



Liquor accords

A liquor accord is an agreement by licensees and other stakeholders that have agreed to take certain actions in local communities which aim to improve safety in entertainment areas and reduce alcohol-related anti-social behaviour, offences and violence.

Local liquor accords aim to stop problems from occurring in the first place. They have the advantage of enjoying the support and cooperation of licensees and take account of specific issues in an area.

Who are partners in a liquor accord?

- local licensees
- hotels
- clubs
- bottle shops
- sporting clubs/ venues
- local councils
- local police
- other community groups such as Community Drug Action Teams
- State Liquor Commissions

The purpose of an accord is to:

- collectively address issues facing the industry and the community
- decisions as a collective group in cooperation with the other stakeholders
- Strategies address local issues are developed to create positive change, and this benefits each individual member's business.

Problems with anti-social behaviour, misuse of alcohol, crime and alcohol-related violence and safety concerns are often the key reasons for starting an accord.

Concerns from residential neighbours regarding trading hours or excessive noise from licensed premises are also cause for a liquor accord.

Benefits of having a liquor accord:

Reduces

- Anti-social behaviour (in and around licensed premises)
- Crime and alcohol-related violence
- Under-age drinking
- Alcohol-related road trauma

Increases

- Staff awareness and practice of responsible service of alcohol
- Community cooperation

- Community understanding of the roles of government agencies and the availability of government resources
- Community engagement in strategies planned for their benefit

Improves

- Understanding of legislative obligations for licensees, approved managers and staff
- Standard of patrons in and around licensed premises.

The accords promote a variety of strategies to ensure that the strategy used in the accord is one that addresses alcohol-related violence, anti-social behaviour or other alcohol-related harm in and around licensed premises.

QUEENSLAND

1. Responsible service of alcohol

- (a) No unduly intoxicated patrons
- (b) 'Think the Drink'
- (c) No under-age drinking
- (d) Discourage activities that encourage drinking excessively
- (e) Don't promote or sell alcoholic beverages that may encourage rapid or excessive consumption of liquor
- (f) Promote non- or low-alcohol beverages and food

2. Improve safety and security

- (a) Maintain proper standards of behaviour
- (b) Maintain safety and security
- (c) Maintain records of incidents and have good communication with police

3. Commitment to being good neighbours

- (a) Improve local amenity
- (b) Patron responsibility
- (c) Ensure all staff are trained
- (d) Actively monitor and promote the accord

Licensed Premises in Queensland Catchment Areas

A catchment area is a location that provides a relatively convenient source of alcohol within a few hours travel of a restricted area community.

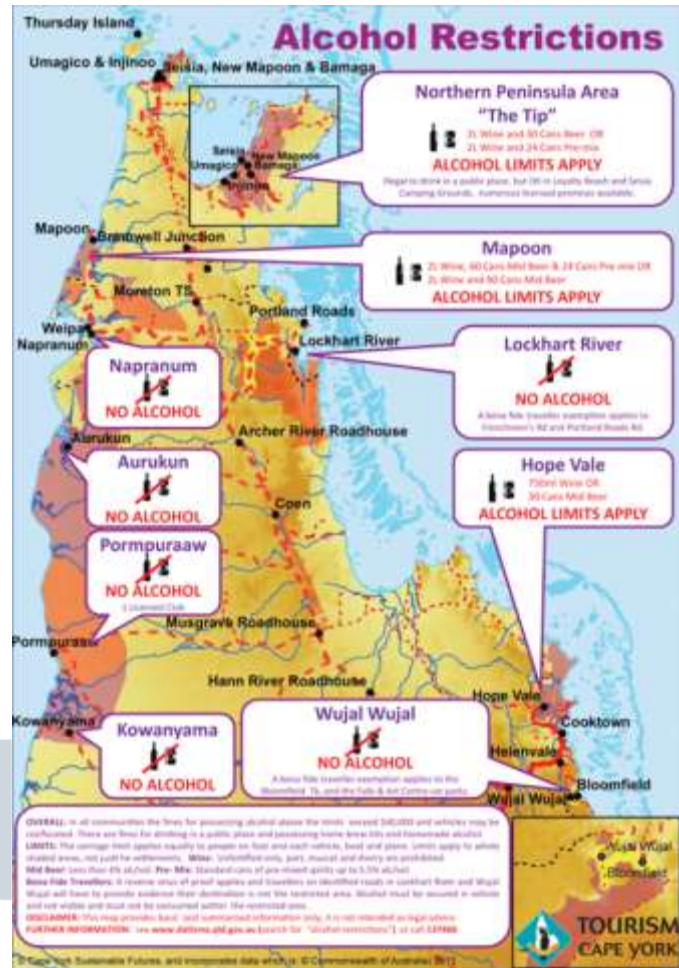
Residents often purchase or order alcohol from nearby towns and return with it to their communities.

