

3. NATIONAL CONTEXT

National Performance Framework⁴

The Scottish Government has health as one of the strategic objectives within the National Performance Framework, and there is a National Indicator which measures the reduction in alcohol-related hospital admissions annually.

- **Strategic Objective – Healthier**

Help people to sustain and improve their health, especially in disadvantaged communities, ensuring better, local and faster access to health care.

- **National Outcome**

We live longer, healthier lives.

- **National Indicator**

Reduce Alcohol Related Hospital Admissions

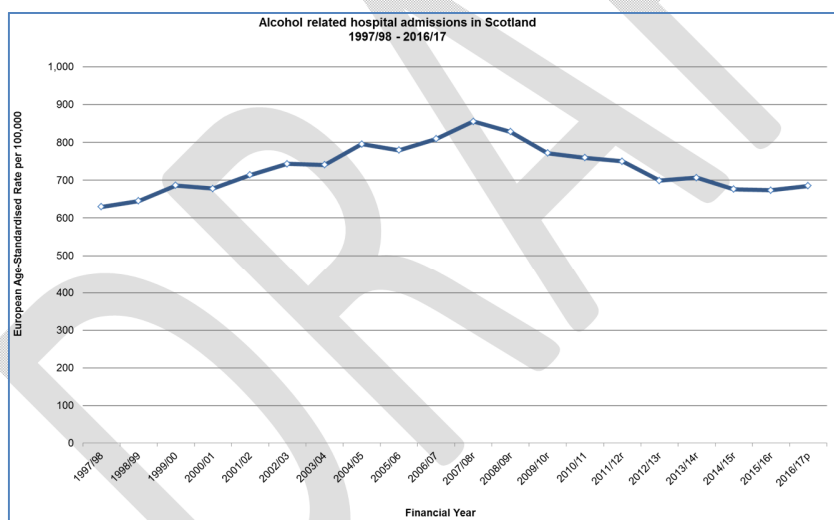


Figure 1: Alcohol related hospital admissions per 100,000 population in Scotland (Source: Information Services Division Scotland)

- **Indicator Measure**

The number of general acute inpatient and day case discharges per 100,000 population with an alcohol-related diagnosis

- **Current Status**

⁴ <http://www.gov.scot/About/Performance/purposestratobjs>

The rate of alcohol-related hospital admissions in 2016/17 was 685.2 per 100,000 population. This was 12 per 100,000 (1.8%) higher than the 2015/16 figure of 673.2 per 100,000. As the change was more than 10 per 100,000 the current status changes from 'Performance Maintaining' to 'Performance Worsening'. Prior to this there had been a steady decline in alcohol-related admissions since a high point in 2007/08.⁵

Alcohol-related hospital admissions are around three times more common in males compared to females. The rate of hospital stays in 2016/17 was 989.1 per 100,000 for males compared to 381.4 per 100,000 for females. Males accounted for 71% of alcohol-related hospital stays in 2016/17.

Scotland Performs: NHSScotland⁶

NHS Scotland has developed a number of Local Delivery Plan (LDP) Standards, which were issued during the 2015/16 financial year. Two of the standards are linked to alcohol:

- **Drug and Alcohol Treatment Waiting Times**

The LDP Standard is that 90% of clients will wait no longer than 3 weeks from referral received to appropriate drug or alcohol treatment that supports their recovery. For the quarter ending September 2017, 93.8% of patients were seen within 3 weeks of referral. For NHS Grampian the figure was 95% for the same period.

Nationally the proportion of patients being seen with 3 weeks of referral has gradually reduced each quarter since September 2015 (over 95%) to the end of September 2017 (just below 94%). However, the target of 90% is still being exceeded nationally (Figure 2). NHS Grampian recorded the 7th highest percentage for the quarter ending September 2017, while 5 of the NHS boards failed to meet the standard.

⁵ <http://www.gov.scot/About/Performance/scotPerforms/indicator/alcohol>

⁶ <http://www.gov.scot/About/Performance/scotPerforms/NHSScotlandperformance>

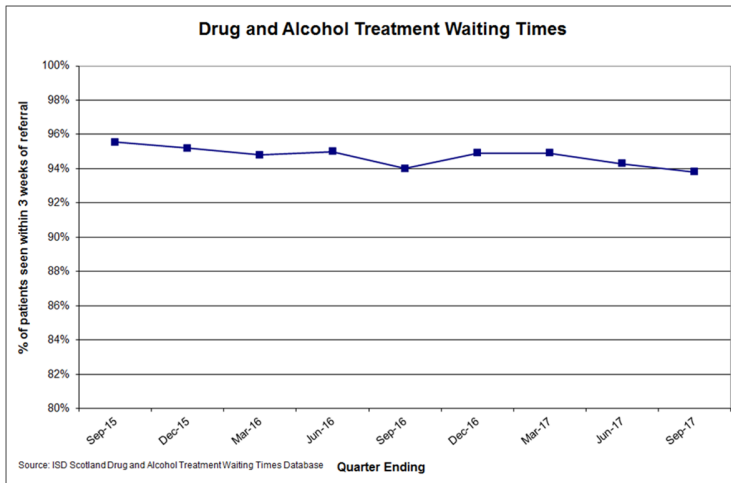


Figure 2: Drug and alcohol treatment waiting times - NHS Scotland (Quarter ending September 2015 - September 2017) (ISD data)⁷

Note that the Moray Alcohol and Drug Partnership (Moray ADP) has consistently exceeded this target in recent quarters. Figure 3 illustrates that from the quarter ending 31 December 2015 for most quarters all clients receive treatment within 3 weeks. During 2016 this reduced to 98.3% for the lowest quarter. This would suggest that Moray ADP has adequate resources to cope with the demand for its services, and the trend is in stark contrast to the national position.

