV spirit (rounded to the nearest unit). The UK Chief Medical Officers recommend: women should not regularly drink more than 2-3 units a day; and men should not regularly drink more than 3-4 units a day.



Challenges

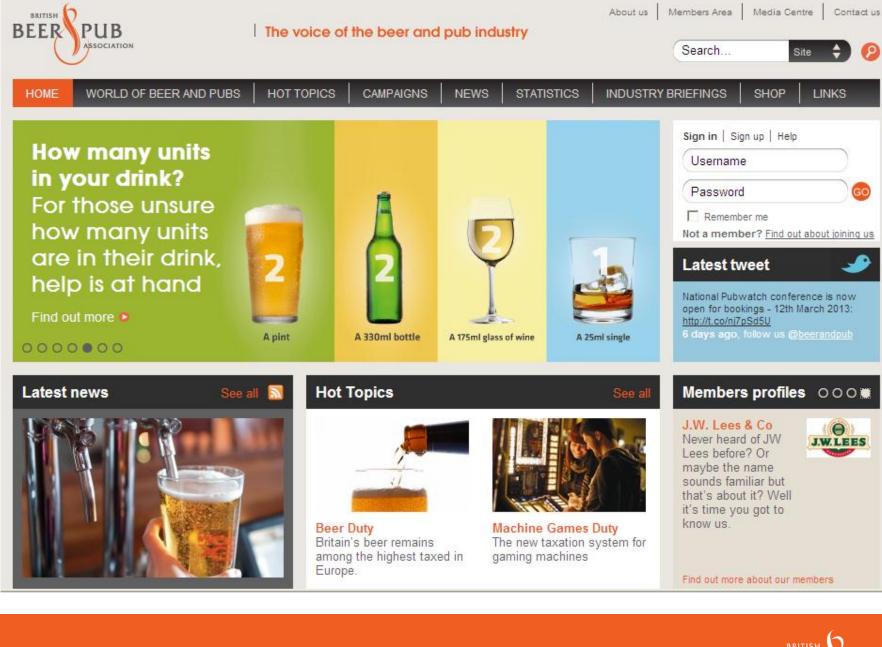
- Following pressure to include health messaging on the materials, the design was changed to reflect these considerations consumers can be put off by an overly lecturing in approach (as found in BBPA pilot and focus groups)
- Roll-out so far: we have taken an interim survey of member progress, this showed c.130,000 posters, drip mats and tent cards sent out to pubs with BBPA bespoke branding, with other companies producing their own branded materials
- Challenge is spreading information across all types of pub operation and other on-trade retailers (clubs, hotels, restaurants)
- Customer engagement with the campaign?



Going forward

- Too early to evaluate impact still learning
- Engagement of public health authorities
- Regulatory interference could be damaging if forced on premises to display





www.beerandpub.com



This paper was produced for a meeting organized by Health & Consumers DG and represents the views of its author on the subject. These views have not been adopted or in any way approved by the Commission and should not be relied upon as a statement of the Commission's or Health & Consumers DG's views. The European Commission does not guarantee the accuracy of the data included in this paper, nor does it accept responsibility for any use made thereof.