

Emergency services staff are being assaulted in drink-related incidents which are taking up 53% of police time, according to a new survey.

The report, by the Institute of Alcohol Studies, surveyed around 5,000 police officers, paramedics, NHS medics and firefighters and found that 75% of police workers and 50% of ambulance staff have been injured whilst dealing with drink-related episodes.

Police officers said that 53% of their time was spent on dealing with drink related crime whilst ambulance staffs spend 37% of their time responding to incidents arising from alcohol consumption.

68% of police officers said they blame the 24hr licensing laws, which were introduced in 2005, and call on ministers to enforce a ban in order to curb alcohol related incidents and assaults on emergency services staff.

Source: The Guardian