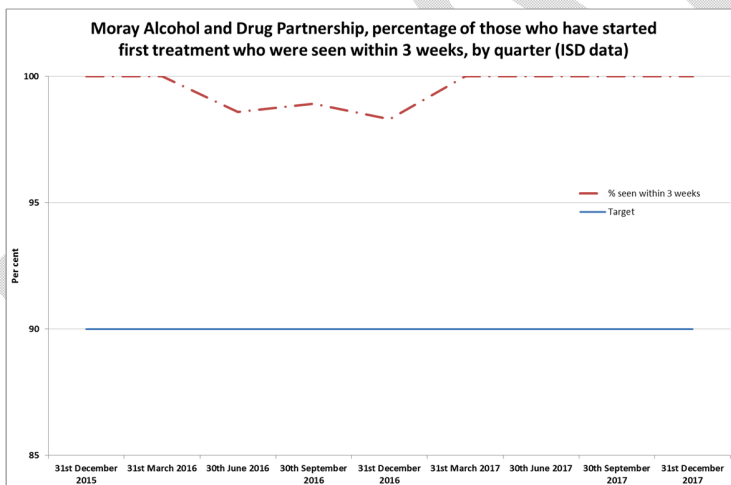


Figure 3: Moray ADP percentage of alcohol misuse clients starting treatment within 3 weeks

- **Alcohol Brief Interventions**

The standard is that NHS Boards and their Alcohol and Drug Partnership (ADP) partners should maintain the same total level of target delivery of ABIs as under the HEAT H4 target for 2011-12 (i.e. 61,081 ABIs nationally). It is expected that at least 80% of delivery (i.e. a minimum of 48,865 ABIs) will continue to be in the priority settings.

⁷ <http://www.gov.scot/About/Performance/scotPerforms/NHSScotlandperformance/DATWT-LDP>

For the financial year 2016/17, 86,560 interventions were delivered, equivalent to 142% of standard. Of these, 55,950 were delivered in the 3 priority settings, equivalent to 92% of the priority standard. The number of ABIs delivered in Scotland fell for the third consecutive year to 86,560 from a peak of 104,356 in 2013/14 (Figure 4).

In NHS Grampian there were 7,204 interventions, exceeding the target of 6,658.

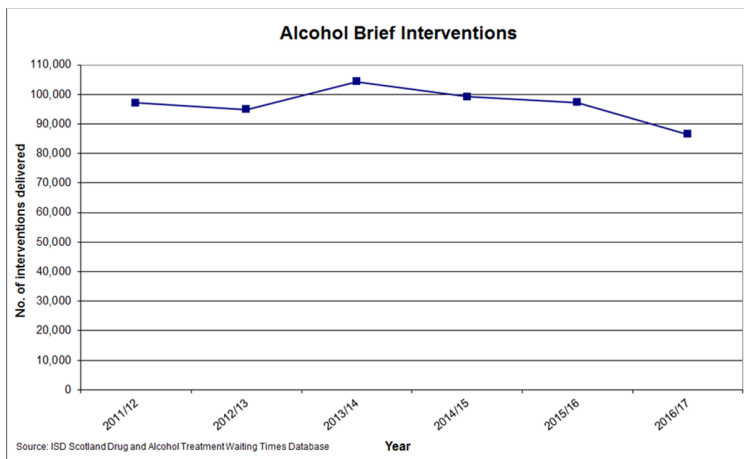


Figure 4: Alcohol Brief Interventions - NHS Scotland (2011/12 to 2016/17) (ISD data)⁸

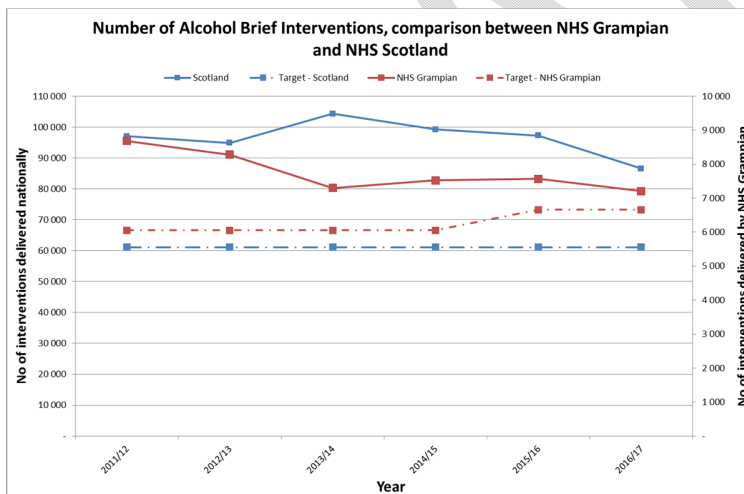


Figure 5: Alcohol Brief Interventions - NHS Scotland and NHS Grampian (ISD data)

Data has not been found for this measure for Moray, or the Moray ADP, but as Figure 5 illustrates, although the number of interventions has reduced since 2011/12 the number still exceeds the agreed target for NHS Grampian.

⁸ <http://www.gov.scot/About/Performance/scotPerforms/NHSScotlandperformance/ABI-LDP>