



Kununurra and Wyndham Alcohol Accord

3 December 2021

Mr Peter Minchin
Director of Liquor Control and Arbitration
Department of Local, Government Sport and Cultural Industries
Gordon Stephenson House
140 William Street, Perth, WA 6000

Dear Mr Peter Minchin,

Section 64 Extension

At the Kununurra and Wyndham Alcohol Accord Meeting on 17 November 2021 licensees brought up that they have been given a short amount of time to submit comments to Racing Gaming and Liquor in response to the request by the Police Commissioner for additional liquor restrictions in the Kimberley.

There are several concerns regarding the short timeframe given to respond, these include:

- There is not enough time to thoroughly read through the substantial volume of evidence given
- Some of the information is outdated nor relevant to the consequences to the wider community if further restrictions are placed in our region
- There is no consideration of the BDR that has been implemented our community
- The introduction of further restrictions to the Kimberley region would undermine the current efforts the WA Government has made implementing the Voluntary Banned Drinkers Register (BDR) trial

It is believed by the Accord that further restrictions of take-away alcohol in Kununurra will lead to a number of issues including an increase in the use of illegal drugs, grog running and a migration of alcohol dependant persons to other towns where they can access alcohol.

The licensees brought up in the Alcohol Accord meeting that the BDR is currently an underutilised tool and despite its potential, has no real impact. While the voluntary registrations have led to a positive impact on individuals, having the Health organisations and WAPOL unable to add people leaves the community vulnerable to harm from those who do not voluntarily add themselves. This has essentially led to the system sitting idle. The Accord supports more work being done immediately to increase the scope of the BDR to ensure it is a functional and effective tool and has a direct impact on those people dealing with unacceptable alcohol related behaviour.

In conclusion the Kununurra and Wyndham Alcohol Accord supports the licensees in requesting an extension to allow them and the affected community the adequate time needed to respond. The Accord also supports the BDR trial and making improvements to allow WAPOL and Health Professionals to add people.

Yours sincerely

Darren Spackman
Chair of Kununurra and Wyndham Alcohol Accord.