



LVA utterly condemns drinking on street scenes which jeopardise public health

The Licensed Vintners Association (LVA) utterly condemns the scenes of drinking on streets that took place in Dublin City Centre last night. This is in no way acceptable and completely jeopardises public health, given the lack of social distancing observed.

Unfortunately scenes like this have been taking place over the last few weekends in Dublin city centre. We are reminding pubs who are serving takeout of their responsibilities. Legal advice issued by the Gardaí in May said that any drinks purchased as takeaways must be consumed more than 100 metres from the pub which sold the alcohol. The advice also indicated the Gardaí have the power to confiscate drink being consumed on the road or in a public place.

We are also aware that members of the public are bringing alcohol purchased from off-licences with them to these locations. Such drinking in public spaces presents a terrible image of our city centre. It is potentially extremely damaging to public health. It also has a negative impact on the efforts being made by responsible businesses who are beginning the process of recovery.

The LVA fully supports measures being taken by the Gardaí to manage these issues.

Separately, we would also like to recognise the many pubs across Dublin who have traded responsibly this weekend and since reopening last Monday. Most pubs and most customers are following the reopening guidelines. We welcome and fully endorse the active Garda inspection operation to ensure compliance with the reopening guidelines. We have received reports that many pubs in Dublin have received a positive response following on from Garda inspections undertaken over the past few days.