Conditions on licensed premises in catchment areas

Four basic conditions have been imposed on most licensed premises situated in catchment areas near Indigenous communities, including:

- no alcohol sales to taxi drivers who are acting as a third party
- no licensee can hold a patron's bank access cards
- a ban on the sale of pre-mixed spirits in containers exceeding 2L and all other liquor in containers exceeding 4L
- a ban on the sale of fortified wines, such as port, muscat and sherry, in glass flagons.

NOTE: Not all of these conditions apply in Cairns, Townsville and Mount Isa because of practical difficulties in conditioning all licensed premises in these large cities.



Additional conditions on licensed premises in catchment areas

If there is evidence that alcohol sold from such premises are directly linked to problems in a community, stricter conditions may also be imposed on the licence.

This includes conditions to limit and monitor the supply of alcohol, such as:

- requiring a 'bulk sales' register for takeaway sales
- prohibiting the sale of alcohol to persons known to be travelling into a restricted area
- limiting or banning the sale of certain products, such as fortified wine.

Most licensed premises in catchment areas have trading conditions placed on their licence to support alcohol restrictions and limit the amount of illicit alcohol that enters a restricted area.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA

Liquor licensing accords, precinct management groups and liquor management plans assist South Australian communities to promote the responsible service of alcohol and manage alcohol-related problems at a local level.

Such initiatives have developed successful solutions for local problems through partnerships with the CBS, SA police, councils, licensees and community groups and representatives. This includes addressing crime and violence in the vicinity of late night entertainment venues, safe dispersal from these venues, the

availability of taxis, disorderly behaviour, public safety, policing and community harmony in and around licensed premises.

Liquor-related problems

If you need assistance with a liquor-related problem, consider the establishment of a local liquor accord or precinct management group. Collaboration between all stakeholders has been found to be an effective approach to providing local solutions to local problems.

Liquor licensing planning SA –

https://d818qu8jkxu4v.cloudfront.net/media/documents/ADF_LDAT_Toolkit_LiquorLicensing_SA.pdf

WESTERN AUSTRALIA

For the purposes of section 64 the Act, a “liquor accord” means a written agreement or other arrangement:

- (a) that is entered into by 2 or more licensees in a local community, and persons who represent the licensing authority, departments of the Public Service, State agencies or local government, and other persons; and
- (b) that has the purposes of minimising and preventing the harm caused in the local community by the excessive consumption of liquor, and promoting responsible practices in the sale, supply and service of liquor in the local community; and
- (c) that is approved by the Director of Liquor Licensing.

Liquor accords are a co-operative arrangement aimed at developing safe and well managed environments in and around licensed premises in the local context. They are part of an overall strategy that seeks to achieve a standard of practice that assists in fostering a responsible drinking culture; ensures safety in the local community; and promotes effective communication and problem solving between licensees and key stakeholders.

Each liquor accord is focussed on resolving local issues within a local area. Although individual Accords may have similar elements, there are no two the same.

Liquor accords may include representatives from licensed premises, businesses, councils, police, government departments and other community organisations.

NORTHERN TERRITORY

There are communities where you can't drink alcohol, or have restrictions around alcohol in the Northern Territory (NT).

Some of these are alcohol protected areas, meaning drinking alcohol is strictly banned in these communities.

Others are general restricted areas, which have rules around the sale of takeaway alcohol. If you live in a general restricted area you may have to apply for a individual liquor permit if you want to drink alcohol in a place other than a licensed venue.

Below is a list of restricted areas in the NT. If you are travelling through the NT all of these communities will have signage at their entry points telling you if they area a alcohol protected area or a general restricted area.

<https://nt.gov.au/law/alcohol/where-you-cant-drink-in-the-NT/list-of-restricted-areas>

Where you can't drink in Darwin and the Top End

There are many different types of liquor restrictions in force across the Northern Territory.

Total alcohol ban

There are more than 100 places in the NT where alcohol is totally banned under the law. Read about the [Liquor Act 1978](#).

