

Stop drink spiking before it becomes a major issue

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Union Notes

- A Study in the British Journal of Criminology published in July 2009 found
 - 12% of those interviewed have had their drink spiked
 - 55% had known someone who had been spiked
- Information on drink aware and drink spiking is currently on the “Corporate Social Responsibility” pages of the Union’s website, but not found by searching the term “Drink Spiking”
- Other student unions have increased the range of protection to counter the increase of drink spiking:
 - The University of Sheffield Student’s Union have free “spikies” from the Bars at all times and the Welfare Officer personally
 - The University of Exeter provide free foils for all customers
- That a “Drink Aware” slide is part of the rotation of slides on screens in Union premises.
- That there has only been one official reported, but unconfirmed, instance of drink spiking since August 2008.

Union Believes

- That the Union should take additional reasonable steps to promote precautionary advice on drink spiking and advice on how to report an instance of drink spiking.
- That some students’ fear of drink spiking may deter from using the Union’s premises.
- That under the influence of alcohol students are more likely to be victims of drink spiking.

Union Resolves

- To purchase caps/covers/foils for all sizes of glasses and plastic cups, spikies for bottles and make them available to students from the bars of Union premises.
- To promote the availability of these caps/covers/foils and spikies.
- To increase the rotation of “Drink Aware” slides on the screens in Union premises with precautionary advice and advice on how to report an instance of drink spiking.
- To add a “Drink Spiking” item in the next Rabbit email.
- To create a page on the Union’s entertainments website called “Drink Aware and Drink Spiking” with precautionary advice and advice on how to report an instance of drink spiking.
- To ensure all Union entertainments staff are familiar with drink spiking and how to report an instance of drink spiking.
- To investigate best practice at other venues with a view of enacting any best practice
- For the Welfare Officer/Community and Student Rights Officer to report back on the effectiveness of these measures to the first Union Council of the Autumn semester and to report back on an as necessary basis.