These are known as general restricted areas, which are controlled by the NT Government, or alcohol protected areas, which are controlled by the Federal Government.

Alcohol is totally banned in these areas outside a licensed premises without a liquor permit.

You will find signage at the entrance of these communities telling you whether it is a general restricted or an alcohol protected area.

Visit [list of restricted areas](#) to see where alcohol is totally banned.

In some cases:

1. Alcohol may be brought into a general restricted area under conditions stated on a permit - eg: for consumption at permit holders' homes, where there is no licensed liquor outlet, in the case of Lajamanu, Maningrida, Wadeye, Barunga and Yirrkala.
2. Alcohol is available from a local community outlet, for drinking at a defined drinking area, such as Beswick, which has a permit system and a social club but no takeaway alcohol sales.

Ban on alcohol in a public area

This is known as a public restricted area and will have signage in place.

If you drink alcohol in a public restricted area, the police can do all of the following:

- search you for alcohol
- take your alcohol and/or tip it out
- give you a fine
- take you to court where you can be given a maximum fine of 20 penalty units.

However, you can carry or transport unopened alcohol through a public restricted area to another unrestricted area or private premises to drink.

Regulated drinking areas

Drinking alcohol in a public place is banned within 2km of a licensed premises everywhere in the NT. Only a small number of places have exemptions.

These areas will have signage telling you that you are in a regulated area. You can be fined or taken to court if you are found drinking alcohol in these areas.

Ban on drinking at private premises

This is known as a private restricted area. Each private restricted area must have signage at the front of the premises.

This is a private premise, such as a home or business, where alcohol is totally banned.

Emergency alcohol bans

This is as known as special restricted area.

An area can be declared as special restricted area in urgent situations when it is considered to be for the wellbeing of the community.

A total alcohol ban will be in place unless you have a permit.

TASMANIA

Burnie Liquor Accord

Representatives of the Commissioner for Licensing, working with Tasmania Police, the Burnie City Council, the Australian Hotels Association, local licensees and community groups, have developed the Burnie Liquor Accord. This was the first liquor accord to be trialled in Tasmania, 2008, and encourages licensees to take certain actions in local communities to reduce alcohol related anti-social behaviour offences and violence and improve public safety and amenity issues.

Other Local Government and intra-government initiatives

Trading Agreements

Representatives of the Commissioner for Licensing, working with Tasmania Police, local government and industry stakeholders have introduced late night trading agreements in Launceston and Hobart. The agreements operate in the CBD of each city and consider issues such as: late night trading; a ban on alcohol promotions after midnight; and the implementation of a 3:00 am lockout, where no new patrons are admitted to premises after this time.

Who's Des Tonight

The Who's Des Tonight? designated driver program is currently conducted in the semi-rural Burnie area. This represents a partnership initiative between Burnie City Council, Tasmania Police and the local community. This initiative has won state and national awards for its role in reducing alcohol-related harm among young adults.

NEW SOUTH WALES

A liquor accord is a group of local stakeholders who are committed to minimising the harms associated with alcohol. They include representatives of licensed premises, local councils, NSW Police, government departments and community organisations.

Liquor accords identify alcohol-related problems, anti-social behaviour and violence in the local area and come up with practical solutions to solve these.

It's a great idea for your workplace to be part of a local liquor accord.

Liquor & Gaming NSW provides a range of educational resources and tools to support liquor accords.

For more information, visit <https://www.liquorandgaming.nsw.gov.au/operating-a-business/running-your-business/liquor-accords>

VICTORIA

Forums and Liquor Accord

A forum is a meeting of liquor and gambling industry representatives and interested community members who meet regularly.

They develop strategies to:

- improve the operation of licensed premises, and
- reduce alcohol and gambling-related harm and issues.

Forums may be formalised with the establishment of a liquor accord; a written document that sets out specific aims, actions, objectives and strategies addressing local alcohol-related problems. It may also include responsible gambling initiatives.

For more information, visit <https://www.vgccc.vic.gov.au/liquor/bar-night-club/forums-and-accords/forums-and-liquor-accords>

AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

As part of the Risk Assessment Management Plan (RAMP), liquor accords can be formed. They are the voluntary agreements between licensees; permit-holders; community entities; government entities that aim to minimise harm and promote community safety in the area near the premises.

For further information, please visit –

<https://files.accesscanberra.act.gov.au/legacy/4849/Quick%20guide%20on%20Risk%20Assessm ent%20Management%20Plan.docx>